

H E N R Y M O R R I S O N

# FLAGLER MUSEUM

— PALM BEACH, FLORIDA —

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 8, 2015

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## 2015 WHITEHALL LECTURE SERIES GILDED AGE MOMENTS THAT ILLUSTRATE THE AMERICAN CHARACTER

Purchase tickets online, or call (561) 655-2833  
Free for Museum Members at the Sustaining level and above  
\$10 for Individual, Family and Life Members  
\$28 per lecture for non-members, includes Museum Admission  
\$125 for complete series ticket, includes Museum Admission

The 30th Annual Whitehall Lecture Series, *Monumental America: Gilded Age Monuments That Illustrate the American Character*, will explore the most powerful representations of the American Character, symbolizing the conscience, spirit, mind, and body of America. Where possible, a book signing with the author will follow the lecture.

### Watch the Lecture Series online

Web visitors can now experience the Lecture Series via a live, interactive, Web seminar. On-line visitors can listen to the lecture live, see the presentation, and ask questions of the lecturer. There is no charge to join the on-line lecture. Begin by clicking on the "Join This Lecture Live" button on the lecture series web page.



### **The Impetus Behind the Building of America's Monuments**

by Judith Dupré, Best-selling Author

February 8, 2015

3:00 p.m.

The monumental architecture and the success of the Columbian Exposition inspired congress to finish the nation's Capitol. A critical feature of that process was the conceptualization and construction of a series of monuments for which the aesthetic concept, artist and medium mattered as much as the subject matter itself. Judith Dupre, author of a book titled *Monuments:*

*America's History In Art and Memory*, will discuss America's best-known monuments and their cultural context and significance.

Judith Dupré is passionate about the built environment. Few writers possess her breadth of experience in writing about history through the lens of a single building type, whether skyscrapers, bridges, memorials, or churches. A *New York Times* bestselling author published in ten languages, she has written books about all these subjects, including *Skyscrapers*, the best selling book in the world on that topic; *Bridges*; *Churches*; and *Monuments: America's History in Art and Memory*. Her editorials have appeared in *America*, *Architectural Record*, *USA Today*, *The Daily Beast*, *Huffington Post*, and *Wowowow*, among others. Above all, she seeks to engage and delight those who profess “not to know much” about architecture.



### **The Washington Monument, the Capitol Dome, and the Jefferson Memorial**

by Thomas Luebke, Secretary of the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts  
February 15, 2015  
3:00 p.m.

The Washington Monument, an obelisk that soars to meet the sky and the Capitol Dome painting of George Washington's ascension to Heaven, surrounded by 13 angels representing the original 13 colonies, clearly cast George Washington as the embodiment of the spirit of America.

The Jefferson Memorial memorializes the man who wrote the American Declaration of Independence and more than any other person, represents the intellect and enlightenment that formed the basis of America's grand experiment in self governance.

Thomas is a frequent speaker and panelist on topics such as the design of Washington, D.C.; the history of the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts; and the design of commemorative works for such institutions as the National Building Museum, the Smithsonian Institution, the American Institute of Architects, and the American Society of Landscape Architects. In cooperation with the National Building Museum, he has initiated and participated in numerous symposiums and exhibitions, including *Monuments and Memory* (2001), *Framing A Capital City* (2007), and *Power, Architecture, and Politics: The U.S. Commission of Fine Arts and the Design of Washington* (2010). He is the editor of the forthcoming publication, *A Century of Design: The U.S. Commission of Fine Arts, 1910-2010*.



### **The Lincoln Memorial**

by James Percoco, Best-selling Author

February 22, 2015

3:00 p.m.

As the western anchor of the National Mall, the Lincoln Memorial stands as a tribute to America's "Great Emancipator" and the soul or conscience of the American people. The massive sculpture of a contemplative Lincoln sits high above onlookers in a temple-like setting, the literal seat of the American soul or conscience.

James A. Percoco has taught at West Springfield High School in Springfield, Virginia since 1980. The recipient of numerous education awards, Percoco was one of five individuals inducted into the National Teachers Hall of Fame in 2011. He was selected for

the first *USA TODAY* All-USA Teacher Team in 1998 and named Outstanding Social Studies Teacher of the Year in 1993 at the Walt Disney Company American Teacher Awards.



### **American Museum of Natural History - Roosevelt Memorial Hall**

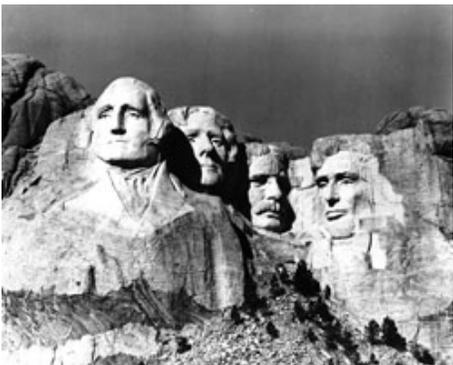
by John Blades, Executive Director of the Flagler Museum

March 1, 2015

3:00 p.m.

The American Museum of Natural History is not only one of the most renowned natural history institutions in the world, it is a monument to Theodore Roosevelt and America's physical prowess and enormous energy he seemed to embody.

As the Flagler Museum's executive director since 1995, John Blades' stewardship of the historic property and 1902-completed mansion has been marked by achievements. A respected historian, lecturer and author, John joined the Flagler Museum after a career at Hearst Castle in San Simeon, California. He is a member of the American Association of Museums, International Committee on Museums, Southeastern Museums Conference, Florida Association of Museums, and the Florida Art Museum Directors Association, of which he has been president since 2005.



### **Mount Rushmore**

by Dr. David Wolff, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and

Professor of History at Black Hills State University

March 8, 2015

Memorialized for eternity, the faces of the four Presidents, who collectively represent the major aspects of the American Character, were literally carved from the side of a mountain, making Mount Rushmore the most enduring and impressive monument to the American Character.

David Wolff is the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and the Black Hills, South Dakota, and Western History specialist at Black Hills State University in Spearfish, SD. He has published articles in *South*

*Dakota History, Mining History Journal, and The American Indian Quarterly.* In April 2009 South Dakota State Historical Press released his book *Seth Bullock: Black Hills Lawman*, a biography of this famous Deadwood resident, which covers not only his years as sheriff but his many other activities. In 2003, his book *Industrializing the Rockies: Growth, Competition and Turmoil in the Coalfields of Colorado and Wyoming, 1868-1914* was released by the University Press of Colorado.

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When it was completed in 1902, Whitehall, Henry Flagler's Gilded Age estate in Palm Beach, was hailed by the *New York Herald* as "more wonderful than any palace in Europe, grander and more magnificent than any other private dwelling in the world." Today, Whitehall is a National Historic Landmark and is open to the public as the Flagler Museum, featuring guided tours, changing exhibits, and special programs. The Museum is located at Coconut Row and Whitehall Way, Palm Beach. The Museum is open from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday, and noon until 5:00 p.m. Sunday. Admission is \$18 for adults, \$10 for youth ages 13-17, \$3 for children ages 6-12, and children under six are free.

For more information, please call the Flagler Museum at (561) 655-2833 or visit [www.flaglERMuseum.us](http://www.flaglERMuseum.us)

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