



## White House Wit

Discover the humorous side of the presidency and those seeking the office at the new Presidential Humor exhibit

INDIANAPOLIS (January 8, 2019) – [Presidential Humor](#), opening January 24, 2019, at the [Benjamin Harrison Presidential Site](#) [1230 North Delaware St., Indianapolis] will focus on Presidential parody, caricature, anecdote and witticisms. The exhibit includes the quirkier items that have been created through the years, including political campaign items, paraphernalia, toys, pet related items and clothing to demonstrate how humor's been used effectively by candidates and political foes alike.

The exhibit is part of the New Century Curator Initiative, a compelling partnership between the Benjamin Harrison Presidential Site and IUPUI's Museum Studies program. This partnership offers an innovative opportunity for Museum Studies students to assist in developing an exhibit for the Presidential Site. It's a career-launching opportunity for a top-tier student to explore and interact with a nationally-significant collection.

The 2018 Curatorial Fellow Emily Hanawalt shared, "Presidential Humor explores the relationship between humor and politics by showcasing how humor is used to make points about our leaders. Using both 2-D and 3-D objects, the exhibit covers the history of political cartoons and caricatures and explores the humor of presidents through funny anecdotes, quotes and witticisms. *Presidential Humor* is about recognizing how humor is used as a tool in

democracies to make statements about leaders and how something as serious as politics can cause people to laugh out loud."

The Presidential Humor exhibit will hold its grand opening on Thursday, January 24 from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. Light refreshments and beverages will be provided at this open house-style event, which will take place in the Welcome Center of the Benjamin Harrison Presidential Site. The event is open to the public. Tickets are available at <http://bit.ly/PresHumorOpening>.

The Presidential Site offers daily guided tours. Tours are on the hour and half-hour, and last approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes. Hours are Mondays through Saturdays, 10 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. and Sundays noon – 3:30 p.m.

For additional details visit <http://www.presidentbenjaminharrison.org/visit>.

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#### **About the Benjamin Harrison Presidential Site**

The Benjamin Harrison Presidential Site celebrates the remarkable legacy of America's Hoosier President. The museum is a National Historic Landmark situated within easy walking distance of downtown Indianapolis and the bustling 16th Street corridor. The 1875 Italianate mansion is exquisitely restored, and has an exceptional collection of more than 10,000 artifacts. Daily tours of the property include a 75-minute guided tour through the Harrison house and private quarters. Highlights include an awe-inspiring collection of Gilded Age finery, paintings, furniture and personal presidential gifts and mementos. The privately operated, non-profit organization receives no direct tax support and is dedicated to sharing the life stories, arts and culture of an American President to increase public participation in the American system of self-government. Find out more at [PresidentBenjaminHarrison.org](http://PresidentBenjaminHarrison.org)