



Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation Newsletter

December 2019



Happy Holidays

from the *Trustees and Staff*
of the *Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation*



President and Mrs. Ford's First Christmas
in the White House, 1974.



1974 Hallmark reproduction of George Henry
Durrie's painting *New England Snow Scene*.

Gerald R. Ford was sworn in as the 38th President of the United States on August 9, 1974. Having to move into the White House so suddenly and getting settled, the new First Family had very little time to prepare for their 1974 Christmas. The most recent presidents and their families took their Christmas decorations with them, so Mrs. Ford had to get the White House in order for the holiday season from start to finish. She decided on a patchwork theme, and commissioned several artisan workshops from around the nation to create ornaments for the White House Christmas tree. Because the country was in the worst economic times since the 1930s, the patchwork theme was to symbolize simplicity and financial prudence.

For their first Christmas gift to the White House staff, President Ford and the First Lady had 5,000 reproductions made by *Hallmark* of George Henry Durrie's painting, *New England Snow Scene* (below). The winter-themed painting featured a craggy mountain and a snow-covered farmhouse and stable in the background with an approaching traveler in a horse-drawn sleigh in the foreground. The actual painting had been acquired during Nixon's presidency and hung on the second floor of the White House.

On December 17, 1974 President Ford lit the National Christmas Tree on the Ellipse. The tree, a living 42-foot Colorado blue spruce from Pennsylvania, was decorated with energy conservation in mind. In his first Christmas greeting to the American people, the President mentioned that as a former National Park Service ranger and as someone concerned with environmental conservation, he was very pleased by the fact that his first National Christmas tree was a living one.

Later that evening the President and First Lady hosted a Christmas Gala for the outgoing members of Congress. In the East Room the President called attention to the White House holiday decorations including a Christmas tree from Michigan. He then went on to make an analogy between himself and the tree. He said, "In some ways that big Michigan Christmas tree in the Blue Room and I have a lot in common. Both the tree and I never expected to be in the White House...we both came in green...we both were put on a pedestal...and then, a little while later...we both got trimmed." The President then put a hopeful spin on the analogy by adding, "But unlike that Christmas tree, I will still be here in January." (Excerpt from the *White House Christmas Cards.com*.)



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Joseph S. Calvaruso
Executive Director
Elaine K. Didier
Library/Museum Director

Letter from the Executive Director, Joseph S. Calvaruso

The play, "Victors of Character," went beyond West Michigan in 2019. With performances in Detroit and Washington D.C., this wonderful story of Gerald Ford and his teammate and friend, Willis Ward, were enjoyed by a much wider audience. In Detroit, the play was performed for students from the Detroit Public Schools, with an evening performance at the Detroit Athletic Club. We appreciate Fritz Damm, a loyal supporter in Detroit, for all his generous support. A special thanks to Jack Harbaugh for emceeing the Detroit Athletic Club event as well as Foundation Trustee Buzz Thomas, Willis Ward's grandson for his personal reflections. We will build upon this momentum next year and do even more performances at additional venues. In addition, next year we will be publishing a children's biography about President Gerald R. Ford. The play and book augment the DeVos Learning Center initiatives spearheaded by our Foundation Education Director,



Joe Calvaruso introduced Jeffrey Rosen at the Hauenstein Center on September 24, 2019.

Clare Shubert. Our learning initiatives in 2019 will set a new record for student engagement.

Programming for next spring is well underway. In addition to our very popular First Ladies event in April, we will be bringing a play about Betty Ford, "She Did All That...Betty Ford: Speaking Out, Saving Lives" by Lisa Rafferty, playwright, director and producer, to the Library in Ann Arbor and the Museum in Grand Rapids. This will be the first production of the

play outside of Boston.

Vice President Dick Cheney will be delivering the William E. Simon Lecture in March 2020 in Grand Rapids. Additional programs are also in the works.

