Sara Harwood, Ph.D.

Communications Director

Friends of Mimosa Hall & Gardens
706-622-8356

fomhgharwood@gmail.com

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Great Gatsby New Year’s Eve Gala to Usher in New Sustainability-Driven
Renovation at Roswell’s Newly Acquired Historic Property, Mimosa Hall & Gardens**Friends of Mimosa Hall & Gardens Holding a Gala to Raise Funds For Gardens and New Roof

**ROSWELL, GA:** Friends of Mimosa Hall & Gardens invites Roswell and Greater Atlanta citizens to a Great Gatsby themed festive benefit gala on New Year’s Eve, to generate excitement and funding for the upcoming opening of the 1841 historic Roswell property. The 5-acre gardens are expected to open in 2019. “We’re also planning to install a new roof early next year,” explains Dr. Sara Harwood, Communications Director for Friends of Mimosa. “The funds raised through this gala will help us meet these goals.” Architect Simone du Boise of Cadmus Construction will be implementing restoration designs for the property to integrate solar power into Mimosa Hall’s roofline; when completed Mimosa Hall will own the title as [“The Oldest Net Zero Building in the United States!”](https://www.friendsofmimosa.org/solar)

The black-tie New Year’s Eve Great Gatsby event pays homage to a part of the glitzy and exciting bygone era when architect J. Neel Reid renovated Mimosa’s landscape to create formal gardens with a reflecting pool, parterre garden, and 15 garden rooms. To regale the glittering delight of the time, the Great Gatsby Gala will have a live 12-piece brass band to bring cheer as we dance and hail in the new year! Guests donning their snazziest 1920s costumes will enjoy sampling delicious hors d’oeuvres and taking pictures in the vintage-themed photo booth.

**Recognition Awards for Involvement in Historic Roswell**

Friends of Mimosa will also be presenting two awards to honor individuals who have made a major contribution to Historic Roswell. The Phoenix Award recognizes exceptional civic involvement by a Roswell individual or institution. This year’s recipient is **Ryan Pernice**, owner of Table & Main and Osteria Mattone, past president of the Historic Roswell Business Association, and committee member for the Historic District Master Plan.

The Champagne Toast recognizes an individual who has performed an outstanding service for the betterment of the City of Roswell. This year’s recipient is **Dotty Etris**, who will be retiring in December after an outstanding 27 years as the Executive Director of the Roswell Convention and Visitor’s Bureau.

“We can’t wait to celebrate these incredible people and the fantastic energy they bring to Roswell,” says event chair, Michelle Slater. “This event is going to be a blast - and the fact that you can write off a portion of the ticket on your taxes is really the icing on the cake!”

**Raise a glass of champagne to raise the roof!**Come join us for an evening of merriment benefitting the Roswell local community! The gala will get started at 8:00pm in the [**DoubleTree on Holcomb Bridge Road**](https://doubletree3.hilton.com/en/hotels/georgia/doubletree-by-hilton-hotel-atlanta-roswell-ATLRSDT/index.html)**:**

* Many guests will keep the party going after midnight by booking a room in the hotel.
Patrons will receive a special discounted rate for the night: the room rate is $109 which includes breakfast buffet for two. Please use the code “**Mimosa**” when booking.
* A drawing to win a hotel night’s stay at the DoubleTree Hotel will be part of the night’s events.
* Tickets for the Great Gatsby NYE Gala start at $150, a portion of which is tax deductible, and includes: food, 2 drinks (beer and wine), champagne toast, live music by the [120 East](https://www.facebook.com/120East/) band, dancing and prizes.
* Event Attire: Black-tie. 1920s dress encouraged!

For more information about the Great Gatsby New Year’s Eve Gala event and purchasing tickets, please visit: [**https://www.friendsofmimosa.org/events/#nye**](https://www.friendsofmimosa.org/events/#nye)

**About Mimosa Hall and Gardens:** Mimosa Hall was built in 1841 as one of the first permanent homes in Roswell. In 1918, Atlanta architect J. Neel Reid purchased the property and installed 5 acres of formal gardens. Mimosa remained in private hands until last year, when it was purchased by the City of Roswell. Friends of Mimosa Hall & Gardens is fundraising to help the City with the restoration of both the house and the Reid gardens. In August, Friends of Mimosa was awarded the Historic Landscape Preservation grant from the Garden Club of Georgia to restore Reid’s reflecting pool. For more information, visit FriendsOfMimosa.org.