

Folklife Festival Reflects Diversity of Customs, Traditions, and Arts

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The National Park Service welcomes you to the 16th annual Festival of American Folklife. We are pleased to cosponsor with the Smithsonian Institution this yearly event which enlivens summer in our Nation's Capital.

This year's Festival, moved back to the site where it was first held 15 years ago, promises to be as entertaining and enriching as ever. It features a diversity of folk music, dance and crafts – in particular from the State of Oklahoma and from Koreans and Korean-Americans in observance of the centennial of United States-Korean diplomatic relations. As always, the event is held on land administered by the National Park Service and belonging to all Americans – appropriate because the Festival of American Folklife reflects the customs, traditions, and arts of all Americans. It takes place on the National Mall, set aside as a formal park in 1790 under the L'Enfant Plan for the City of Washington. Extending from the Capitol to the Washington Monument, the Mall comprises some 146 acres and is bordered by magnificent museums and art galleries. The Mall is one of more than 330 areas throughout the United States cared for by the National Park Service, each of which has its own unique history reflecting the diversity of this country's regions and cultures. These are what are recognized and celebrated in this Festival of American Folklife.

We hope you enjoy your visit to the Festival and have an opportunity to visit many of the other attractions in our Nation's Capital. Once again, welcome.

