

[Click here](#) for the 2019 Wawa Welcome America brochure, listing all of the festival events.

**** To help avoid heat-related issues, those attending Wawa Welcome America events should remember to follow these [Safety Tips](#).

There are many indoor, air-conditioned events visitors can enjoy. ****

Text “America” to 888-777 for updated event information and helpful tips!



MEDIA ALERT

SUNDAY, JUNE 30

***WAWA WELCOME AMERICA* FREE FESTIVAL EVENTS:**

Free Museums ••• Philadelphia’s Historic District Block Party ••• Circus Midway At Fringearts ••• Gospel on Independence ••• Chase Presents: Philly @ the Movies: Rocky Powered By NRG ••• Philadelphia International Airport Photo Exhibit

WHAT: **Free Museum Day at One Liberty Observation Deck**
Part of Wawa Welcome America’s Free Museum & Attraction Series, One Liberty Observation Deck offers a view 57 floors above Market Street. Come enjoy free admission from 8:00 am – 12:00 p.m. to see Philly From The Top. The first 1,000 ticket orders will receive a free Philadelphia souvenir upon entry on June 30. Pre-registered tickets are encouraged but not required. Register [here](#).

WHEN: **Sunday, June 30, 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

WHERE: 1650 Market St., Philadelphia, PA 19103

MEDIA CONTACT: Jessica Olenik, Neff Associates, Senior PR Account Executive
jo@neffassociates.com, 267-457-2045

TV PARKING: South side of Market Street, between 17th & 16th Streets.

WHAT: **Free Museum Day at American Swedish Historical Museum**
Visit the American Swedish Historical Museum in South Philadelphia for free as a part of the Wawa Welcome America's Free Museum & Attraction Series. Founded in 1926, it is the oldest Swedish museum in the United States. The Museum's 20,000 square foot interior houses twelve exhibition galleries, a reference library, and more. For more information and exhibition details, visit americanswedish.org.

WHEN: **Sunday, June 30, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

WHERE: 1900 Pattison Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19145

MEDIA

CONTACT: Caroline Rossy
crossy@americanswedish.org, 215-389-1776 x108

TV PARKING: Outside of facility in lot or on Pattison Ave.

WHAT: **Free Museum Day at Fort Mifflin – Freedom Blast!**
Wawa Welcome America's Free Museum & Attraction Series hosts a journey through the Declaration of Independence at Fort Mifflin, the site that defended Philadelphia against the greatest bombardment of the American Revolution. Enjoy guided tours, blacksmithing, learning to drill with a wooden musket, and Revolutionary War soldier life demonstrations. Fort Mifflin offers hands-on living history activities, and uniform, weapon and cannon demonstrations. Enjoy the view and the breeze in the riverfront picnic area or explore the new nature trail. Event will happen rain or shine and well-behaved dogs on leashes are welcome! There is free admission and parking.

WHEN: **Sunday, June 30, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

WHERE: 6400 Hog Island Road, Philadelphia, PA 19153

MEDIA

CONTACT: Elizabeth Beatty, Executive Director or
Joseph Nevin, Site & Program Manager
FortMifflinInfo@gmail.com 215-685-4167

TV PARKING: Outside of facility on Hog Island Road.

WHAT: **Pay What You Wish Day at Rodin Museum**
Enjoy pay-what-you-wish admission at the Rodin Museum as a part of Wawa Welcome America’s Free Museum & Attraction Series. It remains the only institution outside Paris dedicated entirely to the master sculptor Auguste Rodin. The garden—a lush retreat in the heart of the city—provides an ideal setting in which to experience some of the world’s most celebrated works of art. Rediscover Rodin with extended hours and a garden bar open from 3:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Take a tour of their newest installation, *Rethinking the Modern Monument*, grab a drink, and relax outside.

WHEN: **Sunday, June 30, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

WHERE: 2151 Benjamin Franklin Parkway, Philadelphia, PA 19130

MEDIA CONTACT: Norman Keyes, Director of Communications,
nkeyes@philamuseum.org, 215-684-7862

TV PARKING: On street on Parkway, Hamilton or Pennsylvania Avenue.

WHAT: **Free Museum Day at The Rosenbach**
Part of Wawa Welcome America’s Free Museum & Attraction Series, guests are invited to explore the rare book library and historic house tucked among the elegant 19th-century townhomes near Rittenhouse Square. The Rosenbach houses one of the world’s great collections of literature, manuscripts, and rare books. Tour the temporary exhibition *Out of Many, One*, a look into the diverse individual experiences that shape our country’s history. Families can also engage in a marbled bookmaking activity. Pre-registration required. Download your free tickets [here](#).

WHEN: **Sunday, June 30, 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.**

WHERE: 2008-2010 Delancey Place, Philadelphia, PA, 19103

MEDIA CONTACT: Rosa Doherty, Manager of Communication
rdoherty@rosenbach.org, 215-732-1600 x123

TV PARKING: Designated media parking has not been secured for this event.

WHAT: **Circus Midway at FringeArts**
Part of *Hand to Hand: A FringeArts Circus Festival*, learn the art of the circus at these free outdoor workshops. Teachers and performers from the Philadelphia School of Circus Arts teach attendees basic aerial acrobatics, juggling, plate spinning, tight wire and more! The event will also feature short circus performances, including one from the school's Youth Troupe. Free and fun for all ages and abilities!

WHEN: **Sunday, June 30, 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

WHERE: Columbus Boulevard & Race Street

MEDIA CONTACT: Raina Searles, Marketing Manager
raina@fringearts.com, 267-538-0847

TV PARKING: Designated media parking has not been secured for this event.

