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FREE DAILY PERFORMANCES OFFERED AMONG THE BLOSSOMS AT TIDAL BASIN WELCOME AREA AND ANA PERFORMANCE STAGE

Washington, DC [March 1, 2017] – The National Cherry Blossom Festival will offer free daily performances at the [Tidal Basin Welcome Area and ANA Performance Stage](#) from Wednesday, March 15, through Sunday, April 2. This year's activities at the Welcome Area and ANA Performance Stage will begin five days earlier in order to coincide with the blooming period. At the Welcome Area, open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., visitors can access Festival information and view performances from noon to 6 p.m. The line-up will include a wide variety of cultural offerings including vocalists, bands, dancers, drum performances, exhibitions and more.

More than 100 performances on the ANA Performance Stage celebrate the friendship symbolized by the gift of cherry blossom trees through a dynamic mix of American, Japanese, and other cultural performing arts. Visitors enjoy upbeat displays of diverse talent and genres including Hawaiian Hula, African-inspired R&B, Algerian music, a swordsmanship demo, Zumba, taiko drumming, and more.

At the Welcome Area, attendees will have the opportunity to receive amenities along with Festival information. Visitor services will be located by the stage and sponsored by the Festival and the National Park Service (NPS). NPS rangers will offer guided tours, children's activities and a variety of other information. Relax and enjoy the atmosphere with concessions from Guest Services, Inc. and Eastern National. For the full performance schedule, visit nationalcherryblossomfestival.org.

The National Cherry Blossom Festival is the nation's greatest springtime celebration. The 2017 Festival, March 15 – April 16, 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 and find us on [Facebook](#) (CherryBlossomFestival), [Twitter](#) (@CherryBlossFest), and [Instagram](#) (@CherryBlossFest).

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