

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 13, 10 a.m. to noon; FREE along the Parade route

Washington, DC [March 6, 2019] – The [National Cherry Blossom Festival Parade® presented by Events DC](#) will take place Saturday, April 13 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 ABC7/WJLA-TV anchors Michelle Marsh and Bill Kelly, 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. and again from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. on cable channel WJLA 24/7 News. 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 **Anthony Anderson**, star of ABC's "*black-ish*" and [Howard University attendee](#)
- **Cece Peniston**, dance club diva of 90s hit "[Finally](#)"
- Motown star **Freda Payne**, of hit single "[Band of Gold](#)" (1970)
- **Rayshun LaMarr**, contestant on season 14 of NBC's [The Voice](#) and DC-area native
- **Michael Woodard**, top five contestant on ABC's [American Idol](#) 2018
- **Christina Wells**, semifinalist on NBC's [America's Got Talent](#) 2018
- **A1 Chops**, viral Baltimore drumming duo featured on [The Ellen Show](#)
- Washington Redskins Cheerleaders
- Miss America Nia Franklin
- Winners of the 2019 Sing Into Spring Competition: Randae, a teacher for students with special needs at DC Preparatory Academy; and Sons of Pitch, an a cappella group from GW
- Giant colorful balloons including Olivia the Pig, Where's Waldo, Brainy Smurf, Cheer Bear Care Bear, Voltron, and Domo

Approximately 80 groups join the festivities, including 550 youth chorus members, 500 all-star dancers, the Ballou High School Majestic Knights Marching Band, the Bahamas All Stars Marching Band from Nassau, Bahamas, the Tamagawa University Taiko Drumming and Dance Troupe, National Children's Chorus, Kangaroo Kids Precision Jump Rope Team, and more.

(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 provided by ANA. Segment Sponsors are DowntownDC Business Improvement District, and Reagan National and Dulles International Airports. Additional sponsors include CSI Printing and Graphics, CHASE, Linder Global Events, Microsoft, NHK WORLD Japan, Newseum, Mars Petcare, MGM National Harbor and media partners ABC7/WJLA-TV, 97.1 WASH-FM, and Washington Informer.

ABOUT THE NATIONAL CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL

The National Cherry Blossom Festival is the nation's greatest springtime celebration. The 2019 Festival, March 20 – April 14, 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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