

Information about SS59

April 16, 2016

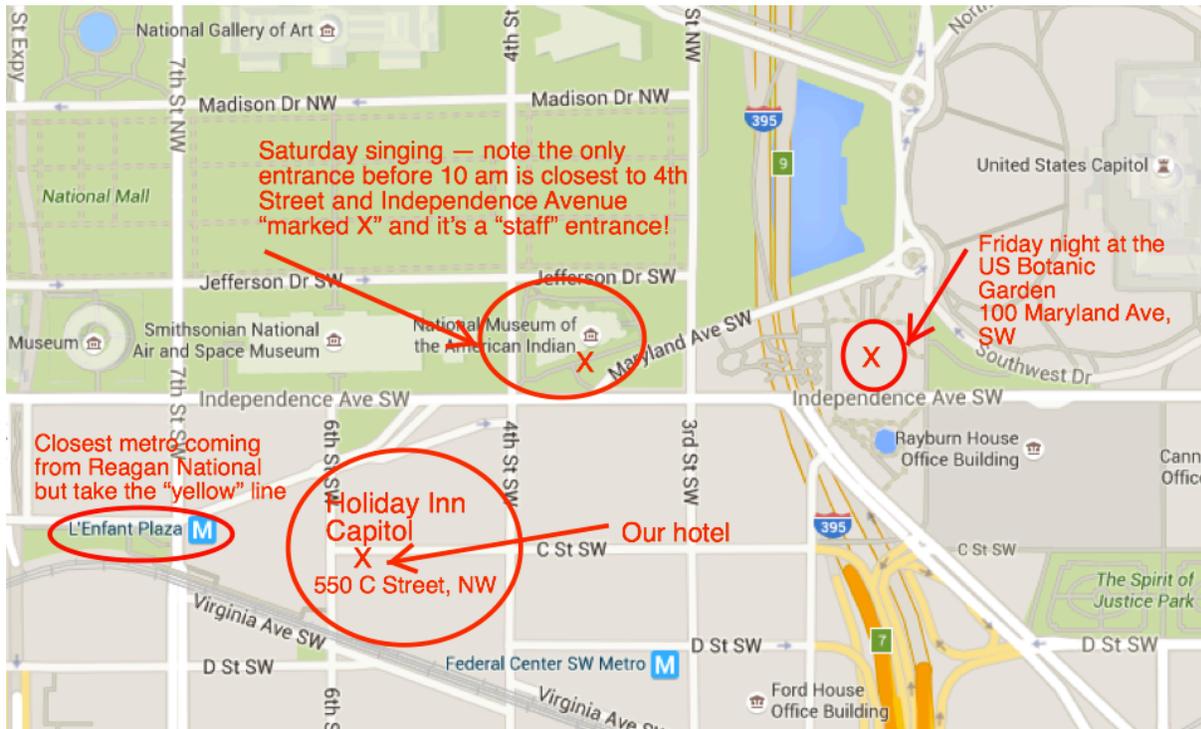
Note to: Spring Singers
From: Augmented 8's Spring Sing Committee*



**Bringing Harmony to
Our Nation's Capitol**

Welcome! Spring Sing is just two weeks away, and this email covers some things you might want to know before you get to DC! And don't skip the last few pages, which introduce you to the Augmented 8 singers and some of their favorite things to do in Washington, DC! This information - plus more - is available on AACAs Spring Sing Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/29906700352/>). We'll also post these materials on Dropbox (<http://radler.co/1Sm8eAC>).

1. A map of Spring Sing. Here's where everything is happening: hotel, closest Metro stations, National Museum of the American Indian and Botanic Gardens – all within a four block radius. It's less than a ten-minute walk from the hotel to museum and about 5 minutes further to the Gardens.

