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The Hermitage announces “Sundays LIVE!” schedule

Weekly summer series bring Jackson-era to life with costumes and activities

May 30, 2013 – Andrew Jackson’s home, The Hermitage, has released the schedule of its 2013 “Sundays LIVE!” program. Beginning on June 2 and recurring every Sunday through September, this family friendly summer series gives visitors a detailed perspective on plantation life in the 1800s.

At “Sundays LIVE!,” visitors will explore the 19th century early republic and experience the stories and lifestyles of the people that made The Hermitage home. Costumed interpreters will bring the Jackson-era to life as they demonstrate and discuss events from the lifetime and influence of America’s seventh President.

“We are very proud of the presentations we will offer at this year’s ‘Sundays LIVE!’,” said Howard J. Kittell, president and CEO of The Hermitage. “The programs will range from Jackson’s early life to the women of The Hermitage, domestic arts, friends of Jackson’s such as Sam Houston and Ralph E.W. Earl, Jackson’s military career and even music of the 19th century. Each Sunday will bring a new presentation and a new learning opportunity.”

Highlights include the **Music of the 19th Century**: Paul and Kim Caudell will perform a program of historical music on guitar and fiddle. With a repertoire consisting mostly of songs from before 1865 played without electrical amplification, the Caudells have been involved in historical reenacting since 1995 and perform dressed in period costumes.

Remembering the Ladies: Women of The Hermitage: Hermitage Interpreter Elizabeth Gwinn will share stories of the women, both white and black, who lived at The Hermitage during Andrew Jackson’s lifetime. This list includes his wife Rachel; his Philadelphia belle daughter-in-law Sarah Yorke Jackson; the head of the slaves who worked in the house, Hannah Jackson; and Sarah’s enslaved seamstress, Gracy Bradley.

Fibers of Life: Spinning, Weaving, and Needlework: Hermitage interpreter Danielle Ullrich will demonstrate textile crafts that were practiced by the women of The Hermitage.

A Comforting Presence: Portrait Painter Ralph E.W. Earl: Brian Allison will portray Andrew Jackson’s friend, artist Ralph E.W. Earl. Earl painted numerous portraits of Jackson including the iconic “Andrew Jackson on Sam Patch.” He lived in the White House during Jackson’s presidency. Allison’s portrayal of Earl shares a friend’s view of Jackson as well as insights into the life of a 19th century artist.

Myers Brown: Myers Brown talks about various aspects of Jackson’s military life in his programs. Dressed in period uniform or costume and with accessories and equipment that offer further insights, Brown addresses both the lives of common soldiers and the events of General Jackson’s military career. Brown participates in several programs and will presenting on June 2, 30, July 21 and August 18.

2013 Sundays LIVE! Schedule:

June 2	Gone to Texas: Tennessee and the Texas Revolution
June 9	Music of the 19th Century
June 16	Remembering the Ladies: Women of The Hermitage
June 23	Fibers of Life: Spinning, Weaving, and Needlework
June 30	Swamps, Snakes, & Seminoles
July 7	A Comforting Presence: Portrait Painter Ralph E.W. Earl
July 14th	Music of the 19th Century
July 21	Civil War
July 28	Fibers of Life: Spinning, Weaving, and Needlework
August 4th	A Comforting Presence: Portrait Painter Ralph E.W. Earl
August 11th	Music of the 19th Century
August 18th	To Avenge Fort Mims!
August 25	A Comforting Presence: Portrait Painter Ralph E.W. Earl
September 1st	Fibers of Life: Spinning, Weaving, and Needlework
September 8th	A Comforting Presence: Portrait Painter Ralph E.W. Earl
September 15th	Music of the 19th Century
September 22	Remembering the Ladies: Women of The Hermitage
September 29th	Fibers of Life: Spinning, Weaving, and Needlework

Programs begin at 1:30 p.m. until 5 p.m. at various locations behind The Hermitage mansion. **Programs are free with the purchase of regular admission.**

About The Hermitage

The Hermitage, Home of President Andrew Jackson, is one of the largest and most visited presidential homes in the United States. In 1856, the State of Tennessee purchased the property from the Jackson family, entrusting it to the Ladies’ Hermitage Association in 1889 to operate as one of America’s first historic site museums. Today, The Hermitage is a 1,120-acre National Historic Landmark with more than 30 historic buildings, including restored slave cabins. Thanks to efforts of this nonprofit organization, the mansion is the most accurately preserved early presidential home in the country. The Hermitage is a national model for authenticity, conservation, and historic preservation. In recent years, new interpretive initiatives and educational programs such as archaeology and the history of slavery have enhanced the experience of some 180,000 annual visitors, including 30,000 school children, from all 50 states and many foreign countries; in fact, we interpret The Hermitage mansion in five foreign languages. The property also receives 30,000 annual visits from the local community, including more than 1,000 children who play Little League baseball at The Hermitage's Rotary Park. The Hermitage is a “Partner Place” with the National Trust for Historic Preservation; and a site along the National Park Service’s Trail of Tears National Historic Trail. For more information, visit www.thehermitage.com.