



PRESS RELEASE

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Mayor Bowser to Launch Effort Showcasing District's Creative Economy

"202Creates" will Highlight DC's Diverse and Vibrant Arts and Cultural Scene

(WASHINGTON, DC) – Mayor Muriel Bowser today announced the inaugural “202Creates,” a citywide effort launching in September to showcase the District’s diverse and vibrant creative economy. Through an array of events, 202Creates will promote the artists, makers, and entrepreneurs who contribute to the District’s thriving creative industries.

“We are showcasing that the nation’s capital is also the capital of creativity,” said Mayor Muriel Bowser. “Every corner of our city hosts a diversity of creative industries that employ District residents and improve our quality of life. These are the people that day in and day out contribute to the heartbeat of our creative economy and help to define who we are as a city. With 202Creates, we are celebrating the creative contributions of our residents.”

Led by the DC Office of Cable Television, Film, Music and Entertainment (OCTFME) and the DC Commission on Arts and Humanities (CAH), 202Creates aims to engage residents in the month of September through events and activities that build and enrich our communities across all 8 Wards. 202Creates will also feature conversations with innovators, residents, and businesses with a goal of furthering engagement between government and the creative community.

With nearly 60% of District workers employed in the creative class, DC is one of the most creative cities in the United States. A [recent study](#) also shows the District is a top five “most inspiring city” for young artists.

Events throughout the month will highlight key priorities for the Bowser Administration’s focus on the creative economy, including jobs/workforce training and STEM/STEAM education for the District’s youth.

During 202Creates, the District will also launch the Creative Economy Career Access Program (CECAP), an on-the-job training program for District residents seeking a sustainable career in the creative economy.

[The Labor Day Weekend Music Festival](#) at the Historic Lincoln Theatre will feature three nights of concerts showcasing local artists in a wide range of musical styles, including jazz, rock, Go Go, folk and more.

Also, the first-ever [202 Arts & Music Festival](#) will be held at Canal Park featuring art exhibitions and interactive workshops as well as the District’s biggest outdoor dance party.

Mayor Bowser will also host the 31st Annual Mayor’s Arts Awards at the historic Lincoln Theatre. The annual arts award ceremonies are the most prestigious honors conferred by the city on individual artists, teachers, nonprofit organizations and patrons of the arts.

To view the full calendar of 202Creates events, please visit: www.202Creates.com.

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