

JULY 4TH IN D.C. -PARADES, BASEBALL AND FIREWORKS

Each year, America's capital celebrates the nation's Independence Day with an assortment of activities and festivities. Sites throughout D.C. host a number of patriotic events in the daytime, culminating in a stunning fireworks show near the monuments. The following activities serve as suggestions to help plan an event-filled fourth.

9 a.m. ★ National Archives Celebrates July 4th

The National Archives will celebrate Independence Day with a number of activities, guaranteeing free shirts and American flags to the first 1,000 visitors. There will be live music and a dramatic reading of the Declaration of Independence by a number of historical re-enactors.

9:30 a.m. ★ Military Re-enactments at Mount Vernon

Mount Vernon, the former residence of George and Martha Washington, hosts Independence Day-themed events throughout the holiday: a wreath-laying ceremony on George Washington's Tomb will take place at 10:00 a.m. and a ceremony to honor new citizens at 11 will be followed with a performance by the National Concert Band at noon and daytime fireworks at 1:00 p.m.

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10 a.m. ★ National Building Museum Unveils New Installation

Every year on the fourth, the National Building Museum unveils a new, temporary installation. This year's immersive installation titled "Lawn" will fill the entirety of the museum's Great Hall. An interactive green expanse reminiscent of—you guessed it—a lawn is set on an incline and visitors are invited to play games of bocce ball and croquet or take advantage of hammocks with hidden speakers playing audio from American storytellers recounting summer memories. At the height of the sloped expanse is a tower reaching the building's third floor and offering unique views of the museum. Tickets are limited, but the installation will remain open until Sept. 2.

11:05 a.m. ★ Washington Nationals Game

The Washington Nationals will play against the Miami Marlins at Nationals Park, with tickets rai



Miami Marlins at Nationals Park, with tickets ranging from \$16 to \$420. Patriotic uniforms will honor service members and first responders. There will





also be a number of themed giveaways at the game.

11:45 a.m. ★ National Independence Day Parade

Performers and participants from all over the U.S. will march in this year's annual parade on Constitution Avenue from 7th to 17th Street. High school bands from as far away as Florida, Colorado and North Dakota and even San Francisco, California, will travel to D.C. to perform. Other participants include service members and VIP guests. The parade, which will offer an assortment of decorated floats, ends at 2 p.m. and will be livestreamed via Facebook.

6:30 p.m. ★ Salute to America

President Donald Trump plans to address the nation at the Lincoln Memorial in a celebration separate from PBS' "A Capitol Fourth." The event will feature music, a military jet flyover from Air Force One and military demonstrations. Please be aware that there may be protests at this event.

8 p.m. ★ A Capitol Fourth

The annual event held on the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol draws huge crowds and culminates in a dazzling fireworks show. This year's event will be hosted by John Stamos of Full House fame and feature performances from groups including Carole King and the cast of the Broadway musical "Beautiful" about King's life as well as from electronic violinist Lindsey Stirling, the cast of Sesame Street and the National Symphony Orchestra.

FEATURED PLACES





Explore Little Leaf on S Street NW for a variety of plants and novelty items. They even have a cute pink chair set up inside so you can take some Insta-worthy pics!





Check out Ice Cream Jubilee for a large selection of unique ice cream flavors (like Honey Lemon Lavender and Passionfruit Guava Sorbet yum!) with ingredients sourced locally.

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

Community Open Mic

Solid State Books Friday, July 5: 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Free

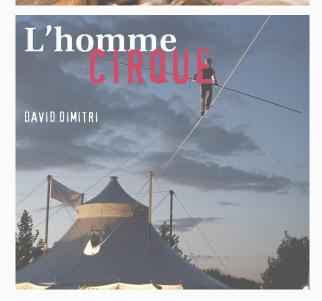
Head over to Solid State Books for a community open mic and enjoy listening to readings, or even sign up to read your own work! Performers will be sharing original poetry, stories, and even music.

DC Art Book Fair

National Museum of Women in the Arts Sunday, July 7: Noon to 5:00 p.m. Free

Explore the National Museum of Women in the Arts's third annual Art Book Fair. This event is hosted in the Great Hall and will feature over forty independent artists. Participants are selected by a panel of judges and will be selling their creative works such as books, comics, and zines.





Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire in Concert

Wolf Trap (Virginia) Friday, July 5 and Saturday, July 6: doors open at 7:00 p.m., show starts at 8:30 p.m. Tickets start at \$35

Calling wizards everywhere! The National Symphony Orchestra will be performing every last note of Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire alongside the film. Have fun watching the movie in HD while enjoying the score live. You're encouraged to dress up in your best Hogwarts gear, so what are you waiting for? Grab your wand and accio some tickets to this performance!

L'Homme Cirque - The One-Man Circus

Strathmore (Maryland) Saturday, July 6: 10:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. (two showings)

\$30

Dubbed "Lord of the Wire" by the New York Times, and a former performer in Cirque du Soleil and Big Apple Circus, David Dimitri performs spectacular feats in his One-Man Circus, including the Human Cannonball and high wire acrobatic acts. These extravagant stunts are balanced with other performances like accordion music and poetry.