For a number of years, the Foundation has underwritten the digitization project of the Gerald Ford Presidential Library. This year we are examining plans for digitizing a substantial portion of President Ford's papers and making them available online, thereby enabling researchers around the world to study and write about the extraordinary legacy of President Ford.

I would like to thank the many "Friends of Ford" who donate their time, services, and funds to make possible our many activities that sustain President Ford's legacy. We wish you and your family a healthy, happy, and prosperous New Year.



**Don't Miss the DeVries Family – Breton Village Holiday Train
on Display at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum during the Holidays!**

Jeffrey Rosen: “The Future of the Constitution”

Tuesday, September 24, 2019

In honor of Constitution Day 2019, the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation along with the Hauenstein Center at Grand Valley State University and Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum & Library welcomed Jeffrey Rosen on September 24, 2019. Rosen serves as President and CEO of the National Constitution Center. In light of the looming 2020 election, he shared his insights into the future of the Constitution and the Supreme Court in our increasingly challenged democracy.

Binding the American people together for nearly 250 years, the Constitution of the United States and its 27 amendments have remained at the heart of American democracy. Today, however, in times of increasingly vitriolic political partisanship, even the Constitution is not immune to scrutiny. An age-old question is as germane today as ever: is the Constitution to be read based on the founders’ intent, or as a living-document that has changed as American society has changed? And in the process of answering that question, another one presses: what is the role of the judicial branch in this effort?

Jeff has written seven books, including the authoritative biography of Louis D. Brandeis, and a biography of William Howard Taft published as part of the American Presidents Series. His seventh book, “Conversations with RBG, Ruth Bader Ginsberg on Life, Love, Liberty, and Law” was released November, 2019. In 2013, Jeff took the helm as President and CEO of the National Constitution Center, located steps away from Independence Hall in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Acting as an interactive museum, national town hall, and resource for nonpartisan civic education, the National Constitution Center reaches millions of American citizens every year. Jeff has cultivated the center’s acclaimed Interactive Constitution, written penetrating articles, and launched the *We the People* podcast.

Jeff is also a professor at The George Washington University Law School as well as contributing editor of *The Atlantic*. Jeff’s expertise makes him a highly regarded legal journalist, often appearing in *The New Yorker*, *New York Times Magazine*, *New Republic*, and on *National Public Radio*. A graduate of Harvard College, Jeff went on to be a Marshall Scholar at Oxford University. He received his law degree from Yale Law School.



Jeffrey Rosen

Michael Beschloss:

“Character and the Presidency: Finding the X Factor”

Monday, October 21, 2019

What qualities make a candidate presidential material? What characteristics make an ideal President? From Washington to Trump, the President of the United States requires vision as well as effective and ethical leadership to be great. With a presidential election just thirteen months away, Americans have turned their focus to the candidates for the office of the President, and their hopes for America’s future.

Continuing their biennial “Character and the Presidency” series, the Hauenstein Center was proud to host this year’s event, in partnership with the Peter F. Secchia Family, Meijer Foundation, Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation and Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum & Library. Named “the nation’s leading presidential historian,” by *Newsweek*, Michael Beschloss presented his wealth of knowledge on the most coveted office in the United States, giving us a glimpse inside the walls of the White House, and the qualities it takes to lead it, and us.

An author of multiple best-sellers, Michael has written nine books on various American presidents and the office they inhabit. His most recent book, *Presidents of War*, was included in Bill Gates’s summer 2019 “five best books” list. Gates said, “Beschloss’s broad scope lets you draw important cross-cutting lessons about Presidential leadership.” In addition to his published works, Michael is a regular contributor on PBS’s *The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer* and is the Presidential Historian at NBC News, the first position of its kind. He has appeared on C-SPAN countless times.

Michael is an alumnus of Philips Academy (Andover) and Williams College. He received his MBA from the Harvard Business School. He has also received honorary doctorates from Williams College, St. Mary’s College (Maryland), Lafayette College, St. Peter’s College, and Governors State University. In his evening address, Michael spoke to the qualities of character in the presidency, in both times of war and peace.



