

Friday, November 20, 2009

Winter traditions come alive at Meadow Brook Hall's Holiday Walk

Explore the Dodge and Wilson family's winter traditions and activities with Meadow Brook Hall's 38th annual Holiday Walk from Friday, Nov. 27, through Wednesday, Dec. 23. The month's festivities feature tours, a pickle hunt for children of all ages, supper with Santa, breakfast with Santa, an elegant holiday tea and more.

Tour guests will view items from the collection that are not normally displayed, such as Frances Dodge's own horse drawn-sleigh, rare family videos of the Dodge and Wilson children enjoying winter activities, and several of the formal gowns Matilda Wilson wore to local events and performances, including her own Wilson Theater (now the Music Hall) in downtown Detroit.

Visitors will be entertained with stories of Danny Dodge's snowball chase through the Great Hall in pursuit of his mother Matilda, hear about Frances' Christmas morning tradition of arriving in her four-horse hitch with a sleigh full of elegantly wrapped presents for the family, learn about the Dodge and Wilson family's way of life during the winter and holiday season and much more.



Frances Dodge rides in her sleigh at Meadow Brook Hall.

This year's Holiday Walk includes several special events such as a free visit with Santa at Knole Cottage on Saturday, Dec. 12-13, breakfast with Santa on Sunday, Dec. 13 and 20, supper with Santa on Monday, Dec. 14, and a Holiday Tea on Tuesday, Dec. 15.

The cost for the both the Breakfast and the Supper events is \$30 for adults and \$25 for children. New this year for the Holiday Tea, special lecturer Maureen Esther will present "Holiday Traditions Revealed." The cost to attend the tea is \$50 per person. Reservations are required for all Holiday Walk special events, except for the visit with Santa.

Tour hours are Tuesday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., with last admittance at 4 p.m., and Monday from 11 a.m. until 9 p.m., with last admittance at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$5 for children 17 and under and must be accompanied by an adult. Children age 2 and under are admitted free. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, seniors age 62 and older receive \$5 off admission. All tours are self-guided and reservations are not required.

Media sponsors of The Hall's Holiday Walk include C & G Newspapers, Hour Detroit Magazine, the Oakland Press and AM 580. The Hall is fully self-funded and relies on special events such as the annual Holiday Walk for its preservation and interpretation.

For more information, call (248) 364-6200 or visit www.meadowbrookhall.org.

SUMMARY

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