

Home > General News > Seeing Roosevelt

General News | Glen Cove News

Seeing Roosevelt

By Jill Nossa - October 12, 2015

39 0

Roslyn artist and photographer Xiomáro will grace the public with a rare look into the summer refuge at one of the country's most beloved presidents, Theodore Roosevelt.

"Theodore Roosevelt's Sagamore Hill: The 'Unseen' Summer White House," a photo exhibit displaying more than 40 large color photographs, will be on display at the Theodore Roosevelt Executive and Legislative Building in Mineola from now through Oct. 23. Photos in the 'unseen' collection will show the interiors of the Oyster Bay home where Roosevelt conducted the nation's business during his time away from Washington, D.C.



Nassau County Comptroller George Maragos, in collaboration with Executive Ed Mangano and the National Parks Service's Sagamore Hill National Historic Site, will hold an opening night reception Tuesday, Oct. 13 at 6 p.m.

"I am proud to have another opportunity to showcase our local artists," said Maragos. "Xio is a gifted artist who has created a remarkable

photographic Exhibit. I encourage everyone to make time to see these historic images while they can."

Mangano said the display is an intimate peak into the life of a great American.

"I invite residents to visit the historic Theodore Roosevelt Executive and Legislative Building in Mineola to view this wonderful photographic exhibit," Mangano said. "This is a great

opportunity to glimpse through photos the personal surroundings of our beloved 26th President, his wife Edith and their children.”

The photographs document an unseen version of the mansion that reveals the president’s imposing character and the intimate nature of the First Lady, the children and servants. The exhibit also marks the debut of a new photograph of the master bedroom, created by the artist upon the recommendation of Tweed Roosevelt, the president’s great-grandson.



Photographs from the reopening of the house in July are also included. This will be the largest exhibit to date of Xiomaro’s work. A free photo eBook is available for download at www.xiomaro.com.

Xiomáro is a nationally exhibited and published artist, curator, writer and speaker whose work has been extensively covered by the national media including *The Huffington Post* and *Fine Art Connoisseur*.

On his website, Xiomáro said that the collection of photographs “reveals that even though the house is substantially vacant, [Roosevelt’s] spirit remains permanently in residence. It is no surprise that on the day before he passed away, [Roosevelt] wistfully commented to his wife Edith, ‘I wonder if you will ever know how I love Sagamore Hill.’”



Xiomáro has his Sagamore Hill photos on display in Mineola.

The site for the exhibit is particularly fitting in that the cornerstone for the executive and legislative building was laid in 1900 by then-Governor Theodore Roosevelt. The white domed Classical Revival-style structure is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

The event will be co-sponsored by the Oyster Bay Civic Association and the Oyster Bay Chamber of Commerce. Refreshments will be provided by Key Food, Trader Joe's, ShopRite, Bagel Craft of Hempstead and Stop & Shop supermarkets.



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