Gleaves Whitney, Director of the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies (right) interviewed Michael Beschloss.

(Jeffrey Rosen and Michael Beschloss articles and photos are courtesy of the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies at Grand Valley State University).



(L-R) Event organizer and DAC Member Fritz Damm, Playwright Allison Metz, Learning Center Director of Engagement and Programming Clare Shubert, Foundation Trustee Buzz Thomas and Foundation Executive Director Joe Calvaruso at the Detroit Athletic Club.

“Victors of Character: a Story of Loyalty, Integrity, and the Courage to Make a Difference”

Detroit Athletic Club (DAC) / October 21, 2019

Eighty-five years ago on October 20th, Jim Crow laws kept star University of Michigan (UM) football player, Willis Ward, on the bench during the UM vs. Georgia Tech football game of 1934. It was an event that both tested and shaped the character of Willis and his best friend on the team, Jerry (later to be known as Honorable Judge Willis Ward and President Gerald R. Ford).

While the Georgia Tech experience caused much pain and hurt, it also motivated them to change things for future generations. Both Ford and Ward went on to earn law degrees, run for office, and work for the fair treatment of all people—Ford did so from his seat in Congress and later in the Oval Office; Ward did so from the bench, as the first African American probate judge in Wayne County, Michigan.

The story of their friendship and that 1934 football game has been made into a play

for young audiences titled, **Victors of Character: a Story of Loyalty, Integrity, and the Courage to Make a Difference**. The play, written by Dr. Allison Metz, has been experienced by thousands of West Michigan students and community members and on October 21st, it made its debut in the Detroit area. Two performances were held for Detroit Public School students at Spain Elementary-Middle School. Students ranged in age from 4th grade through high school and classes had a chance to ask questions and interact with the cast following the performances.

That evening, a special performance was held during an event at the Detroit Athletic Club. Before the play began, a welcome was given by Mr. Fritz Damm who is both a *Friends of Ford* member and a member of the Community Outreach Committee at the DAC. Buzz Thomas, former State Representative, grandson of Willis Ward, and Foundation Trustee spoke about his grandfather, the effect the experience had on him, and his long-lasting friendship with President Ford. Up next was Coach Jack Harbaugh (father of current UM head football coach, Jim Harbaugh) who shared his memories of President Ford and also talked about the lessons of character the play has brought to so many young people across the state. The *Victors of Character* cast and crew delivered an outstanding performance that was met with rave reviews during the reception following in the beautiful Detroit Athletic Club.

Attending the event were special guests that had a direct connection to University of Michigan (UM) football. Jim Brandstatter was a former UM lineman from Grand Rapids and the Voice of the Michigan Wolverines. Jerry Hanlon was a former offensive line coach at UM who coached for 20+ years for Bo Schembechler and Gary Moeller and Chuck Bernard whose father played football with Jerry Ford. All enjoyed the play and reception.

Many thanks to all who helped bring this important story to students and community members in Detroit including the play cast and crew, Mr. Fritz Damm and the members of the Community Outreach Committee at the Detroit Athletic Club, Kevin Fite and the staff at Spain Elementary-Middle, and our play sponsors: Mercantile Bank, Grand Valley State University, Office of the President University of Michigan, BHS Insurance, The Gremel Group, Jack and Jackie Harbaugh, and Warner Norcross + Judd LLP.



(L-R) Jim Brandstatter, Jerry Hanlon, Jack Harbaugh, and Chuck Bernard at the Detroit Athletic Club reception.

National World War I Museum and Memorial Workshop “WWI 360”

On November 7th, the DeVos Learning Center was buzzing with educators from across Michigan participating in a professional development workshop (photo right) presented by the National World War I Museum and Memorial. The program, titled “WWI 360” and facilitated by Cheri Kelly, offered teachers unique insight into the war as well as valuable teaching resources and activities to use in the classroom. Teachers explored significant contributions from nations around the globe and learned new ways to help students make connections to the impact of the war.



