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# SPEAKEASY GALA

### October 15, 2022

Dear Friends,

The Lockwood-Mathews Mansion Museum is a National Historic Landmark and an award-winning institution that strives to enhance the quality of life of its communities with educational and cultural programs that are inspiring, engaging, and meaningful to all our visitors. While we continue to explore the past, our audiences gain a deeper understanding of how society has evolved vis-a-vis the challenges, issues, and culture of the present.

This year's *Speakeasy Gala* provides vital support to our 2022-2023 programs and ensures that this cherished institution continues to be an invaluable resource for youth and adults in our communities and for visitors from across the United States.

I truly hope that you will enjoy this exciting and interesting evening, which features a special historical reenactment with notables of the era, and a script with direction by **Samantha Kulish-Fargione**; the exhibition, *Hues of Freedom*, curated by Trustee **Gail Ingis**; and the ongoing exhibition, *Making It Last: Sustainable Fashion in Victorian America*, generously sponsored in part by **CT Humanities**.

I thank you all for your very generous support and for joining us this evening. I would also like to thank our outstanding Chairman of the Board **Douglas E. Hempstead**; the tireless Gala co-chairs, Trustees **Kathleen Custis** and **Shannon O'Toole Giandurco**; our industrious and supportive **Gala Committee**; the Museum's very generous **Distinguished Benefactors** and **Gala Sponsors**; and the terrific **Board of Trustees**, **Volunteers**, and **Staff**. I would like to express our deepest gratitude to **Mayor Harry Rilling** and the **City of Norwalk**, the **Norwalk Historical Commission**, and the **State of Connecticut** for all of their support and for helping us sustain this extraordinary city and national landmark.

I thank you all again for helping us launch a successful 2022 Fall Season and ensure a bright future for this treasured institution.

With gratitude and best wishes,

Susan Gilgore, PhD Executive Director

Juan Myre

## We thank the Museum's Gala Sponsors

2022 Gala Distinguished Benefactors:



David Scott Parker Architects



#### 2022 Gala Sustainers:





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### 2022 Season Sponsors

#### 2022 Season Distinguished Benefactors:



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#### Founding Patrons:

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The Museum's new exhibition, "Making It Last: Sustainable Fashion in Victorian America," is generously sponsored in part by:

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### **Lockwood-Mathews Mansion Museum**

## **Compliments From**

## Law Office of Miklos P. Koleszar

Attorney Miklos P. Koleszar Attorney Brett L. Whitton

203-853-9502 mpkoleszar@optonline.net

## We thank the Museum's Gala Live & Silent Auction Donors

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## Speakeasy Gala Table Sponsors

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Print date: Oct. 6, 2022



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Golden Light Through the Trees, 36 x 24, oil on canvas

### **Art Unites Us: The Healing Power of Beauty**

October 1 to October 30, 2022
The Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen Center for Thought & Culture
Janet Hennessey Dilenschneider Gallery
18 Bleecker Street, New York, New York

## Prohibition Reenactment Courtesy of Samantha Kulish-Fargione



Samantha Kulish-Fargione Script Writer & Reenactment Director

Samantha Kulish-Fargione has been working in the field of education, theater, and program coordinating for over 15 years at non-profit organizations throughout Fairfield County. While working at Crystal Theater in Norwalk, CT, she directed over 100 full-scale musical productions and wrote the book to two musicals, "Coming of Age" and "Prohibition Norwalk: 1925." Currently, Samantha is the Programs and Educational Coordinator for the Norwalk Historical Society. She developed the Society's popular fundraiser, "A Haunting at Mill Hill," working as producer, researcher, and script writer for the event. Samantha is also the Executive Director of the Weston Historical Society where she has developed a comprehensive school field trip program and has written the tour script for the newly restored and reinterpreted Coley House. Samantha has a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education and Communication & Theater Arts from Western Connecticut State University. She resides in Norwalk with her husband and fur-baby. Birdie.

## Speakeasy Gala Catering Courtesy of



#### FOOD AND DESIGN FOR LIFE'S CELEBRATIONS

Creating an entertaining experience for your guests with our award-winning catering and event design is our passion. We love to gather people together – in conversation, laughter, celebration, and community. Every event is personal to us and we enjoy making it fun, memorable, unique to you and stress-free.