WHAT: **Philadelphia's Historic District Block Party**
Come celebrate the 5th annual Historic Philadelphia Block Party featuring a variety of entertainment, food trucks and pop-up performances. Welcome America turns Independence Mall and the surrounding area into an all day, family-friendly event where thousands of attendees will come together to commemorate our country's freedom and the City of Brotherly Love and Sisterly Affection! Join in the excitement of diverse genres of music with a focus on strong female performers, educational elements, arts and entertainment, health and wellness and of course plenty of food options. Mayor Jim Kenney is expected to attend in the late afternoon.

Media are invited to attend an opening ceremony at 11:45 a.m. on People's Plaza located at 5th & Market Streets, featuring the Boy Scouts of America Flag Ceremony and special recognition of the Independence National Historical Park Rangers and Wawa's Celebration of Everyday Heroes and the community. During the Flag Ceremony the U.S. Army Field Band will be singing the National Anthem. City Representative Sheila Hess and Michael DelBene, Welcome America CEO, will present remarks at the opening ceremony in the morning.

Additionally, special guest and former NBA star Amar'e Stoudimere will make an appearance at 1:00 p.m. in conjunction with Big Brothers Big Sisters Independence Region.

WHEN: **Sunday, June 30, 11:45 a.m. – 7:00 pm.**

WHERE: 5th & 6th Streets between Market & Chestnut Streets, Philadelphia, PA 19106

MEDIA

CONTACT: Kellianne DeBlase, Welcome America, VP of Marketing & Event Branding, press@welcomeamerica.com (215) 987-6408

TV PARKING: Designated media parking has not been secured for this event.

WHAT: **Philly @ the Movies presented by Chase:**

Rocky

Powered by NRG

Watching *Rocky* on the very steps that made Mr. Stallone famous has become a tradition during the week of July 4th in Philadelphia. Wawa Welcome America is continuing this tradition by opening this year's Philly @ the Movies Series with the iconic Philadelphia film in front of the Philadelphia Museum of Art right next to the famous Rocky statue. Enjoy a Philly-centric night on the famous steps, complete with a Rocky and Creed look-alike contest, entertainment by DJ Hollywood, and trivia led by Bobby Mansure, prior to the free screening of the iconic *Rocky* at 7 p.m. Guests can enjoy complimentary popcorn and blanket courtesy of Chase (while supplies last) and tasty treats from Herr's and Tastykake. Additional movie snacks will also be available for purchase. This event is in partnership with the Philadelphia Film Society. Movie rated PG.

WHEN: **Sunday, June 30, 5:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.**

WHERE: Steps of the Art Museum, 2600 Benjamin Franklin Parkway, Philadelphia, PA 19130

MEDIA

CONTACT: Kellianne DeBlase, Welcome America, VP of Marketing & Event Branding, press@welcomeamerica.com (215) 987-6408

TV PARKING: Designated media parking has not been secured for this event. TV media parks in street curbside in front of museum, or up on patio entering from Art Museum's west entrance.

WHAT: **Gospel on Independence**

Join the powerful 100-voice choir as they collaborate with the Philadelphia Men's Fellowship Choir in front of Independence Hall for an unforgettable Gospel performance. The experience will also include an inspiring performance by "The Sisterly Love" choir. This entertaining event follows the Historic District Block Party and is hosted by Patty Jackson of iHeartRadio's 105.3 WDAS-FM. Gospel on Independence is presented in partnership with Visit Philadelphia & Kimmel Center of

Performing Arts. Mayor Jim Kenney and City Representative Sheila Hess are expected to attend.

WHEN: Sunday, June 30, 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

WHERE: Chestnut Street between 5th and 6th Streets, Philadelphia, PA 19106

MEDIA

CONTACT: Kellianne DeBlase, Welcome America, VP of Marketing & Event Branding, press@welcomeamerica.com (215) 987-6408

TV PARKING: **2019 Wawa Welcome America Concert & Fireworks Media Credential** is required. Parking available for TV trucks at the West side of 5th Street between Market and Arch streets, before the IVC parking lot entrance.

MEDIA AREA: Riser in media section on the north side of the 500 block of Chestnut St. on lawn area behind brick walkway. The throw from the media platform to the main stage across from Independence Hall is about 60 feet.

WHAT: **Philadelphia International Airport Photo Exhibit: Philadelphia, A Global Medical HUB since the 1700s**
Check out the Philadelphia International Airport's *Philadelphia, A Global Medical HUB since the 1700s* exhibition. This photo exhibit highlights the region's globally renowned medical community throughout history and is in partnership with Philadelphia International Medicine. Available in Terminal A-East to ticketed passengers.

WHEN: Now- June 2020

WHERE: Philadelphia International Airport, 8000 Essington Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19153

MEDIA

CONTACT: art.airport@phl.org

TV PARKING: Designated media parking has not been secured for this event.

About Wawa Welcome America

Wawa Welcome America is a six-day festival taking place Saturday, June 29 through Thursday, July 4 that celebrates American history, education, and Philadelphia. The 2019 festival will encompass 50 free, all-ages, patriotic events in Center City, the Historic District, and in Philadelphia's diverse neighborhoods. The festival concludes with 12 hours of non-stop

commemorations and celebrations on July 4th. The theme of this year's *Wawa Welcome America* festival is "Celebrate With Us."

For more information, visit WelcomeAmerica.com. Join the conversation at:

- Facebook – [Facebook.com/WawaWelcomeAmerica](https://www.facebook.com/WawaWelcomeAmerica)
- Twitter – [Twitter.com/July4thPhilly](https://twitter.com/July4thPhilly)
- Instagram – [Instagram.com/July4thPhilly](https://www.instagram.com/July4thPhilly)

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