The second half of the day was devoted to incorporating the skills of deliberation into the classroom. Teachers got a first-hand experience by

deliberating the question, “What role should the United States play in international conflicts?” The workshop also served as a kick-off to a new program being offered by our own education team titled, “Deliberations from the Classroom to the Cabinet Room”, in which students will deliberate as presidential advisors during the time of the New York City financial crisis.

Many thanks to the National WWI Museum and Memorial for traveling from Kansas City to provide this quality

workshop for teachers in Michigan. Many thanks as well to program partners Michigan Council for History Education and Michigan Center for Civic Education.

Letter from the Library and Museum Director, Elaine K. Didier, Ph.D.

After a busy autumn of notable programs and exhibits, along with tours, classes and research room activity, it is hard to imagine that the holidays are already upon us!

At the Museum, we just concluded two outstanding exhibits: the very special *Extraordinary Circumstances* exhibit featuring Trustee David Hume Kennerly's outstanding photographs of the Ford Administration, and *3D Expressions*, a unique exhibition of artistically crafted, three-dimensional contemporary sculpted quilts. Both exhibits drew high praise from our many visitors.

Attention now turns to the installation of our new holiday exhibit, the *DeVries Family – Breton Village Holiday Train*, which will move this year from the Museum's lobby to the feature exhibit space upstairs. Our exhibit specialist, Bettina Cousineau, and her team of volunteers, have been working to expand the exhibit with more Ford-related details, adding sites like the Ford Paint and Varnish Company and Ramona Park to the scenery. Opening on December 1, we look forward to welcoming hundreds of families to visit this holiday tradition in its new home.

Following this, in February we will open an exhibition of the artwork of Brian Washington, a Cincinnati-based artist and attorney. *The Continual Struggle* features thirty works of Civil Rights-themed charcoal art, presented in partnership with Fifth-Third Bank.

In the Museum lobby, we'll be hosting *Wounded Warriors: War Dogs*, featuring carved wooden sculptures of wounded warrior dogs from several American wars. This was an Art Prize winner in 2016, and we are honored to be able to display these pieces and recognize these special veterans in this way.

Members of the Museum's expanded Docent and Gallery Guide team will provide critical support for each of these exhibits, helping to greet visitors and share details about specific items.

In addition to our exhibits, the Library and Museum have continued to present outstanding public programs this fall, each of which is summarized elsewhere in this issue. Garrett Graff shared riveting presentations about the events of 9/11 as expressed in hundreds of oral histories collected from individuals involved in or impacted by various aspects

of the events of that day, and John Carlin provided a stark summary of the complex and evolving world of cyber-intelligence. Between those programs, the Library hosted a highly informative program on the fall 2019 Canadian election, featuring Consul General Joseph Comartin and a panel of three U.S. and Canadian experts.

Looking ahead to 2020, planning continues for presentations of Lisa Rafferty's play about Betty Ford, *She Did All That*, at both the Library and Museum during the first week in May. These productions will be presented with support from both the Ford Presidential Foundation and a \$10,000 grant from the National Archives Foundation. In addition, we are in the process of scheduling several other outstanding speakers, and will have specific dates to announce very soon.

During the late summer, we began a new initiative to broadcast video programs in both the Library and Museum auditoriums on a daily basis. In response to very favorable feedback to our daily showings of the PBS series celebrating the 50th anniversary of Apollo 11's journey to the moon, we will continue this program to feature both Ford-related documentaries and video footage, along with special programs from PBS and others.

In staff news, in September we welcomed Michelle Tomasek as our new Administrative Assistant at the Library, a Navy vet with experience at the VA Hospital and the University of Michigan's Naval ROTC program. In addition, John Sheehan is our new Registrar at the Museum. He was formerly a Captain in the Marines and came to us from the U.S. Marine Corps Museum in Virginia. Both have already become integral parts of the Library/Museum team and we are delighted to have them on board!

