



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**EVENTS DC PRESENTS THE 8TH ANNUAL PASSPORT DC, A CULTURAL TOURISM SIGNATURE EVENT**

*Journey the Globe with Embassy Open Houses, Street Festivals, Performances and Exhibitions*

**Washington, DC** (Monday, April 20)—Events DC presents a [Cultural Tourism DC](#) signature event, [Passport DC](#)—a month-long celebration in May comprising international programs and events around Washington, DC. Visitors and residents have the opportunity to travel around the world without ever leaving the city. Last year, tours of nearly 70 embassies and hundreds of international cultural activities, including street festivals, performances and exhibitions, entertained and educated visitors as they partook in the festivities.

"Passport DC is a profound way for people to learn by experience. It provides a unique opportunity for people to uncover the similarities among nations across the globe and compare their art, dance, music, textiles, food and so much more. Passport DC is the next best thing to international travel. It showcases a fascinating array of customs from around the globe," said Cultural Tourism DC Executive Director Steve Shulman.

**The National Cathedral Flower Mart**

Friday, May 1 and Saturday, May 2, 2015

10 am to 5 pm

[www.AllHallowsGuild.org/Flower-Mart](http://www.AllHallowsGuild.org/Flower-Mart)

Each spring, gardening and flower aficionados throughout the mid-Atlantic flock to Flower Mart to see the Exhibit, which features floral creations from more than 20 embassies. This year Flower Mart honors the entire continent of Asia and will include over 80 vendors of artisanal gifts, festival foods, international musical and dance performances, children's rides, and Cathedral and garden tours.

### **Around the World Embassy Tour**

Saturday, May 2, 2015

10 am to 4 pm

[www.CulturalTourismDC.org](http://www.CulturalTourismDC.org)

Participants travel the globe at the Around the World Embassy Tour as they experience the food, art, dance, fashion, music, innovations, and manufactured goods from different countries. More than 40 embassies will open their doors to visitors, allowing guests to pet alpacas, taste international cuisines, learn indigenous dances, and more! Visit the [AWET](#) page for the names of the participating embassies.

### **Shortcut to Europe: European Union Embassies' Open House**

Saturday, May 9, 2015

10 am to 4 pm

[www.EUOpenHouse.org](http://www.EUOpenHouse.org)

The European Union Delegation to the U.S. and the embassies of the EU Member States invite visitors to experience the authentic music, dance, food, film, and art of these distinctive nations. The complete list of the participating embassies is available online at [EUOpenHouse.org](http://EUOpenHouse.org).

### **National Asian Heritage Festival: Fiesta Asia Street Fair**

Saturday, May 16, 2015

10 am to 7 pm

[www.AsiaHeritageFoundation.org](http://www.AsiaHeritageFoundation.org)

The Asia Heritage Foundation's annual festival, held on Pennsylvania Avenue NW between Third and Sixth streets, features outdoor craft exhibits, cooking and martial arts demonstrations, a talent show, flash mob dancing, and much more. Voted numerous times as the Best Street Fair in Washington, Fiesta Asia is an exciting opportunity to visit DC ahead of the summer rush! Fiesta Asia Street Fair features over 1,000 performers on five stages representing more than 20 cultures. Attendees can experience Pan-Asian cuisine, a shopping bazaar, kid-friendly, interactive activities, a talent competition, a parade, dancing, and traditional and contemporary Asian crafts.

### **Embassy Chef Challenge**

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

6 pm to 9 pm

Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center

[www.CulturalTourismDC.org](http://www.CulturalTourismDC.org)

Cultural Tourism DC's annual fundraiser gives you access to one of DC's best-kept secrets: world-class embassy chefs. A dozen embassy chefs will present small plates of their country's signature delicacies and battle in DC's premier international culinary competition. A panel of celebrity chefs and food critics will select the winner of the Judge's Choice Award, while guests can vote their favorite chef as the People's Choice winner. The evening will conclude with a live and silent auction, featuring unique DC experiences such as event passes, food & wine packages, and theatre tickets. Visit the [Embassy Chefs and Judges](#) page for the names of participants.

## **International Programming**

Cultural Tourism DC's affiliates present internationally-themed programs throughout May. Visit the [Internal Programming](#) page for a complete list.

## **LINKS**

Event website: [www.CulturalTourismDC.org](http://www.CulturalTourismDC.org)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/CulturalTourismDC](http://www.facebook.com/CulturalTourismDC)

Twitter: [www.twitter.com/dcculture](http://www.twitter.com/dcculture)

Hashtags: #PassportDC and #EmbassyChef

## **PASSPORT DC SPONSORS:**

Events DC, Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, The Melrose Georgetown Hotel, Destination DC, WMATA, Daimler, Macy's, Steptoe and Johnson LLC, The Embassy Row Hotel, Washington DC Economic Partnership, Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies, KADCON, Amgen, Forest City, Merck, MPG Advisors, Pepco Holdings Inc., Uber, and Washington Dulles International Airport – Gateway to the World.

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## **About Cultural Tourism DC**

Cultural Tourism DC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with a mission to deliver memorable experiences and learning opportunities in the areas of heritage, international exchange, and humanities. Through its five celebrated signature programs, Cultural Tourism DC works to broaden, deepen, and diversify audiences for the arts and in DC -- audiences whose participation enriches the creative economy of the city.

## **About Events DC**

Events DC is the face of conventions, sports, entertainment and cultural events within our nation's capital. As the official convention and sports authority for the District of Columbia, Events DC leverages the beauty, history and diversity of the most powerful city in the world to attract and promote an extensive variety of events, resulting in amazing experiences for residents and visitors alike, and generating economic and community benefits for the city.