

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Passport DC 2020 and Around the World Embassy Tour Postponed

WASHINGTON (March 18, 2020) — Due to public health crisis of COVID-19 and the health emergency enacted by the federal and local governments, Cultural Tourism DC, Inc., announced today that it will postpone its 13th annual *Passport DC* and *Around the World Embassy Tour* programs.

“Most of the Passport DC signature events have been postponed. We think it prudent to do the same and will postpone *Around the World Embassy Tour*, our annual embassy open house that was scheduled for May 2, 2020,” said Steve Shulman, Executive Director of Cultural Tourism DC. “We made this decision with the health, safety and well-being of our community as our number one priority. We will select a new date when it becomes clear that coronavirus is dissipating and the government regulations regarding public gatherings are lifting.”

Around the World Embassy Tour is the day embassies representing countries in Africa, Asia, the Americas and the Middle East have opened their doors to the public. Over the past 12 years, the event has attracted thousands of people to DC on the first Saturday in May. In 2013 and 2015, the American Bus Association named it one of the Top 100 events in North America.

“We look forward to offering the embassy open houses later this year. Embassy visits give guests the opportunity to celebrate the similarities between peoples and cultures and observe the differences that make us a truly interesting world,” added Shulman. “The embassies work hard to showcase their cultures’ music, food, arts, and other activities, simultaneously educating and entertaining guests. It truly is a special day when we can bring together thousands of people to celebrate how connected we are to one another.”

In addition to the postponement, Shulman said the Cultural Tourism DC offices will be closed through March 31. The staff will work working remotely and focus on providing DC residents and visitors with opportunities to enjoy and, where possible, patronize DC neighborhoods.

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ABOUT PASSPORT DC

Cultural Tourism DC produces Passport DC annually. Events DC is the Presenting Sponsor of the event. Additional sponsors include Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, University of the District of Columbia, Panasonic NA, Washington DC Economic Partnership, Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, Bonstra|Haresign Architects, LINK Strategic Partners, and DuPlain Global Enterprises. The

producers and presenters are grateful to the more than 500 volunteers who provide services throughout the month in support of the educational mission of Passport DC as well as the donors who financially support these endeavors. For more information visit www.culturaltourismdc.org or follow the event on social media using @DCCulture, www.facebook.com/CulturalTourismDC/ or #PassportDC.

ABOUT CULTURAL TOURISM DC, Inc. (CTDC)

Cultural Tourism DC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that develops and delivers authentic, memorable experiences for people to enjoy and learn about Washington, DC, beyond its monuments. Residents and visitors in the District of Columbia can see its neighborhoods by walking along 17 [Neighborhood Heritage Trails](#) and participating in [WalkingTown DC](#), a 9-day festival of intriguing guided tours of DC sites; gain insight into our international diplomatic community via [Passport DC](#) and the [Around the World Embassy Tour](#); and engage in arts and culture during [PorchFest](#), a showcase for local performing artists in neighborhood settings. [Affiliate](#) member organizations provide authentic cultural experiences using the extraordinary talents of local and visiting artists from across the globe, many of whom are the guests of their embassies, another unique DC resource. Through these programs, Cultural Tourism DC encourages people to explore Washington, DC, boost the community's economic prosperity, and become civically engaged.

Do you need a recommendation for a Washington, DC art or cultural event? Follow us on **Facebook:** @CulturalTourismDC, **Twitter:** @dcculture, and **Instagram:** @culturaltourismdc.

Cultural Tourism DC, Inc. is located at 700 12th Street NW, #700, Washington, DC 20005

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