We continue to work closely with the Ford Foundation to plan for larger-scale digitization of our collections, while continuing to conduct research for future feature exhibits and public programs, support visiting scholars and ongoing educational activities. Thank you for your continuing support for all that we do!



Dr. Elaine K. Didier

Thanks to the Breton Village Holiday Train Volunteers

Last year, the holiday display at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum looked quite different from years past. In December 2018, the train display that had previously been showcased inside the Breton Village Mall in Grand Rapids made its debut in its new home inside the Museum's lobby. Museum guests and rail fans of all ages enjoyed the train and miniature landscape during the holiday season. While some were seeing it for the first time, many had been annual visitors to see the display in its previous home and were happy to see it being given new life in the Museum. Revamping and repairing this extensive display was no small feat! The Museum staff was joined by a team of community volunteers who worked to restore the original trains, tracks, and structures, as well as add new pieces.

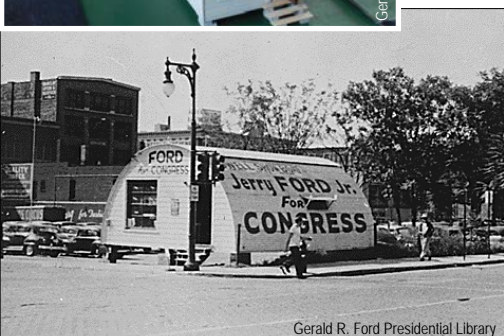
One of those volunteers is Mr. Larry Avery (photo left). Last year he was part of the inaugural team, working to repair and refresh many of the miniature buildings and scenery items in the display as well as add a brand new structure: "Bill's Place", the diner where a young Jerry Ford worked during his high school days.

The Museum's exhibit staff plans to expand the display this year and work is well underway to add new Ford-related elements. Avery has been working on two brand new miniature structures: the Ford Paint and Varnish store as well as the Quonset hut that served as Ford's congressional campaign headquarters (photo left). When asked why he volunteers his time to this project, Avery said, "What kid doesn't want to work on model trains all day? (Yes, I still consider myself a kid!)" He added, "...to see the look of awe on the little kids' faces is really rewarding."

Many thanks to all who work to bring this display to life including our incredible Museum staff and volunteers: Bill Abraham, Larry Avery, Andy Seif, and Ken Skopp. The expanded display will run throughout the month of December in the Museum's temporary exhibit space. Special train-themed programming for pre-school aged children will be offered on Friday mornings. For more information, call: 616-254-0396.



Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation

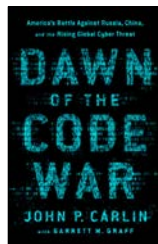


Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library

John Carlin

“Dawn of the Code War: America’s Battle Against Russia, China and the Rising Global Cyber Threat”

Tuesday and Wednesday, November 12 and 13, 2019



Ann Arbor and Grand Rapids: On November 12 and 13, the Library and Museum hosted John Carlin, former Assistant Attorney General for National Security, the Department of Justice’s highest ranking national security attorney, and author of *Dawn of the Code War: America’s Battle Against Russia, China and the Rising Global Cyber Threat*. In his two talks, Mr. Carlin touched on a topic that is important to every American, ensuring that our own data privacy, cyber infrastructure, and businesses and democratic institutions are safe from foreign interference or attack. Mr. Carlin addressed many aspects of this complicated issue, including the need for new and quicker strategies for combating the ever-increasing and ever-changing cyber threat, including two-way information sharing between the federal government and the private sector in real time. During the question and answer sessions, attendees asked many engaging and thoughtful questions concerning the future of modern cyberwarfare and continued the dialogue at the receptions and book signings following each program.



John Carlin during the Museum presentation.

