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## **MAGGIE O'NEILL OF WASHINGTON, DC NAMED OFFICIAL ARTIST FOR 2018 NATIONAL CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL**

**Washington, DC** [March 1, 2018] –The National Cherry Blossom Festival selected DC-based artist [Maggie O'Neill](#) as its 2018 Official Artist. O'Neill created a one-of-a-kind piece exclusively for the National Cherry Blossom Festival (pictured at right). An annual collector's item, the artwork will be on the official [poster](#) and various [merchandise](#).

O'Neill's fine artwork can be seen in private and corporate collections from New York to Delhi. She is best known for her pop impressionistic paintings of iconic DC landmarks and people. In 2012, Maggie had the honor of personally delivering a portrait to President Obama, and in 2014 her "Uncle Sam" was featured on the front page of *The New York Times*.



Attendees can get up-close-and-personal with the artist at various Festival events, including a hands-on workshop at the SAAM Cherry Blossom Celebration on March 24. Additionally, O'Neill will personally design a float that will debut in the National Cherry Blossom Festival Parade® presented by Events DC on April 14. The float will incorporate elements of the 2018 Official Artwork, and will be seen by thousands of spectators along Constitution Avenue.

The 2018 poster and merchandise will be available at the Festival's Merchandise Headquarters in Union Station, the online [Gift Shop](#), at Tidal Basin Welcome Centers, various Festival events, and other locations in the metro region.

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](http://nationalcherryblossomfestival.org) or call 877.44.BLOOM for more information, or check out [Facebook](#) (CherryBlossomFestival), [Twitter](#) (@CherryBlossFest), and [Instagram](#) (@CherryBlossFest).

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