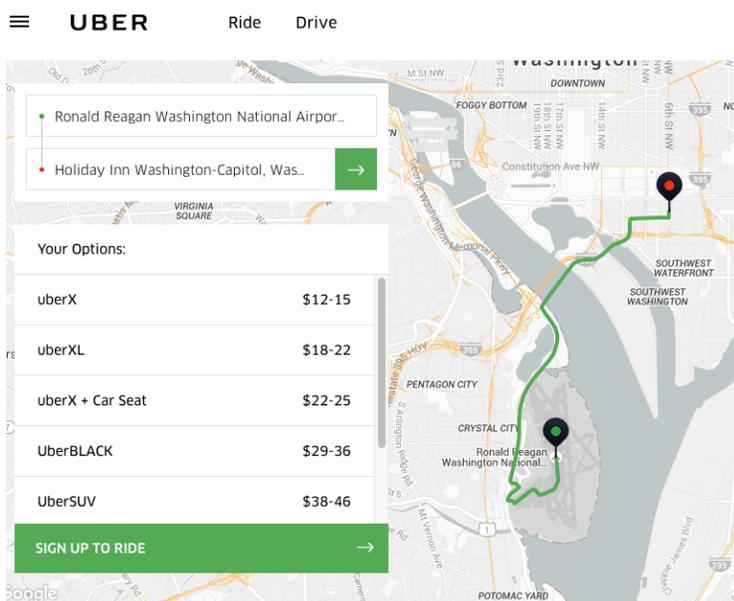


* If you have questions about directions or schedule, please contact Reid Adler from the Augmented 8's Spring Sing committee: reid@arnoldadler.net or 703-887-2320.

2. Directions to our hotel from Reagan National. It's quick, easy and inexpensive to get to the hotel from the airport. You can take Metro, a taxi or Uber. *If you're coming from Dulles, BWI or Union Station (Amtrak) or driving and parking - see the last page.*

Our hotel is the Holiday Inn Capitol (<http://www3.hilton.com/en/hotels/district-of-columbia/capital-hilton-DCASHHH/index.html>) – located at 550 C Street S.W., Washington, DC 20024. 202-393-1000. You can see from the map on the page before that the hotel is only about 2 ½ blocks from our singing venue and 4 blocks away from the Friday night event!

By Metro from the airport, take the Yellow Line in the direction of “Mt. Vernon Square” to L’Enfant Plaza. Don’t take the Blue Line, though, it’s a much longer trip. Cost is about \$4 - \$6 depending on time of day.



Uber also works, and will cost about \$15, about the same for a taxi.

3. Schedule for Friday night:

6:00 - Doors open at US Botanic Gardens, 245 First Street SW, Washington, DC 20024
- and you also get to talk (or sing) to the flora!
6:30 - Bars open and food service begins
7:45 - Entertainment by “TBD”, of the Alexandria Harmonizers information)
8:30 - Dessert service
9:15 - Bars close
10:00 - lights out... but woodshedding next under the glow of the Capitol, anyone?



<https://www.usbg.gov>



<http://tbdacappella.wix.com/tbdacappella>



The Rasmuson Theater, National Museum of the American Indian, Washington, D.C. Photo by Katherine Fogden, NMAI.

4. Schedule for Saturday's singing:

Augmented 8	9:00
Noteworthy	9:30
Cahoots	10:00
Jersey Transit	10:30
Grunyons	11:00
Counterparts	11:30
Ellacappella	1:15
Wizards	1:45
Lake Shore Jive	2:15
Intro SS2017:	2:45

Did we mention that the singing venue is wonderful?!

You will love singing in the Rasmuson Theater in the museum. It's a fantastic space with amazing acoustics. Pictures: <https://nmai.si.edu/visit/washington/theaters/>. There also are some fine warmup rooms, and we'll tell you about those later.

We'll eat lunch at the museum, too, but upstairs on a balcony overlooking the National Mall and the Capitol. And the museum itself is fascinating! More info: <http://www.nmai.si.edu>. By the way, the public cafeteria at this museum has the best museum food in DC!

