

# Michelle Obama Speaks at Whitney's Dedication

April 29, 2015

by Hamptons Art Hub Staff

First Lady Michelle Obama is heading to New York City for the Dedication Ceremony of the Whitney Museum of American Art. Obama will join New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio, architect Renzo Piano, and Whitney Museum leaders for a ribbon-cutting and Dedication ceremony.

The invitation-only event unveiling the new Whitney Museum will take place on Thursday, April 30, at 11 a.m. If you're not on the guest list, take heart: the ceremony is being streamed live at [whitney.org/Dedication](http://whitney.org/Dedication).



Whitney Museum of American Art. Photograph by Nic Lehoux.

The Whitney's move from uptown to Gansevoort Street returns the museum to downtown Manhattan, where it was founded in 1930 by artist and philanthropist Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney. The new 220,000-square-foot building in the Meatpacking District doubles the museum's exhibition

space paving the way for a future that holds even more art and programming.

The building opens its doors to the public on Friday, May 1, 2015 with the inaugural exhibition "America Is Hard to See." Click [here](#) to read a review for Hamptons Art Hub by Charles A. Riley II.

Friday night, the Empire State Building becomes a canvas for a light show inspired by select works from the Whitney's collection. Click [here](#) for details.

Speakers at the ceremony include Michelle Obama, First Lady of the United States of America, Bill de Blasio, Mayor of the City of New York, Adam D. Weinberg, Alice Pratt Brown Director, Whitney Museum of American Art, Renzo Piano, architect; Chairman and Founding Partner, Renzo Piano Building Workshop, Robert J. Hurst, Co-Chairman, Whitney Board of Trustees, Brooke Garber Neidich, Co-Chairman, Whitney Board of Trustees, Neil G. Bluhm, President, Whitney Board of Trustees and Flora Miller Biddle, and Honorary Chairman, Whitney Board of Trustees, and granddaughter of Museum founder Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney.

Matana Roberts, composer and alto saxophonist, will be performing a commissioned musical work, *Incantation*. The Wooster Group, renowned experimental theater company, will also perform. Teens from the Whitney's Youth Insights Program will also be in attendance.

A live webcast can be viewed at [whitney.org/Dedication](http://whitney.org/Dedication).

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**BASIC FACTS:** The Whitney Museum of American Art's Dedication Ceremony takes place on April 30, 2015 at 11 a.m. The ceremony is by invitation only. A live webcast will be available to the public at [whitney.org/Dedication](http://whitney.org/Dedication).

The Whitney Museum of American Art is located at 99 Gansevoort Street, New York, NY 10014. [www.whitney.org](http://www.whitney.org).

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