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Lockwood-Mathews Mansion Museum's

## SPEAKEASY GALA

## LIVE & SILENT AUCTIONS













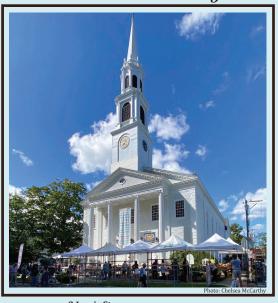
~ SILENT AUCTION ~ \$100 Gift Certificate, Thanks to The Spread



~ LIVE AUCTION ~ The Club Barbados Resort & Spa, Barbados, Thanks to Elite Island Resorts Caribbean



## First Congregational Church on the Green 370th Anniversary



3 Lewis St Norwalk, CT 06851 (203) 847-9551

Rev. Tamara Moreland



We thank you for your support of the Museum's Education Program and Restoration Project during the Live Auction



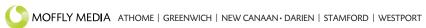
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in its efforts to preserve history and culture throughout our communities



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## WE THANK THE MUSEUM'S VOLUNTEERS FOR THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT

#### **GALA COMMITTEE**

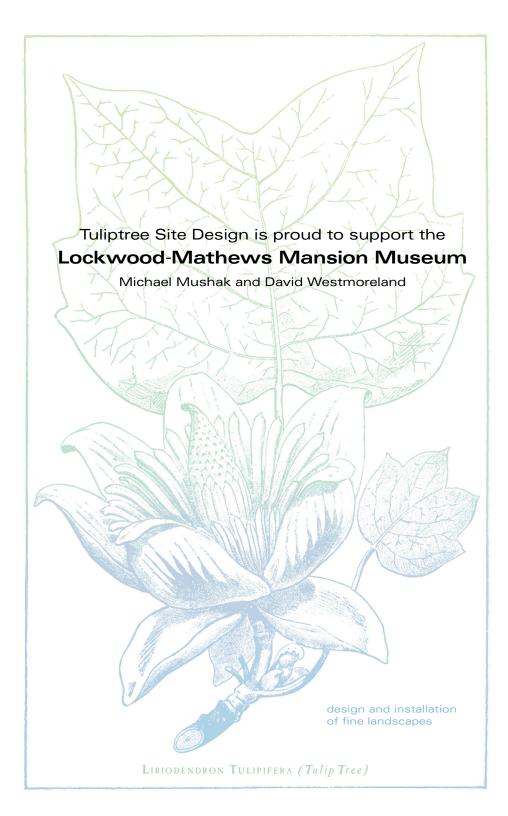
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THE LOCKWOOD-MATHEWS MANSION MUSEUM

A Registered National Historic Landmark



#### Purchase tickets: LockwoodMathewsMansion.com



"Looking for Jackie" book cover, courtesy of K. Craughwell-Varda

Co-chaired by Trustees **Pam Murrin** and **Victoria Vandamm**, the Museum's annual Tea will feature a luxurious whirlwind of delicious refreshments, a silent auction, a hat contest, and a fascinating talk by award-winning scholar and author **Kathleen Craughwell-Varda**. Doors will open at 1:30 p.m.

Ms. Varda will introduce attendees to American fashion icons and present-day influencers who have defined, now and through the centuries, American style. With no monarchy to emulate, Americans have long been drawn to women who possessed style, charisma, and grace, Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis possessed these qualities in abundance. This presentation "Looking Jackie: American Fashion Icons." will examination of American women who were the "Jackies" of their era, women who, since the 1800s, have had a similar impact on American fashion. The lecture will reveal how these women's distinctive personal styles captured the imagination of the American public and influenced popular fashion.

Kathleen Craughwell-Varda is a museum consultant in New York and Connecticut with more than 30 years of experience specializing in historic textiles. She earned an M.A. in costume history from New York University in conjunction with the Costume Institute of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. She lectures widely on costume and textile history and conservation and has written articles on women's history for several exhibition catalogues. Ms. Varda is currently the director of Conservation ConneCTion, a program based at the Connecticut State Library that focuses on preserving Connecticut's cultural collections by identifying and developing a statewide plan for collections care needs and providing learning opportunities for collecting institutions.