If it hadn't occurred to you, why not invite a friend to hear your set?

There are 320 seats in the auditorium at the museum. And AACA has registered about 170 people. While Augmented 8 is *not* going to announce the program to the public, there is plenty of space in case any group or its members want to invite some guests to sit in on their set. We'll reserve a small section for guests in the back. This would be a nice opportunity for you to connect with friends, family and perhaps group alumni in the DC area. And we might even get a few museum visitors wandering into the hall!

5. So what do you do between 3 pm and 6 pm – if sightseeing is an option?

The logical thing to do is stay on the “Mall” between the US Capitol building and the Lincoln Memorial. Sorry, there really isn’t room on this page for a map at a large enough scale and with readable details to be useful. So here are some links:

<https://www.nps.gov/nama/planyourvisit/maps.htm> gives you several great maps of the Mall, that identify the museums, monuments and art galleries. You’ll see some recommendations from the Augmented 8 below. This page also has downloadable maps at several resolutions.

<https://www.si.edu/Museums> gives you information links to the various Smithsonian museums. We’ll be singing in one of them!

<https://www.visitthecapitol.gov> is the visitors’ center at the US Capitol. It’s on the other side of the Capitol building from our Friday night venue at the US Botanical Garden.

<http://www.supremecourt.gov> is just is just across the street from the Capitol’s visitor center. Might be fun to see, and there is a visitor center, but it’s only open Monday – Friday.

<http://www.supremecourt.gov/visiting/visiting.aspx>.

<https://www.loc.gov/visit/tours/guided-tours/thomas-jefferson-building/> gives you tour information about the Library of Congress. You can visit on weekdays and on Saturday, but only up to about 4:30 pm.

Here’s a high level view of the major monuments and museums around the Mall. The Lincoln, FDR and Vietnam Memorials are off to the left and they’re absolutely worth seeing, too. The red circles show how far the National Park Service thinks people would walk in 10 or 20 min from where we’re singing. If time is limited or you want to visit off this map, try metro or taxi.



6. Schedule for Saturday night's festivities:

6:30 - Cocktail hour begins at the Holiday Inn, Capitol Ballroom.

Unlimited open bar until 8:30 with beer, wine and soft drinks. Also, live DJ and dancing.

7:30 - Buffet dinner is served in the Capitol Ballroom. Soup, Caesar salad, beef, chicken and fish entrees, strawberry shortcake.

8:30 - Thirty-minute set performed by our guest group,

“The Works,” from Boston, MA.

Cash bar open from 8:30 until 10:30

9:00 to 11 - DJ and more dancing!



www.theworkssing.net

P.S. We are thinking about ways to encourage mingling, so you might all have an Augmented 8 singer at your table! We're good company, but don't ask us about politics, OK?



7. Schedule for Sunday morning singing, back in the Capitol Ballroom:

Lake Shore Jive	9:00
Wizards	9:15
Ellacapella	9:30
Counterparts	9:45
Grunyons	10:00
Jersey Transit	10:15
Cahoots	10:30
Noteworthy	10:45
Augmented 8	11:00



(Hymn singing will be at 8:00 am in the same Ballroom.)

8. Welcome from the Augmented 8 singers, with a bit about who we are, and some of our favorite things to do in DC. We've got suggestions just in case you come early, stay afterwards or need something to do on Saturday afternoon!

1st T: Ed Dickens, John Magnus, John Symington, Mike Wyatt

2nd T: Rick Bond, Tom Bulleit, (Mike Wyatt)

Baritone: Reid Adler, **Bill Cline (Music Director)**, Josh Gotbaum

Bass: Paul Kraske, Peter Mucchetti, Bill Nussbaum



Ed Dickens - Retired from the State department/Foreign Service. Selling Real Estate in DC.

