



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**NATIONAL CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL PARADE® PRESENTED BY EVENTS DC
TAKES OVER CONSTITUTION AVENUE WITH PINK PAGEANTRY**

Saturday, April 16, 10 a.m. to noon; FREE along the Parade route

Washington, DC [March 16, 2016] -- The National Cherry Blossom Festival Parade® presented by Events DC will take place Saturday, April 16 from 10 a.m. to noon, rain or shine. One of the Festival's largest events, the Parade runs along Constitution Avenue from 7th to 17th Streets, NW. The Parade, hosted by ABC-7/WJLA-TV anchors Alison Starling and Leon Harris, will feature celebrity entertainment, helium balloons, characters, floats, marching bands and other performers. Local ABC affiliate WJLA will air the Parade locally in a delayed telecast from noon to 2 p.m. The Parade will be nationally syndicated to audiences across the country through the support of Events DC.

Celebrity talent and exciting Parade elements include:

- Cast members from the award-winning hit music [Jersey Boys](#)
- Pop sensation Tiffany
- Chart topping artist and *The Voice* contestant [Sisaundra Lewis](#)
- R&B Grammy-nominated artist and DC native [Raheem DeV Vaughn](#)
- Miss America 2016 Betty Cantrell
- Washington Redskins Cheerleaders
- Latin vocal group [Viva Mas](#), who recently performed for Pope Francis
- Local talent, including winners of the third annual Sing Into Spring Competition and the Washington Performing Arts Men and Women of the Gospel Choir

TICKETS & TRANSPORTATION: Free and open to the public. Limited Prime Grandstand seats are [on sale now](#) and can be purchased at nationalcherryblossomfestival.org/parade2016. The Grandstand section offers reserved seating along Constitution Avenue between 15th and 17th Streets, NW. Group tickets for 10 or more are also available. Standing along the Parade route is free between 9th and 15th Streets, NW and open to the public. Radio personality and local favorite Loo Katz from WASH-FM host from a second performance area located near the Parade's finish.

The event is Metro-accessible via the Archives-Navy Memorial stop on the Yellow/Green lines or Federal Triangle on the Blue/Orange lines. The Parade is presented by Events DC and supported by DowntownDC Business Improvement District, ANA, Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority, NHK World, DARCARS – the official vehicle provider for the Parade, MGM National Harbor, Microsoft, *Washington Post*, Busch Gardens Williamsburg, CSI Printing and Graphics, SUBWAY® Restaurants, CitySights DC, NEWSEUM, Dunkin' Donuts, and media partners ABC7/WJLA-TV, WASH-FM, and *The Washington Informer*. The Parade is being funded partially through the District of Columbia Executive Office of the Mayor – Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development.

The National Cherry Blossom Festival is the nation's greatest springtime celebration. The 2016 Festival, March 20 – April 17, includes three spectacular weeks and four weekends of events featuring diverse and creative programming promoting traditional and contemporary arts and culture, natural beauty, and community spirit. Visit nationalcherryblossomfestival.org or call 877.44.BLOOM for more information and find us on [Facebook](#) (CherryBlossomFestival), [Twitter](#) (@CherryBlossFest), and [Instagram](#) (@CherryBlossFest).