

Volume 8

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

August 19, 2019

ASK THE LOCALS: FOOD, MUSEUM, ACTIVITY RECS FROM LOCAL STUDENTS

With less than a week left of the 2019 summer UCDC program, there's no better time than the present to try out favorite local restaurants or plan last-minute trips and activities with friends. We talked to three local students to find out the best museums to see, places to eat, events to attend and to gather advice on how to navigate D.C. like a local.

BEST LOCAL EATS

There is such a diverse range of food in D.C. – not to mention a seemingly limitless number of restaurants – that there was almost no overlap in the three students' recommendations.

When it comes to good food in the D.C. area, Sonia Matheus, an oboe performance major at Peabody Conservatory at Johns Hopkins, looks to "any restaurant owned by chef José Andrés." The internationally-recognized chef owns a number of restaurants in and around D.C., but Matheus' favorite is **Oyamel**: "the decor is beautiful" and it "makes for great for parties!"

Her other go-to spots are **Arepa Zone**, serving fast, no-frills Venezuelan food and **District Doughnut**, which she says is better than Georgetown Cupcake.

Another student, Alexa Zogopoulos, a law student at George Washington University, has more specific recommendations. For brunch, she suggests **Roofers Union**, **801**, **Cava Mezze**, **Agora** or **Unconventional Diner**. Her go-to fast casual eateries are **Cava** for

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Mediterranean food, **sweetgreen** for salads, **Spice 6** for Indian food, GRK for Greek food, **Chaia** for vegetarian tacos and **&Pizza**. And for dinner, Zogopoulos recommends **Agora**, **Boqueria**, **Zaytinya**, **Oyamel** or **Estadio** for small plates.

She also says **Founding Farmers**, **Old Ebbitt Grill** and **The Hamilton** are the best for American food and recommends **Union Market**, a food hall with a “mix of fast casual and other small to-go spots.”

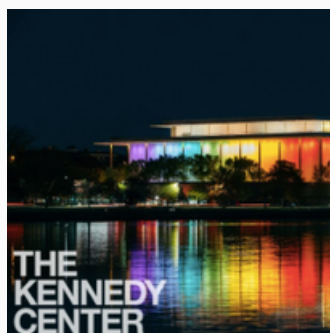
Bianca Villao, an international affairs major at George Washington University, recommended **Farmers, Fishers, Bakers** for brunch, saying, “D.C. brunch culture is real.” For Asian food, she suggests **Donburi**, **China Boy**, and **Bandoola Bowl**. When she wants good Mexican food, by her “California standards,” Villao says **District Taco** is one of the best. As for dessert, she recommends **Ice Cream Jubilee**, noting its distinct menu of flavors.

MUSEUMS

Matheus says the **National Museum of African American History and Culture** is a must-see — “it’s stunning, hands-on, eye-opening and so engaging. One of the best museums in DC.”

Of the best of the Smithsonians, Zogopoulos recommends the **Hirshhorn** for modern art and the **Portrait Gallery** for classical art. She also recommends the National Museum of African American History and Culture, but says visitors should get the timed, same-day passes online beforehand.

Outside of the Smithsonians, Zogopoulos recommends the **Phillips Collection** which isn’t free, but has “wonderful art from all styles” as well as **Artechouse** and **Blind Whino**,



which features rotating exhibits.

Villao says one of D.C.’s must-sees is the **United States Holocaust Memorial Museum**. Though the experience may leave one with a heavy heart, it’s an impactful visit.

EVENTS + ACTIVITIES

When looking for concerts, events or gallery exhibits, Matheus looks to the different **embassies** located in D.C. — “there are so many foreign countries embassies in the area and they are always hosting events.” Tickets can be expensive, but she said it’s definitely worth it “if you want to see/hear something unique.”

As far as day trips go, Matheus recommends visiting **Annapolis, Maryland**. “It’s a beautiful coastal town with a vintage vibe with many antique shops and restaurants, ... it’s a nice breath of fresh air away from the hustle of D.C.”

The free, weekly and outdoor **Jazz in the Garden** event may be crowded, but it’s worth checking out, Zogopoulos says. Also on her to-see list is **Meridian Hill Park**, a small and pretty park which is also great for running.