Favorite Restaurant: Al Dente
Favorite Art Gallery: The Freer

Favorite Sightseeing: Mt. Vernon



John Magnus - Sung with the Augmented 8 since 1991. International trade lawyer and father of three teenage boys. Grew up in Cincinnati, OH. Sang with the Stanford Mendicants in college in the mid 80s.

Favorite Restaurant: Bombay Club

Favorite Art Gallery: Certified museum-o-phobe; avoid them like the plague
Favorite Sightseeing: Einstein Statute on Constitution Avenue near the State Dep't



John Symington - Infectious Disease Specialist, Birder, Runner, Hockey player and Golfer, President of a Hospital Medical Staff, married to a PhD in primate behavior who can understand my pant hoots!

Favorite Restaurant: Bistro Lepic

Favorite Art Gallery: East Wing of the National Gallery of Art
Favorite Sightseeing: DC monuments at night



Mike Wyatt - I am the second person that you know about who comes from Cabin Creek, West Virginia. (Hint: the other person is a well-known former NBA star.)

Favorite Restaurant: Old Ebbitt Grill

Favorite Art Gallery: East Wing of Smithsonian
Favorite Sightseeing: Attractive women in fashionably-fitting clothes



Rick Bond - Born in Virginia, Rick travelled the world extensively as an Army brat, then as a career army officer and architect supporting the design and construction of medical facilities. His career brought him back to DC, where he has stayed put for a miraculous 25 years. His roots are now planted deeply in Kensington, MD, with those of his wife Michele, and two young daughters...although they still escape for vacations along and near the East coast... (so far).

Favorite Restaurant: Black Market Bistro in Garrett Park

Favorite Museum: National Gallery

Favorite Destination: C&O Canal Path or Rock Creek Park (DC), otherwise, upstate NH



Tom Bulleit -- Tom is a refugee from aging out of the Duke's Men and the Whiffenpoofs, who finally found sanctuary with the Augmented 8 in 2007 after almost 30 years in the musical wilderness. When not indulging his eccentric habit for a cappella music, he enjoys, often with the bemused tolerance of his wife and two young adult children, the more mature pursuits of (mostly Marvel) comic books, videos and films of the superheroes he dreamed of growing up to be before settling for a career as a health care lawyer at Ropes & Gray, LLP. A fourth generation Washingtonian who grew up in Bethesda, Maryland only two blocks and 13 years away from young Paul Kraske, Tom, like Paul, now lives in Bethesda a mile from his childhood residence and high school.

Favorite Restaurant: Bombay Club

Favorite Museum: Air and Space

Favorite Destination: C&O Canal National Park (DC), or Glacier National Park (outside DC)



Reid Adler - Born in DC, living now in Alexandria VA. When I'm not singing, I teach graduate classes in "biotechnology law and policy," have a solo law practice and an innovation management consulting firm. I have four kids, five grand-kids (10 months to 20 years, the younger two in Australia), and love to play Cards Against Humanity, play at yoga and de-stress with jogging. I sang in high school and joined Augmented 8 about three years ago. My wife of 30 years, this July, is a pediatrician. We were married at the Watergate Hotel, another DC landmark.

Favorite Restaurant: Oyamel Cocina Mexicana on 7th Street NW - fantastic, authentic food, also great drinks! Next door is Pitanga, with the best gelato in DC.

Favorite Art Gallery: National Portrait Gallery has an amazing collection of Civil War and Frontier era art. Hey, it's only four blocks from Oyamel and Pitanga...

Favorite Spot for Sightseeing: Revolving "Skydome" bar at the Double Tree Hotel in Crystal City, just north of Reagan Airport – one of the best places to find a terrific city panorama.



Bill Cline (Musical Director) - Grew up in Colorado; attended Princeton (Tigertones); economics graduate work at Yale (Russian Chorus); policy research in international economics at Peterson Institute since 1981. Joined Augmented 8 in 1978. Married Ruth Harwood (translator, medievalist); 2 daughters, 8 grandkids.

