

Wednesday, September 26, 2001

## Meadow Brook Hall kicks off monthly program

The public is invited to celebrate the "roaring twenties" at Oakland University's **Meadow Brook Hall** during the Free Family Fun Festival Saturday, Sept. 29.

You can explore the decade of thrill seekers, heroes and social change and the stories of the auto baron family that lived at **Meadow Brook Hall** during this Gatsby era. There will be Charleston dance lessons, paper airplane making, storytelling, jazz music, period games, a mini exhibition of Flapper-style costumes, a 1920s dress-up area for children and much more.

The festival, which runs from noon until 4 p.m., kicks off Meadow Brook Hall's new monthly Family Fun Day series to be held the last Saturday of each month. The programs will offer special lectures and tours for grandparents, parents and children, giving them the opportunity to learn more about selected aspects of the Hall. Each month a new activity aimed at family participation will be offered from 10 to 11:30 a.m. for \$4 per person (one free adult per child).

Reservations are required for each program. To make a reservation, please contact Maura Overland at (248) 370-3140 or **overland@oakland.edu**. The program will not be offered in the month of December due to Holiday Walk activities.

## **Upcoming Family Fun Days:**

- October 27, 2001 A special tour of Meadow Brook Hall highlighting the collection of American art pottery and tile, followed by a hands-on activity where children will decorate their own ceramic tile to take home.
- November 24, 2001 View two Castle Film Cartoons from the 1940s, Jack Frost and Toyland, and decorate holiday
  cookies
- January 26, 2002 Learn more about historic photographs and how to hand-color your own images. Children may bring
  one black and white photo to color of their own or an image of the Hall will be provided.
- **February 23, 2002** Make your own plaster cast. Learn more about the work of architectural sculptor Corrado Parducci and make your own plaster cast from molds made from the Christopher Wren Dining Room ceiling.
- March 30, 2002 Take a closer look at Matilda Dodge Wilson's unique mini box collection and decorate your own box to take home.

**Meadow Brook Hall** is the fourth largest historic house museum in the United States, and is especially renowned for its superb craftsmanship, architectural detailing and grand scale. Built in the 1920s as the residence of Oakland University founders, Matilda Dodge Wilson (widow of auto baron John Dodge) and her second husband lumber broker Alfred G. Wilson, the 110-room, 80,000-square-foot, Tudor-revival style mansion is complete with vast collections of original art and furnishings.

Listed on both the national and state registers of historic places, **Meadow Brook Hall** strives to preserve and interpret its architecture, landscape, and fine and decorative art so visitors may be entertained, educated and inspired by its history.

## SUMMARY

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