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## **2021 National Cherry Blossom Festival Offers Kids Plenty of Opportunities for Education and Fun – Blossom Kids Website, Girl Scouts’ Gift of Tree Patch Program, and More**

### ***Student Art Showcase to Allow Public to Enjoy Creative Masterpieces From DC Students***

**Washington, D.C. [March 1, 2021]** – The National Cherry Blossom Festival today announced the 2021 National Cherry Blossom Festival will offer numerous ways for young people to step into spring with education and fun, including the Blossom Kids interactive website, presented by Chase, and the Girl Scouts Nation’s Capital chapter’s Gift of Trees Patch Program. Most activities, programs, and virtual events planned for the 2021 Festival are family-friendly – including Art in Bloom, Blossom Kite Fly, Petal Porch Parade, and Petal Procession – so kids will have plenty of opportunities to get involved in the annual spring celebration.

The Festival is also engaging with local students to put together a Student Art Showcase, presented by Chase. The public will be able to view the artwork and vote on their favorite pieces starting March 30.

“We hope young Festival fans and cherry blossom enthusiasts join in the fun of the programs and activities designed with them in mind,” said Diana Mayhew, president and CEO of the National Cherry Blossom Festival. “It’s a wonderful way to pass on the spirit of the Festival’s legacy to future generations.”

Blossom Kids, presented by Chase, is an artistically interactive online experience filled with entertaining and “fun-ducational” videos, games, and activities. Content is designed to help kids explore the Festival’s history and learn about the Nation’s Capital as they earn achievement “badges” for advancing through the content. The site is broken down into such categories as Arts & Crafts, Sports & Fitness, Music & Performance, Words & Numbers, and The Gift of Trees.

Blossom Kids can be found at [nationalcherryblossomfestival.org/blossom-kids/](http://nationalcherryblossomfestival.org/blossom-kids/).

The Gift of Trees Patch Program was first introduced by the Girl Scouts Nation’s Capital chapter in 2012, in collaboration with the Festival, to recognize the mutual centennial celebrations of the Girl Scouts and the 1912 gift of trees. The program encompasses fun and educational activities based on three themes: the international friendship between Japan and the U.S., Japanese arts and culture, and the environment -- specifically the history and significance of both the 1912 gift of the cherry trees and the Festival.

The program was reintroduced on Girl Scouts’ World Thinking Day, February 22, with a special virtual evening event attended by nearly 500 Girl Scouts across the U.S. During the event, the Girl Scouts from the U.S. were greeted by a representative from the Embassy of Japan and had a special exchange with a troop of Japanese girls in Japan.

More Gift of Trees Patch Program information can be found at [www.gscnc.org/](http://www.gscnc.org/).

The Student Art Showcase, presented by Chase, will be an online gallery of art created by D.C. public and charter school students around the theme of friendship, and interpreting the saying “Home is Where

the Blossoms Are.” More than 250 students received complimentary art kits, courtesy of Chase, to get them started on their artistic endeavors.

“The National Cherry Blossom Festival is a tradition for so many families, which is why it was important for us here at Chase to keep something constant during these uncertain times, even if it looks a bit different this year,” said Chase Regional Director Alfonso Guzman. “The celebration of art and culture is what makes the D.C. region wonderful and unique. We can’t wait to see the creative masterpieces that these children come up with.”

After the Virtual Gallery Opening on Tuesday, March 30, all Student Art Showcase submissions – plus commentary from D.C. arts leaders and Patrick Guyton, the 2021 official artist – will be publicly viewable on the Student Art Showcase website. People will also be able to vote for their favorite piece of artwork on the site.

Find more Student Art Showcase details at [nationalcherryblossomfestival.org/student-art-showcase/](https://nationalcherryblossomfestival.org/student-art-showcase/).

Other opportunities for kids to engage in the 2021 Festival include:

- [Art in Bloom](#)
- [Blossom Kite Fly](#)
- [Petal Porch Parade and Petal Procession](#)

The 2021 National Cherry Blossom Festival will offer engaging virtual and personal experiences through unique programs, activities, and events that honor the Festival’s deep traditions and bring the celebration of spring into the hearts and homes of communities throughout the D.C. area and beyond. Lead sponsors (Leadership Circle) for this year’s Festival are Amazon and Events DC.

For more information, visit [nationalcherryblossomfestival.org](https://nationalcherryblossomfestival.org) and follow the Festival’s social media pages on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#).

### **About National Cherry Blossom Festival**

The National Cherry Blossom Festival is one of the world’s great celebrations of spring. The 2021 Festival, March 20-April 11, will include three weeks of events featuring diverse and creative programming promoting traditional and contemporary arts and culture, natural beauty, and community spirit. Visit [nationalcherryblossomfestival.org](https://nationalcherryblossomfestival.org) or call 877.44.BLOOM for more information, and check out [Facebook](#) (@CherryBlossomFestival), [Instagram](#) (@CherryBlossFest), and [Twitter](#) (@CherryBlossFest).

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