Favorite Restaurant: De Carlo's

Favorite Art Gallery: Phillips Collection

Favorite Destination: Billy Goat Trail (Old Angler's Inn to Great Falls MD)



Josh Gotbaum - Josh grew up in Chicago & NY. Except for when he was running Hawaiian Airlines and The September 11th Fund, he's been based in DC for 20+ years, working for Presidents Obama, Clinton & Carter. All three of his kids sing better (but fortunately only one of his three singing siblings does :-)

Favorite Restaurant: Rocklands BBQ

Favorite Art Gallery or Museum: The US Congress, where history is always being remade

Favorite Monument: Lincoln Memorial (I'm from Illinois), but the FDR Memorial is great, too.



Paul Kraske - Originally from the Washington DC area, Paul went to school and worked in New Haven, Cairo, London, Boston, New York, Bombay and Singapore before finally buying a house a mile from his high school in Bethesda, MD where he now lives with his wife and two daughters.

Favorite Restaurant: Rose's Luxury

Favorite Museum: Udvar-Hazy Air & Space Museum near Dulles Airport

Favorite Monument: Lincoln Memorial



Peter Mucchetti - Peter grew up in South Texas and spent two years in Bolivia as a Peace Corps volunteer before settling down in Arlington, VA. Peter, his wife, and two children enjoy visiting national parks and going on long hikes.

Favorite Restaurant: District Taco

Favorite Museum: Natural History

Favorite Destination: Rocky Mountain National Park



Bill Nussbaum - Bill was born in the Bronx. He is a lawyer who has tried almost 100 cases to juries during his career. He has been married to Maggie for 41 years, has three grown children, and one brand new grandson. He loves ice hockey and the Washington Capitals, cigars, and Jameson's Irish Whiskey. He loved

Downton Abbey and will miss it terribly, and has been singing with Aug8 since '08.

Favorite Restaurant in DC: The Palm

Favorite Art Gallery or Museum: Library of Congress

Favorite Sightseeing Destination: Lincoln Memorial

9. Getting to the hotel from places other than Reagan National Airport.

a. Union Station (AMTRAK):

By taxi: If you've got luggage or it's raining, consider taking a taxi to the hotel from Union Station. It's about 1.2 miles to the hotel and it might take some effort bringing a suitcase along for the hike. Also, it can be a hassle at rush hour to switch Metro trains with luggage when the cars are crowded. Here's a map of the metro system:

<http://www.wmata.com/rail/maps/map.cfm>.

By metro: From Union Station, take the Red Line two stops to Gallery Place and switch to the Yellow Line or Green Line towards L'Enfant Plaza. It's a block to the hotel (see the map on page 2). You'll see route maps in the station and the attendants are friendly. Who doesn't love tourists?!

By foot: It's a lovely walk. This route takes you in a south westerly direction around the foot of Capitol Hill and across the national mall. There are no "up" hills, the sidewalks are good and the neighborhood is completely safe. See the map on page 4 above for a general idea of the path, and it's about a 20-minute walk.

b. BWI: <http://www.bwiairport.com/en/travel/maps-and-direction/from/washington>

c. Dulles: <http://www.flydulles.com/iad/directions-maps>

d. Jiving to DC in your car from Lake Shore or points elsewhere? Use your GPS!

e. Parking. NOTE about Parking - 24 hours of parking at our hotel is \$56. Unusually pricey for DC but the location is so close to Capitol Hill. There is a 24-hour public parking garage at Union Station, and its daily rate is \$24 (<http://www.unionstationdc.com/parking>). That is probably the closest public parking to the Capitol Visitor Center but not to our hotel. However, there is also a large public parking garage underneath L'Enfant Plaza that costs \$30 per 24 hours and is a much closer walk to our hotel. (<http://www.aceparking.com/lenfant/>). And you can even reserve a space there. Metered parking on the streets in DC generally is free on Sunday!