

Franklin D. Roosevelt American Heritage Center Museum

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Franklin D. Roosevelt American Heritage Center Museum Proudly Presents...

"Honoring Eleanor Roosevelt"

Date, Time, and Place: Saturday, October 8, 2005, 2 p.m. Union Blues – Jazz & Blues Showroom (adjacent to the FDR American Heritage Museum) Union Station, Second Floor, 2 Washington Square Worcester, MA 01604-4016

A special program in honor of Eleanor Roosevelt on her 121st birthday, in joint celebration of the FDR American Heritage Center Museum's first anniversary. Features of this special program include:

Meet Eleanor Roosevelt, a one-women living history theater piece written and directed by Josephine Lane and enacted by Elena Dodd, actor/historian. Eleanor Roosevelt was the first President's wife to hold press conferences, write a newspaper column, and travel widely. She was admired by many, and criticized by many. In *Meet Eleanor Roosevelt* she steps out of history to share with frankness and humor some of the struggles and experiences of her extraordinary life. In Elena Dodd's portrayal, Mrs. Roosevelt's distinctive speech and dynamic personality enlivens this program for all audiences. Following the portrayal of Eleanor, Ms. Dodd will come out of character and answer questions from the audience. And...

A book talk and signing by Dr. Cathy D. Knepper, author of *Dear Mrs. Roosevelt: Letters to Eleanor Roosevelt through Depression and War.* Dr. Knepper's book presents letters, written at a time when the economy was its worst, and morale in the country was at an all-time low, to Eleanor Roosevelt by Americans who felt they had no where and no one to turn to until they began to seek help from their First Lady. She reached out to Americans of all walks of life and has been credited with singlehandedly affecting social changes during this period. Dr. Knepper illustratively presents the stories of these families, and documents Mrs. Roosevelt's attempts to help them. Dr. Knepper will take questions from the audience, and books will be available signed by the author. And...

A live performance of big band swing sounds of the 1930s and 40s performed by Sonic Explorers presenting original arrangements of the big band music in the classic styles of such great musicians as Count Bassie, Duke Ellington, Lionel Hampton, Tommy Dorsey, and others.

The FDR American Heritage Center Museum's gallery and exhibition will be open following the program with guided tours conducted by Dr. Joseph J. Plaud, Museum President and Founder, and Cyrus D. Lipsitt, Museum Director. A reception will follow. The Franklin D. Roosevelt American Heritage Center Museum has received funding from the Massachusetts Foundation for the Humanities for this program. This event, in collaboration with Union Blues – Jazz & Blues Showroom, is free and open to the public by reservation, as space is limited. Please call 508-770-1515, or email to <u>events@fdrheritage.org</u> to make reservations. When leaving a voice-message or responding vie email, please leave your name and telephone number.

Please note: Valet parking will be available, or you may park in the parking facility off Worcester Center Boulevard behind Union Station. For Further Information, please contact:

Dr. Joseph J. Plaud, President & Founder	Franklin D. Roosevelt American Heritage Center & Museum
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