



Press Release
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Tudor Place Offers Seasonal Tour: “Death Comes to Tudor Place”

WASHINGTON, DC -- Tudor Place Historic House & Garden launches *Death Comes to Tudor Place*, a specialty exhibition and guided tour examining how funeral customs and burial practices evolved at Tudor Place across nearly two centuries. The *Death Comes to Tudor Place* tour will be offered October 3 through November 5.

During the tour, visitors will experience almost 200 years of traditions employed by upper-class households to express grief, many of which had their roots in the Victorian era. Discover the reasons why clocks are stopped, mirrors are draped in black fabric and why most funerals were held at home. Artifacts, such as clothing, jewelry and documents, from the Tudor Place Collection & Archive, not traditionally on display, will show how members of the family memorialized their deceased relatives. See pieces that reveal how George Washington, a Peter family relative, was honored and remembered after his death.

The tour will explore the funerary customs of enslaved and free domestic laborers who lived and worked at Tudor Place, which reflected generations of inherited customs and collective values. Visitors will learn how the constraints of the institution of slavery and racism affected how they memorialized their loved ones.

“Grief has always been a part of the human condition,” said Rob DeHart, Curator at Tudor Place. “This installation reveals how people have historically expressed their grief and how factors such as class and race come into play.”

A model of Federal-period architecture in the nation’s capital, Tudor Place cares for thousands of objects in its collection and archive, including the largest Washington Collection outside of Mount Vernon. The historic house is surrounded by 5 ½ acres of garden in the historic Georgetown neighborhood of Washington, DC. Tudor Place is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Sunday from Noon to 4:00 p.m. Guided tours are offered on the hour; self-guided garden visits are free. The garden’s historic landscape includes blooms year-round and witness trees, such as a 200-year-old tulip poplar.

Members of the media are invited to a Press Preview on Monday, October 2 at 6:00 p.m. Contact the Tudor Place Press office at press@tudorplace.org for more information.

ABOUT TUDOR PLACE: Tudor Place preserves the stories of six generations of descendants of Martha Washington, and the enslaved and free people who lived and worked here for nearly two centuries. By examining their legacy, we challenge ourselves and our visitors to celebrate the triumphs and to confront the complexities of the past. www.tudorplace.org.

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