Barry Rabe, Stephen Brooks, and Maryscott Greenwood

The 2019 Canadian Election: Issues and Impact for Michigan
Thursday, October 24, 2019

Ann Arbor: On October 24, the Library presented a public program on the recent 2019 Canadian election in partnership with the Consulate General of Canada in Detroit and the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation. Following a welcome by Library and Museum Director Elaine Didier, Canadian Consul General Joseph Comartin opened the program with a brief overview of the US-Canadian relationship. Barry Rabe from the University of Michigan’s Gerald Ford School of Public Policy then moderated a discussion with Stephen Brooks from the University of Windsor and Maryscott Greenwood from the Canadian American Business Council in Washington, DC, on the election results and the potential implications for US-Canadian diplomatic and trade relations at the national and state-level. Prior to the program, the Consul General hosted a dinner for program participants, local dignitaries involved in various aspects of the US-Canadian relationship, and members of the Library and Museum leadership team, while the Foundation sponsored a reception in the lobby following the program. Supervisory Archivist Geir Gundersen worked very closely with the Canadian Consulate and the Ford Presidential Foundation for many months to plan and organize this event.



Pictured, from left, are Professor Barry Rabe from the University of Michigan’s Ford School of Public Policy (moderator), Maryscott Greenwood of the Canadian American Business Council, and Professor Stephen Brooks of the University of Windsor.

Garrett Graff

“The Only Plane in the Sky: An Oral History of 9/11”

September 23 and 24, 2019



Ann Arbor and Grand Rapids: The Ford Library and Museum were very pleased to welcome Garrett Graff back to Ann Arbor and Grand Rapids to discuss his *New York Times* best selling book, *The Only Plane in the Sky*. Mr. Graff provided an oral history overview of one of the worst days in American history: the events that took place on 9/11. He brought the day into focus *not* by telling *his* version of the day, but from the perspective of those who were actually there, using their words to describe the sights and sounds of the day that changed the nature of the world and who we are as Americans. Mr. Graff also related events that had they not occurred on that day, would have also been world shaking stories in and of themselves, such as the evacuation of lower Manhattan being the largest seaborne evacuation in history, larger than that of Dunkirk. Each of his lectures had capacity audiences at both the Library and the Museum.



Missed one of our events?

View it online at: www.fordlibrarymuseum.gov/events-previous



Master Quilter, Ann Loveless

Ford After Five Series: Ann Loveless Quilting Class at the Museum October 19, 2019

This fall the Ford Presidential Museum hosted a 3-hour quilting class, taught by Master Quilter, Ann Loveless whose designs won her First Place in both the 2013 and 2015 ArtPrize competition in Grand Rapids. Ann broke down her landscape design process step-by-step so that each student, regardless of skill, was able to create a small art quilt. Ann attended Michigan State University and received her degree in Clothing and Textile Design and works from photographs to create beautiful landscapes. Her inspiration and designs come from nature and the beautiful lakes and woods of Northern Michigan. This sold out class was a huge success!



Autumn fabric mosaic landscape art quilt class project.

Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation Research Travel Grants

Fall 2019

Adler, Paul
Colorado College
Hotea, Mihai
University of Nottingham (UK)
Maslin, Kimberly
Hendrix College

Ryan-Hume, Joe
University of Glasgow /
Boston University Fulbright Scholar
Simpson, Andrew
Duquesne University

Sion, Vitor Loureiro
Paulista State University (Brazil)
Strangler, Connor
Indiana University-Bloomington

Thomas, Benjamin
University of Nottingham (UK)
Witwer, David
Penn State University-Harrisburg



Yes, I want to be a member of "Friends of Ford"

Become a member of "Friends of Ford" and help support the Library and Museum's many exhibits and programs. Join us as we seek to enhance public understanding of American history, government, and the presidency.



As a member of Friends of Ford you are invited to participate in many special Library and Museum activities that are not open to the general public.

