



Sharing the Cultures of America's People

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The National Park Service is proud to welcome you to the 1987 Festival of American Folklife. As protectors of many of America's finest natural, cultural, and historic resources, the National Park Service enthusiastically joins with the Smithsonian Institution to produce an event that encourages an appreciation for, and a sharing of, America's rich cultural diversity. This year, which marks the 200th anniversary of the United States Constitution, is an especially fitting one for the celebration of our cultural heritage. The Constitution has played an important role in producing a nation that derives its strength and quality from peoples of many ethnic backgrounds.

At this year's Festival, held on parkland among many of the nation's most treasured memorials and institutions, we explore the city beyond Washington's federal buildings. We learn of its diverse, vibrant and evolving musical traditions — a hometown to Americans of many cultures. In any culture language is a primary source of unity and pride. Through this Festival we have the opportunity to learn about the valued role of language in some of America's linguistic communities. Culture and language have played an important role in shaping the character of each state in the union. In this, Michigan's sesquicentennial celebration year, traditional craftspeople, musicians, cooks, woodworkers, boatmen, and others share with us the particular history and culture of their state.

Come, stay, enjoy, and learn more of America's peoples and cultures. The National Park Service takes pride in welcoming you to the nation's Capital, the Festival of American Folklife, and each of the national parks throughout this country.