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## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

### **NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE SOCIETIES TO HOST CHERRY BLOSSOM PRINCESS WEEK**

**WHO: National Conference of State Societies Cherry Blossom Princesses**

**WHEN: April 3<sup>rd</sup> through April 8<sup>th</sup> 2022**

**WHERE/OPPORTUNITIES FOR MEDIA:**

Japanese Stone Lantern Lighting  
April 3 | 3:00 - 4:30 pm EDT  
Tidal Basin  
Guests include: Japanese Ambassador Tomita

*The Lantern Lighting at the Tidal Basin, discussed in a recent article in The Washington Post, historically has been one of the first events of the NCSS Cherry Blossom Princess Program*

Afternoon Tea and Fashion Show  
April 5 | 2:30 PM - 4:30 pm EDT  
Ritz Carleton – Washington DC  
1150 22<sup>nd</sup> St. NW  
Washington DC 20037

A Japanese Tea Ceremony followed by Princesses showcasing the latest fashions from Lilly Pulitzer and demonstrating the wearing of Kimono's

Cherry Blossom Grand Ball and Queen Coronation  
April 8 | 6:30 - 10:00 p.m. EDT  
Capital Hilton  
1001 16<sup>th</sup> St. NW  
Washington DC 20036

Introduction of the 2022 Cherry Blossom Princess Class and Coronation of the Queen, remarks by Sen. Capito-Moore and others highlight this black-tie event.

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**More information about the program:**

Established by Congress in 1952 to promote cultural and educational activities, the National Conference of State Societies (NCSS) is pleased to announce its schedule for the 2021 Cherry Blossom Princess Program, a Washington, DC tradition celebrated annually since 1947.

The Cherry Blossom Princess Program is a week-long educational, cultural and development program which celebrates the unique and enduring friendship between the United States and Japan. Each State Society selects their representative (Princess) based on their achievements in academics, philanthropy, leadership and professional accomplishments.

The Cherry Blossom Princess Program features a multitude of meaningful cultural and professional development activities, including meetings with Congressional representatives, visits to various embassies, and philanthropic service to the DC-metro area. All of this, with the backdrop of celebrating the beautiful friendship between the US and Japan and the commemoration of the symbolic gift of the cherry blossom trees to Washington, DC.

This is a year like no other, but the National Conference of State Societies is excited to welcome a new class of Cherry Blossom Princesses to DC and crown one of them as the 2022 United States Cherry Blossom Queen!

[Learn more about the program!](#)

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*The National Conference of State Societies (NCSS) is the non-profit, voluntary umbrella association for state and territorial societies in the National Capital Region. At one time or another, all 50 states as well as the District of Columbia and the five U.S. territories: American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) have had active societies. Cherry blossoms are a widely recognized symbol of spring celebrated across the world. In cooperation with the D.C. Commissioners and the Washington Board of Trade, to promote peaceful relations with Japan, the state societies helped to re-launch the first post-World War II Cherry Blossom Festival in 1948 and restarted the pre-war tradition of sponsoring state Cherry Blossom Princesses and the U.S. Cherry Blossom Queen.*

*Today NCSS sponsors a series of events that highlight educational and cultural exchange and leadership for young women. The Cherry Blossom Princess Program ("Aspiring Leadership and Empowering Young Women") comprises college students and young professionals selected by state/territorial societies and embassies to represent their culture in the nation's capital and abroad. Celebrating Washington DC's cherry blossoms is a cooperative effort of many organizations including the Embassy of Japan, the Mayor's office, the National Park Service, the National Cherry Blossom Festival, Inc., the Japan America Society of Washington DC, and NCSS, just to mention a few.*