Step back in time to explore the life, works, and passions of Edith Wharton (1862-1937), one of America’s greatest writers. Author of The Age of Innocence, Ethan Frome, and The House of Mirth, she wrote over 40 books in 40 years, including authoritative works on architecture, gardens, interior design, and travel. Wharton was the first woman awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction and an honorary Doctorate from Yale University.

Today, her legacy lives on at The Mount, the elegant 1902 estate and gardens she designed and built in the Berkshire Hills of Western Massachusetts. Open to the public each year from May through October, The Mount welcomes over 30,000 visitors annually. Now, for the first time, thematic outreach programs inspired by Edith Wharton are available for groups.

Let us bring the fascinating world of Edith Wharton to you!
Each sixty minute discussion-based presentation is accompanied by a stunning selection of historical and contemporary images. Our experienced presenters will share their extensive knowledge with your group while engaging them in lively discussion. Selected programs include objects from The Mount’s collections and audio and video clips. Fees vary depending on the size of your group and distance from The Mount. Custom outreach programs are available upon request and on-site group tours may be booked from May through October. Reserve today! Only a limited number of programs will be offered in 2011.

**My First Real Home: Edith Wharton & The Mount**
Wharton’s friend, the illustrious writer Henry James, once noted “No one fully knows our Edith who hasn’t seen her in the act of creating a habitation for herself.” Edith Wharton poured herself into creating beauty and harmony at The Mount, her summer home in Lenox, MA. *My First Real Home* tells the story of her life at The Mount and the history of the estate, including its architecture, landscape and interior design, and recent restoration.

**Edith Wharton: A Genius for Gardens**
“Decidedly, I’m a better landscape gardener than novelist,” wrote Edith Wharton about her gardens at The Mount. Wharton developed the elegant grounds of her Berkshire estate with the same care she applied to her written work. *Edith Wharton: A Genius for Gardens* examines Wharton’s lifelong love of gardening, discusses her fascination with European landscape design, and traces the development of The Mount’s gardens from their inception through their restoration.

**Dramatic License: Edith Wharton on Stage and Screen**
This program presents Wharton with a twist, exploring film, stage, radio, and even opera adaptations of her works. *Dramatic License* spotlights celebrated adaptations, including Martin Scorsese’s sublime *The Age of Innocence* (1993), as well as strictly film-buff picks such as *The Old Maid* (1923). A selection of radio and movie clips highlight the presentation. Enhance your program further by watching one of the movie adaptations before we visit. Ask us for recommendations.

**Notes from a Passionate Pilgrim: Edith Wharton’s Travel Writing**
Henry James fondly referred to Edith Wharton as a “passionate pilgrim.” This presentation follows Wharton’s energetic footsteps on her most profound journeys, including a life-altering Mediterranean cruise and her trek through exotic Morocco. In 2007, The Mount sponsored tours retracing these trips; this program features both historic and strikingly beautiful contemporary photos of the places Wharton visited.

For more information, or to book your program, contact Ryan McLaughlin at RMclaughlin@EdithWharton.org or call 413-551-5118.