Busboys and Poets is a bookstore and a restaurant with seven locations and a recurring speaker series as well as regular open mic nights.

District Wharf has outdoor activities, a number of restaurants and dessert spots and several music venues and **Brightest Young Things** (BYT) is a website that posts updates on unique, upcoming events in the DC area.

Searching for a place to see a show or musical? Villao recommends the **Kennedy Center**. You can “take photos and get a great few of the District on the rooftop,” she says of D.C. premier performing arts center.

FEATURED PLACES



Located a mere 15 minute walk away from the UCDC building, The Phillips Collection houses an impressive collection of modern art – including an entire room of Mark Rothko paintings. The permanent collection is free to browse Monday-Friday.



Fried chicken sandwich on a donut, anyone? Other eclectic menu items include cherry pie, s'mores and creme brulee-flavored donut options.



Did you visit one of our featured places? Don't forget to tag your photos on Instagram @washingtonprogram!

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES & EVENTS



Jia Tolentino Book Talk

Politics and Prose

Tuesday, August 20 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Free

Jia Tolentino is a writer at the New Yorker, who has taken up social and cultural topics. Her new book is a collection of nine essays that "see through the hype and contradictions of contemporary life to show us a clearer picture of ourselves and our historical moment." This book talk will have Tolentino in conversation with Kat Chow, a reporter for NPR.

R&B Only

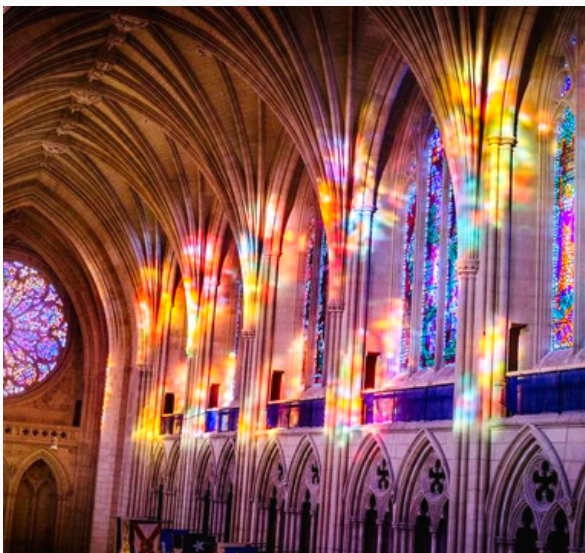
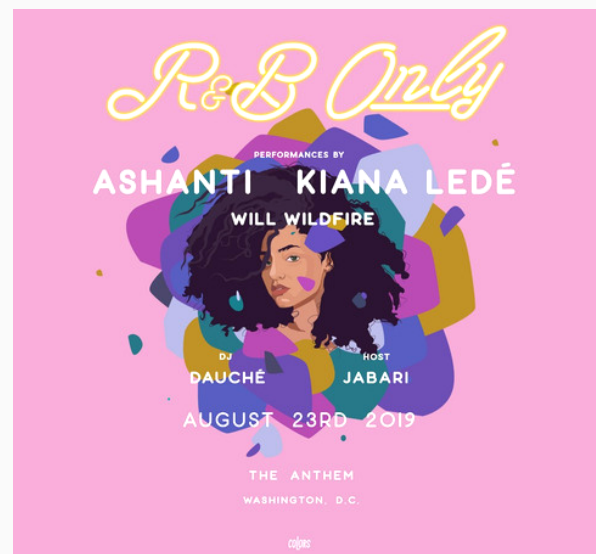
The Anthem

Friday, August 23, Doors open at 6:30 p.m.,

Show starts at 8:00 p.m.

\$39+

Make your last night in DC one to remember! R&B Only celebrates R&B dance music and will be hosted by Jabari and DJ-ed by Dauché, this show will feature two guest performances by Grammy winner Ashanti and Kiana Ledé.



Fiction Fun!

Washington National Cathedral

Monday, August 19 at 7:00 p.m.

Free

The Washington National Cathedral's book group, Fiction Fun, is having their monthly discussion to talk about fiction and how it connects to the human soul. D'Oniece Dillard will be leading a discussion of *White Teeth* by Zadie Smith.