

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: **Nora Strumpf**
National Cherry Blossom Festival
nstrumpf@ncbfdc.org



**NATIONAL CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL PARADE® PRESENTED BY EVENTS DC
WELCOMES FESTIVE FANFARE ALONG CONSTITUTION AVENUE**

Saturday, April 14, 10 a.m. to noon; FREE along the Parade route

Washington, DC [March 1, 2018] – The [National Cherry Blossom Festival Parade® presented by Events DC](#) will take place Saturday, April 14 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 Jonathan Elias, 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.

Celebrities and other exciting Parade elements confirmed to-date include:

- Honorary Grand Marshal: Chef [Carla Hall](#), co-host of ABC’s Emmy Award winning series “The Chew”
- 90s hip-hop trailblazers [Arrested Development](#) (of hit single [People Everyday](#))
- Pop/classical string quartet [Well Strung](#) (members on current season of “The Amazing Race”)
- Grammy-nominated country singer [Ty Herndon](#)
- “The Voice” season 11 contestant [Billy Gilman](#) and season eight contestant [Sarah Potenza](#)
- Top new country group Temecula Road, named by Radio Disney as the latest Next Big Thing featured artist
- Gravity-defying extreme stunt pogo team [XPOGO](#)
- Miss America 2018 Cara Mund
- Washington Redskins Cheerleaders
- Giant colorful balloons including Smurfette, Peppa Pig, Magic School Bus, Sam I Am, Domo, and more

Approximately 80 entities join the festivities, including 550 youth chorus members, 500 all-star dancers, the Ballou High School Majestic Knights Marching Band, the Tamagawa University Taiko Drumming and Dance Troupe, and more.

TICKETS & TRANSPORTATION: Grandstand seats are [on sale now](#) and can be purchased at <http://www.nationalcherryblossomfestival.org/parade/>. 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.

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 with additional

support provide by ANA. Segment Sponsors included The DowntownDC Business Improvement District, Reagan National and Dulles International Airports. Additional sponsors include Japanese National Tourism Organization (JNTO), Mars Petcare and its Better Cities for Pets™ program, Microsoft, NHK WORLD JAPAN, HARIBO, The Sightseeing Pass, The Express, a Publication of the Washington Post, Newseum, The University of the District of Columbia, Bloomia, CSI Printing & Graphics, and media partners ABC7/WJLA-TV, 97.1 WASH-FM, and *The Washington Informer*.

ABOUT THE NATIONAL CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL

The National Cherry Blossom Festival is the nation's greatest springtime celebration. The 2018 Festival, March 20 – April 15, includes four weeks 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, or check out [Facebook](#) (CherryBlossomFestival), [Twitter](#) (@CherryBlossFest), and [Instagram](#) (@CherryBlossFest).

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