BLOSSOM KITE FESTIVAL
2022 KITEMAKERS COMPETITION

Saturday, March 26th, 2022
(Raindate: Sunday, March 27th, 2022)

nationalcherryblossomfestival.org
The National Cherry Blossom Festival invites public participation in the Kitemakers Competitions held during the Blossom Kite Festival on Saturday, March 26, 2022 (Raindate: Sunday, March 27, 2022) on the grounds of the Washington Monument. ALL ARE WELCOME! First-time and experienced kitemakers are encouraged to compete for a chance to win fabulous prizes.

COMPETITION DETAILS

The Festival will feature several categories of competition for youth and adults. Detailed rules and procedures are available online at https://nationalcherryblossomfestival.org/event/blossom-kite-festival/

ADULT COMPETITION

The Adult Kitemakers Competition will be held from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm on the Competition and Demonstration field. To be eligible for this competition, all kites must be hand-made and flown by the kitemaker. The 2022 theme will be announced on 18 February on the Blossom Kite Festival web page.

**Categories:**
- Grand Prize
- Theme Award

Additional awards may be presented as follows when there are at least 3 entrants in a category; if fewer entrants, the consensus of the judges will determine if the award should be given.

- Flat Kite
- Bowed Kite
- Cellular Kite
- Soft & Flexible Kites
- Multi-Line Kites
- Train Kites
- Special Recognition
- Delta Kites

Awards for the Adult Kitemakers Competition, including Theme Award and Grand Prize, will be announced in the afternoon at the conclusion of the Blossom Kite Festival. Winners in each category will receive prizes.

YOUTH COMPETITION

The Youth Kitemakers Competition will take place on the Family Field from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm. Prior to the Competition, participating youth may practice flying on the Family Field from 10:30 am to 11:00 am. Winners will be announced shortly after the competition. Youth winners will receive prizes.

* Youth 16 and over may enter the Adult Kitemakers Competition.

**Categories:**
- 11 & Under (1st, 2nd, 3rd Place) – Hand-made kites only, flown by the maker.
- 12 – 15 (1st, 2nd, 3rd Place) – Hand-made kites only, flown by the maker.
- Kit / Workshop Kite – Enter a kite made from a kite kit or at a kite making workshop.
- Group Entry – Hand-made kites only, flown by the maker. Compete with a hand-made kite designed and built by multiple youth. Please note: A small amount of adult assistance is permissible.

With the exception of the Youth category of Kit / Workshop Kite, all other kites must be hand-made and flown by the kitemaker during the competition.

**IMPORTANT:** The use of glass coated kite string is prohibited on National Park Service property.
REGISTRATION
Participants must register their kites online or at the Blossom Kite Festival on the day of the event. Day of registration will take place at the Blossom Kite Festival’s Registration Tent (Adults) and the Family Field (Youth).

Online registration: February 08 – March 24, 2022 @ https://nationalcherryblossomfestival.org/event/blossom-kite-festival/

On-site day of hours of registration: 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

KITE MAKING RESOURCES
Kite making information can be found through the American Kitefliers Association (aka.kite.org), Kitebuilder.com (kitebuilder.com), and Drachen Foundation (drachen.org).

To learn more about kite flying consider attending a retreat hosted by The Maryland Kite Society (mdkites.org) in the middle of February each year.

ABOUT THE 2022 BLOSSOM KITE FESTIVAL
Held on the grounds of the Washington Monument near 17th Street and Constitution Avenue NW in Washington, DC, the Blossom Kite Festival is family-friendly, free, and open to the public. The Blossom Kite Festival is produced by the National Cherry Blossom Festival with the assistance of a Kite Advisory Committee.

A full schedule of events will be available at nationalcherryblossomfestival.org

For questions, contact Daniela Torrealba at dtorrealba@ncbfdc.org
The National Cherry Blossom Festival ("NCBF") welcomes you to the 2022 Blossom Kite Festival Kite Makers Competition ("Competition"). As a registered competitor, you agree to follow these Rules.

You will:

1. Provide to NCBF a completed a Competition registration form indicating whether you are:
   - Youth 1 (ages 1 - 11)
   - Youth 2 (ages 12 – 15)
   - Adult (ages 16 and above)
   - Group

2. Enter only one kite into the Competition.

3. Fly only the kite that you assembled. If you are entering as a Group, the Group member who flies the Group’s kite must have helped assemble the Group’s kite.