Members of "Friends of Ford" receive many valuable benefits:

- ★ Free admission to the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum
- ★ Advance notification of speakers and exhibits at both the Library and Museum
- ★ Invitation to pre-opening exhibit tours by staff members
- ★ Foundation Newsletter, 5 issues per year
- ★ 10% Discount on merchandise at the Museum Store
- ★ Free admission to other Presidential Libraries and Museums
- ★ Membership card
- ★ Members at the Family, Associate, Sustaining, Patron, President's Cabinet and Legacy membership levels receive additional benefits.

For further information, please contact Kristy Lecceadone at 616.254.0396 or email kleccadone@38foundation.org. Attached is an application envelope for your convenience. Memberships are tax deductible to the limits allowed by the IRS. The Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation is a tax-exempt 501(c)3 organization.

**Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation, 303 Pearl Street, NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504-5353
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Schedule of Upcoming Events

Save the Dates!

Date	Location	Time	Event
12/01/19 to 01/05/20	Grand Rapids Museum	Daily	DeVries Family - Breton Village Holiday Train exhibit will open on December 1, 2019 at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum. Museum admission fee applies EXCEPT during Christmas Break from December 23, 2019 to January 5, 2020, when admission to the train exhibit and Museum are FREE and open to the public.
12/10/19	Grand Rapids DeVos Ctr Loosemore Auditorium	7:00 PM	Authors Hank Meijer and David Roll share the stage as they discuss Col. Ralph W. Hauenstein's favorite WWII General, George Marshall and Grand Rapids' native, Senator Arthur Vandenberg. Joint program with Hauenstein Center. No cost to attend. Reservations are required. Please visit www.gvsu.edu/hc and select events to RSVP online for this event.
12/12/19	Grand Rapids Museum	7:00 PM	Mary Evans Seeley "Seasons Greetings from the White House" . Mary Evans Seeley is a collector, historian, lecturer, author and publisher of two books about Christmas at the White House. She has the most extensive collection of Presidential Christmas memorabilia in the country. Her book, "Season's Greetings from the White House" is now in its eighth edition. It tells the stories of Christmas at the White House from Calvin Coolidge through Donald J. Trump, documenting nearly a century of presidential Christmases. No cost to attend. Reservations are appreciated by calling 616-254-0384 or emailing: ford_events@nara.gov .
02/20/20	Grand Rapids Museum	7:00 PM	In association with Black History Month please join us for the Exhibit Opening " The Continual Struggle " by Brian Washington . Mr. Washington will discuss his process of creating and selecting works for his exhibit. Each individual piece is the result of his research and reflection on this critical era of American history. At the age of 20, Washington began blueprinting ideas for the 11-piece first-edition of "The Continual Struggle: The Civil Rights Movement—Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow". In 2003 just three months after its completion, his first edition was acquired in its entirety by the Smithsonian Institution, and placed in the permanent collection of the Smithsonian-affiliated National Underground Railroad Freedom Center in Cincinnati, Ohio. This <i>not-to-be-missed</i> exhibition has been on display in Washington, DC and at other Presidential Libraries. No cost to attend. Open Seating. Reservations are appreciated by calling 616-254-0384 or emailing: ford_events@nara.gov .
03/18/20	Grand Rapids Museum	7:00 PM	Former Vice President Richard B. Cheney presents the 2020 William E. Simon Lecture in Public Affairs. This <i>Friends of Ford</i> member event will be held at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Reservations are required by calling 616-254-0396.

For Additional Event Information Please Visit Our Website

www.geraldrfordfoundation.org or Call **616-254-0396**

Be sure to check out videos, articles and photos from previous events in our "**Events Section**".

The Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation fosters increased awareness of the life, career, values and legacy of America's 38th President. It does so through activities designed to promote the high ideals of integrity, honesty, and candor that defined President Ford's extraordinary career of public service. The Foundation promotes the ideals, values, commitment to public service and historical legacy of President Gerald R. Ford and further promotes greater civic engagement and recognition of integrity wherever it exists in the public arena. It supports permanent and changing exhibits designed to promote historical literacy; conferences; educational outreach and other programs, both scholarly and popular, including at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library and Museum.