



National Society of Arts and Letters
Supporting young talent in the performing, literary, and visual arts since 1944.



John F. Kennedy Center, Washington, DC Photo credit: Durul Dalkanat

WHEN: May 29 – June 2, 2019

WHERE: Washington, DC

HOTEL: Washington Marriott Georgetown

Your hotel is just a short walk to Georgetown, conveniently located in the West End with numerous restaurants and shops close-by. The room rate is an incredible \$189.00 per night.

HIGHLIGHTS:

Drama Competition and Master Class

Judges:

- Michael Bofshever, Renowned Actor and Film Producer
- Michael Kahn, Artistic Director, the Shakespeare Theatre Company, Washington, DC
- Molly Smith, Artistic Director, Arena Stage, Washington, DC
- Geoffrey Soffer, Manager and Producer, Soffer / Namoff Entertainment

Entertainment by Past National Winners

Tour of Hillwood Estate, Museum, and Gardens

To enjoy dinner and entertainment at Hillwood Estate, the former home of NSAL member, Marjorie Merriweather Post, is a rare opportunity. Step back in time to dine where Mrs. Post, a businesswoman, socialite, philanthropist, and collector entertained in her stately, 36 room, Georgian Colonial home. The estate, originally named Arbremont, is situated on a large, densely wooded spot in northwest Washington on the edge of Rock Creek Park. Concerned with Hillwood's fate after her death, Post arranged in 1962 to bequeath the estate, along with a \$10 million endowment to maintain it, to the Smithsonian Institution so that it might be opened to the public as a museum.

Tour of the National Museum of Women in the Arts (NMWA)

The only museum in the world dedicated solely to celebrating women's achievements in the visual, performing, and literary arts, the National Museum of Women in the Arts was incorporated in 1981 by Wallace and Wilhelmina Holladay. An American art collector and patron, Wilhelmina was inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame in 1996 and was awarded a 2006 National Medal of Arts. You will not want to miss viewing works by well-known artists Mary Cassatt and Frida Kahlo. The museum has acquired a collection of more than 4,500 paintings. We are certain some of your favorite female artists are in the collection. You may even discover some new favorites.

Awards Banquet in the Ballroom of the Cosmos Club

We have the rare opportunity to celebrate our Drama Awards Banquet at the Cosmos Club, a private institution for women and men distinguished in science, literature, the arts, a learned profession or public service. The Club, founded in 1878, presented two major awards annually:

The Cosmos Club Award to persons of national or international standing in a field of science, literature, the arts, the learned professions, or public service. The John P. McGovern Award, which supports an annual series of lectures in science, literature, arts, and humanities.

Just like NSAL, both the NMWA and the Cosmos Club are dedicated to the advancement of the visual arts and literature.

BONUS – THIS MIGHT BE YOUR OPPORTUNITY:

The first 50 people who register for the Annual Meeting have an opportunity to obtain a ticket to the hottest venue in town -- the newly opened African American Museum.

The Washington DC host committee, under the leadership of Conference Chair, Bea Hessick, is spending countless hours to make this an exciting and memorable Annual Meeting.

More details to entice you will be forthcoming in subsequent e-blasts.

TREAT YOURSELF TO A SPECIAL EVENT IN THE NATION'S CAPITOL:

Mark your calendar now and watch for the Call to Meeting that will be in your mailbox soon.

Our Historic NSAL Celebrations in Washington, DC

The 50th Anniversary

In October 1994, members gathered for a gala celebration of NSAL's 50th Anniversary. Attendees were invited to the home of founder Molly Davis Nicholson in Chevy Chase for a champagne reception. Embassies honored the group with elegant teas. The grand finale was a formal dinner in the Grand Ballroom of the Mayflower Hotel. Rob Johansen, 1994 Career Award Winner in Drama, delighted the members with a spectacular presentation when he bounded onto the stage as the embodiment of Shakespeare's Puck.

The 75th Anniversary

Twenty-five years later, we return to Washington DC to celebrate the accomplishments for which we take pride. Many successful careers have been launched through support from NSAL's funding. The tradition of proud and enthusiastic members continues. Today we strive to uphold and build upon the legacy of our visionary founders, Mollie Davis Nicholson, and Francesca Nielsen.

Thank you to the Washington DC Chapter for this encore that promises to be very special.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN MAY.

-- Sincerely,
Doni Lystra
National First Vice President

National Society of Arts and Letters 716-451-4004 | | arts-nasal.org

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11060 Freeport Lane, North East, PA 16428

www.arts-nasal.org