Kathleen Craughwell-Varda, award-winning scholar and author, courtesy of K. Craughwell-Varda

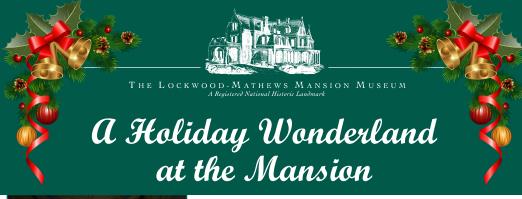
Event sponsored in part by:





Tea catering courtesy of:







Contemporary tree display by Victoria Vandamm of Vandamm Interiors, 2021, photo courtesy of Gus Apazidis

## ~ New Exhibition ~ Nov. 25 - Dec. 31, 2022

**Tour times**: 12, 1, 2 & 3 p.m.

The exhibition, A Holiday Wonderland at the Mansion, curated by Museum Consultant Stacey Danielson with the assistance of Trustees Mimi Findlay and Paul Veeder and the LMMM Curatorial Committee, will capture the magic of the holiday season with historic-era tree displays, an enchanting winter wonderland featuring a 19th-century skating scene, a festive holiday dinner party, magnificent gowns, and more.

Recognized for the past two years as one of the 10Best Holiday Historic Home Tours in the U.S. by USA Today, the Museum will explore treasured Victorian holiday traditions and feature beautiful 21st-century Christmas trees and seasonal displays by interior designers Victoria Vandamm of Vandamm Interiors and Marcia Taylor Reid of Taylor Reid Design LLC, as well as floral designer Danna DiElsi of The Silk Touch.

#### Purchase Tickets: LockwoodMathewsMansion.com



1860s vignette curated by Stacey Danielson and the LMMM Curatorial Committee, 2021, photo courtesy of S. Danielson



Contemporary mantle display by Danna DiElsi of The Silk Touch, 2021, photo courtesy of Gus Apazidis

THE LOCKWOOD-MATHEWS MANSION MUSEUM

A Registered National Historic Landmark

## **Holiday Open House**

Sun., Dec. 4 / 12 - 4 p.m.

Admission: \$5 per person\*

The Lockwood-Mathews Mansion Museum will host its annual *Holiday Open House*, featuring a full hour with North Pole's Santa Claus and a special musical performance by **Music Theatre of Connecticut's Showstoppers**.

Visitors will have an opportunity to view the exhibition, *A Holiday Wonderland at the Mansion*, take unforgettable family portraits, and enjoy the magnificence and splendor of the Museum's holiday displays.

During the event, *the Mansion's Café* will be open to visitors and offer complimentary refreshments generously sponsored by **Stew Leonard's** and served by the Museum's costumed interpreters.



Photo courtesy of Gus Apazidis

#### Santa Claus with his Loyal Elf (12:30-1:30 p.m.)

Santa Claus and his loyal elf will make their way into the Music Room and spend a full hour greeting children and hearing their Christmas wishes before they head back to the North Pole for their big night.

\*Pre-purchase tickets at LockwoodMathewsMansion.com or pay at the door

THE MUSEUM'S HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE
IS IN COLLABORATION WITH:

MICE MUSIC THEATRE OF CONNECTICUT
SCHOOL OF PERFORMING ARTS



Showstoppers (Grades 2-8) performing a production of "Snoopy! The Musical," spring 2022, courtesy of Music Theatre of Connecticut

#### MTC Showstoppers (2:00 - 3:00 p.m.)

Music Theatre of Connecticut's Showstoppers will entertain Museum visitors and immerse them in the spirit of the holidays with a performance featuring a mix of holiday and Broadway songs. Located in Norwalk, Music Theatre of Connecticut's School of Performing Arts trains over 300 students/year and produces two to three full scale musicals. MTC students have presented more than 200 productions including "Spamalot," "James and the Giant Peach," "Snoopy," "The Little Mermaid," "Wizard of Oz," "Matilda," "The Addams Family," and more! Alumni of MTC's College-Bound in the Performing Arts program have graduated or are currently pursuing performing arts degrees in top-tier programs including those at the University of Michigan, Boston Conservatory, NYU, Carnegie-Mellon University and Emerson College to name a few; others can be seen on Broadway, in regional theatres throughout the country, on television, and in feature films.



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