

Media Contact:

Ann Dee Jones

The Hermitage, Home of President Andrew Jackson

(615) 889-2941, ext. 223

ajones@thehermitage.com



The Hermitage Hosts Homeschool Nationals Cross Country Race
National Championship brings runners and their families to the Presidential home

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (Oct. 10, 2018) – On Saturday, Nov. 3, Andrew Jackson’s Hermitage will be buzzing with young runners and their families for the third annual Homeschool Nationals cross country race.

This is a special event that allows homeschooled students of all ages to participate in a high-level competition. Last year, the Hermitage hosted more than 500 runners representing 14 states across the country. This year, they expect between 600 and 700 runners to participate.

“In many areas, homeschooled athletes aren’t allowed to take part in post-season races with other private and public schools,” said Jay Tippens, the founder and organizer of the event. “This race, at The Hermitage, gives homeschoolers the opportunity to experience a large post-season competition and allows them to get exposure with college coaches.”

The course will wind through Jackson’s former field and woodlot, currently one of the largest green spaces in Davidson County. “These races have been a great way for people to experience previously underutilized areas of the property,” said Tony Guzzi, vice president of preservation and site operations at The Hermitage. “They’re seeing a side of the Hermitage most people never see.”

The presidential home has hosted a series of athletic events in recent years, including the Highland Games and vintage baseball. Members of Andrew Jackson’s Hermitage can enjoy benefits like free access to the grounds during normal operating hours year-round.

The cross country national meet will kick off at 9 a.m. and continue through the morning, as the event hosts eight heats of runners in age groups from kindergarten through 12th grade. Spectators will be directed to designated race parking by Hermitage staff, and runners’ families will have opportunities for discounted museum admission.

For more information about the race, visit homeschoolrunner.com or contact Jay Tippens at jay@homeschoolrunners.com.

About Andrew Jackson's Hermitage

Andrew Jackson's Hermitage: Home of the People's President is one of the largest, most well-preserved and most visited presidential homes in the United States. Opened to the public in 1889, The Hermitage is one of America's first presidential museums. Today, The Hermitage is a 1,120-acre National Historic Landmark with 27 historic buildings, including Jackson's mansion and tomb, restored slave cabins, a church, and gardens. In recent years, new interpretive initiatives and educational programs such as the history of slavery have enhanced the experience of the 228,157 visitors in FY 2018. For more information, visit www.thehermitage.com.

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