4. Not fly a kite that:
   - Is a kite or a copy of a kite that has won previous competitions at the Blossom Kite Festival or the Smithsonian Kite Festival.
   - Was assembled from a kit or purchased if you are an Adult competitor.
   - Was purchased if you are a Youth 1 or Youth 2 competitor.
   - Was purchased or built by an adult if you are a Group competitor.

5. Wear appropriate protective clothing and footwear.

6. Be at your scheduled competition field ("Field") at your appointed fly time, or notify a Competition judge ("Judge") if you are unable to compete when scheduled. Judges may disqualify you if they cannot reschedule you or if your delay affects the overall Competition schedule.

7. Fly your kite a minimum altitude of 100 feet for at least five minutes, staying within the Field during that time.

8. Follow Judge, announcer and Field staff instructions.

9. Remove your Kite and line promptly from the Field when you finish your fly time.

10. Ask for a Judge’s permission before you repair your kite during your fly time.

11. File, if you feel that you have been improperly treated, a written protest to the Head Judge promptly after the incident that gives rise to the protest. Your protest must be specific and must not disrupt the Competition in process. You will accept as final the Head Judge’s decision on your protest.

12. Remain responsible for your own person and equipment before, during and after the Competition. You release NCBF, its officers, directors, employees, successors in interest and affiliates, and all Judges and Competition volunteers from any liability for loss or damage related to the Competition.

13. Not: a) disrupt the Competition; b) intentionally or unintentionally threaten the safety of other competitors, kites, lines or spectators; or c) seek to influence Judges. Judges may disqualify you for these infractions or if they believe that your actions are unsafe or unsportsmanlike.

14. Acknowledge that Judges: a) may suspend the Competition for any reason; b) will have the final decision in any disputes or awards; c) will judge kites based on, among other things, kite flight and handling, aesthetic visual appeal, originality, craftsmanship and structural kite design; and d) will award:
   - First, second and third place for Youth 1
   - First, second and third place for Youth 2
   - Theme Award for Adults
   - Grand Prize for Adults (last year’s Grand Prize winner is not eligible for this year’s Grand Prize)
   - Other prizes as announced before or at the Competition.

15. Indemnify and defend NCBF, its officers, directors, employees, successors in interest and affiliates, and all Judges and Competition volunteers (each an “Indemnified Party”) from and against any and all liabilities, losses, damages, claims, and expenses, that may be incurred or suffered by an Indemnified Party arising out of third party claims related to your obligations under these Rules or your breach of the Rules, unless that liability, loss, damage, claim or expense is attributable to the Indemnified Party’s gross negligence or willful misconduct.
1. **FLAT KITES:** When ready for flight, the kite is flat when laid on the ground. Flat kites are usually a simple geometrical shape, like a Diamond kite. Flat kites usually require tails for stability.

2. **BOWED KITES:** The kite's surface is bowed by use of a bowed spar. When ready for flight, the kite is bowed (not flat) when laid on the ground. Rokkakus are examples of bowed kites.

3. **CELLULAR AND DIMENSIONAL KITES:** These three dimensional kites use sails and spars to create a rigid frame. Box kites are examples of cellular and dimensional kites.

4. **SOFT AND FLEXIBLE KITES (including Deltas):** These three dimensional kites depend on the force of the wind on the kite, not on a rigid frame, to give the kite its shape. These kites may change their shape depending on the force of the wind. Soft kites, like Parafoils, have no spars. Flexible or semi rigid kites, like Sled or Delta kites, incorporate spars with the spars going in one direction or one plane only.

5. **STUNT AND SPORT KITES:** These are kites that use more than one flying line to launch the kite into the air and to control its flight patterns. These kites are designed for the purpose of making high-performance maneuvers in flight, sometimes in kite ballets set to music.

6. **KITE TRAINS:** Trains are multiple kites of any shape or structure that are connected by lines to each other. Each member of the train need not be the same size and shape, but the entire flying structure should be a functional and visual sum of its individual parts.

7. **DELTA AND DELTA DERIVATIVES:** These kites often have triangular wings. They have spars on the leading edge of the wings, which can pivot on the spreader bar. A keel is usually used but is not always necessary.