



NATIONAL PARKS of NEW YORK HARBOR

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>NEWS RELEASE<

National Park Service-Manhattan Sites, National Parks of New York Harbor Conservancy announce lease agreement

New York, NY, Oct. 26, 2016 - National Park Service, Manhattan Sites and the National Parks of New York Harbor Conservancy (Harbor Conservancy) announces that Federal Hall National Memorial is available for special events.

“This is a further expansion of our close and successful existing partnership with the Conservancy,” said Superintendent of Manhattan Sites, Shirley McKinney, “it is a great next step to ensure that we can continue to preserve Federal Hall while allowing expanded access to the building that is with our mission.”

Federal Hall National Monument is one of 413 units of the National Park Service. From 1789 to 1790, the location of Federal Hall National Memorial was the seat of the United States federal government under the new Constitution. Congress passed many of the founding laws of the nation and approved the Bill of Rights for ratification by the states. The 1883 statue of George Washington commemorates where our first president took the oath of office on April 30, 1789.

The original building was demolished in 1812. The current building was constructed in 1842 as the nation’s first Customs House and later as a U.S. Sub Treasury. The structure is one of New York City’s great architectural marvels. Its exterior design, modeled after the Parthenon, celebrates the country’s founding principles rooted in Greek democracy, while the building interior invokes the Pantheon, reflecting the ideals of our republic as embodied by ancient Rome.

“Historic sites like Federal Hall need to find new ways to become sustainable,” said Harbor Conservancy President, Marie Salerno, “we are quite fortunate that not only is this a site of tremendous national significance, but that this building is one of New York City’s architectural marvels.”

Under the agreement with the National Park Service, the National Parks of New York Harbor Conservancy will lease Federal Hall’s rotunda and other spaces after public hours on weekdays and weekends for business dinners, wedding receptions, panel discussions and other special events for a fee. Revenue will be shared with the National Park Service, to support the continued care and preservation of the building.

For more information on rentals, contact Laura Herrera at the Harbor Conservancy at 917-656-3748 or visit <http://federalhall.org/rentals>.

About National Parks of New York Harbor: You may be surprised to learn that there are 11 National Parks and affiliated sites comprising 23 unique destinations in New York City and northern New Jersey. The National Parks of New York Harbor includes nearly 27,000 acres and welcomes more than 16 million

visitors each year. The parks offer year-round programs, recreational opportunities, natural habitats, historic buildings and museum collections. Learn more at <http://www.nps.gov/npnh>.

About the National Park Service: More than 20,000 National Park Service employees care for America's 413 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities. Learn more at www.nps.gov.

About the Harbor Conservancy: The National Parks of New York Harbor Conservancy (Harbor Conservancy) is the primary non-profit partner of the National Parks of New York Harbor (NPNH)—a division of the National Park Service that stewards 11 national parks with 23 destinations in the New York/New Jersey Metropolitan Area. Its shared goals with NPNH are natural and cultural resource protection, improving access to parks, enhancing the visitor experience and expanding park funding through philanthropy and new revenue opportunities. In its first decade the Harbor Conservancy raised more than \$15 million for park programs, projects and activities. To learn more about the Harbor Conservancy, go to <http://federalhall.org/about-the-project/harbor-conservancy>.