

In light of COVID-19, the 2020 Wawa Welcome America Festival has been reimagined to a completely virtual festival. All events can be experienced at welcomeamerica.com.
For the festival brochure, [click here](#).



MEDIA ALERT

WEDNESDAY, JULY 1

WAWA WELCOME AMERICA FREE FESTIVAL EVENTS:

Wawa Hoagie Day • Independence Blue Cross #mindPHL Wellness Corner • Museum of the Day • PECO Go 4th and Learn • Music Play Patrol • U.S. Army Esports Tournament powered by Nerd Street Gamers • United States Army Field Band Pre-Show Party • The United States Army Field Band presents *“Fanfares for Freedom”*

WHAT: **Independence Blue Cross #mindPHL Wellness Corner: Relaxation and Stress Reduction**
This July 4th, be #mindPHL with us. Enjoy programming to help you relax, connect, and boost your mental health. You’ve heard about mindfulness. Now let Amy Edelstein of Inner Strength Education show you how you can add it into your daily life to relax and de-stress.

WHEN: Wednesday, July 1, 8:30 a.m. (programming available through July 7, 2020)

WHERE: <https://welcomeamerica.com/events/>
**programming will become available each day of the series*

MEDIA CONTACT: Grant Gegwich, Director of Public Relations, Independence Blue Cross,
Grant.Gegwich@ibx.com

WHAT: **Museum of the Day: National Constitution Center**
The National Constitution Center brings history to life with exclusive July 4th themed programming, events and activities as part of their featured day during Wawa Welcome America's virtual festival.

WHEN: Wednesday, July 1, 9:00 a.m. (programming available through July 7, 2020)

WHERE: <https://welcomeamerica.com/event/national-constitution-center/>

MEDIA CONTACT: Merissa Blum, Communications Manager, National Constitution Center, mblum@constitutioncenter.org

WHAT: **PECO Go 4th & Learn: Read to Lead**
Go on a literacy journey with Sergeant Major Erica Russo of The United States Army Field Band and Telemundo62 Chief Meteorologist, Violeta Yas.

WHEN: Wednesday, July 1, 10:00 a.m. (programming available through July 7, 2020)

WHERE: <https://welcomeamerica.com/event/peco-go-4th-learn-read-to-lead/>

MEDIA CONTACT: Kellianne DeBlase, Vice President of Marketing & Communications, Welcome America, Inc., press@welcomeamerica.com

WHAT: **Playing Pots & Pans with Music Play Patrol**
Experience interactive, educational, musical fun using items from around the home. Tune into the program that teaches children how to create music using everyday items from their kitchen. Rock out to the sounds of pots and pans, buckets, drinking straws, and more.

WHEN: Wednesday, July 1, 11:00 a.m. (programming available through July 7, 2020)

WHERE: <https://welcomeamerica.com/event/music-play-patrol-playing-pots-and-pans/>

MEDIA

CONTACT: Frank Coates, Founder & CEO, Music Play Patrol,
frank@musicolaypatrol.com

WHAT: **Wawa Hoagie Day®**

In its 28th year and for the first time ever in history, all 900 Wawa stores will participate in Wawa Hoagie Day®, building more than 45,000 hoagies to donate to local community heroes and organizations, including Philabundance, first responders, healthcare heroes, the USO and more! Join us for fun coverage of the hoagie builds and community give back across 6 states and Washington D.C.

WHEN: Wednesday, July 1, 12:00 p.m. (programming available through July 7, 2020)

WHERE: <https://welcomeamerica.com/event/wawa-hoagie-day-2/>

MEDIA

CONTACT: Lori Bruce, Public Relations Manager, Wawa, Inc.,
lori.a.bruce@wawa.com

WHAT: **U.S. Army Esports Tournament powered by Nerd Street Gamers: Fortnite Trios**

In Partnership with the United States Army and Nerd Street Gamers this year, gamers will be able to put their skills to the test during our first-ever esports tournament series. All Competitors must be 13 years or older to compete in the tournament.

Put your skills to the test during the widely popular Fortnite online competition kicking off the U.S. Army esports competition. **Pre-registration required at lobby.gg.**

WHEN: Wednesday, July 1, 6:00 p.m.

WHERE: <https://welcomeamerica.com/event/u-s-army-e-sports-tournament/>

MEDIA

CONTACT: Paige Funk, Marketing Director, Nerd Street Gamers,
pfunk@nerdstgamers.com

WHAT: **The United States Army Field Band: *Pre-Show***

Join the party, hosted by 106.1 The Breeze's Valerie Knight, as we celebrate Philadelphia's own, Jerry Blavat, and his 80th Birthday Bash prior to the patriotic performance from the United States Army Field Band.

WHEN: Wednesday, July 1, 6:00 p.m. (programming available through July 7, 2020)

WHERE: <https://welcomeamerica.com/event/the-united-states-army-field-band-pre-show-party/>

MEDIA

CONTACT: Kellianne DeBlase, Vice President of Marketing & Communications, Welcome America, Inc., press@welcomeamerica.com

WHAT: **The United States Army Field Band presents "Fanfares for Freedom"**
Let freedom ring out across Philadelphia and the nation, as The United States Army Field Band celebrates America's Independence. You're in for an inspiring show of patriotic favorites and spectacular performances, as "The Musical Ambassadors of the Army" throw a virtual birthday party for America.

WHEN: **Wednesday, July 1, 7:00 p.m.** (programming available through July 7, 2020)

WHERE: <https://welcomeamerica.com/event/the-united-states-army-field-band/>

MEDIA

CONTACT: Mr. Rob Piper, Public Affairs Officer, Robert.p.piper.civ@mail.mil

About Welcome America, Inc.

Welcome America, Inc. is a 501c3, non-profit organization engaged in a public-private partnership with the City of Philadelphia. Welcome America, Inc.'s goal is to promote American history, education, and the City of Philadelphia as a global tourist destination. Each year, Welcome America, Inc. produces Wawa Welcome America, a multi-day festival featuring art, culture, community engagement and entertainment - it is the nation's premier Independence Day celebration! Welcome America was founded in 1993, and celebrates its 28th festival in 2020. Visit www.welcomeamerica.com to learn more, and join the conversation at:

- Facebook – <http://www.facebook.com/WawaWelcomeAmerica>
- Instagram – <http://www.instagram.com/July4thPhilly>

- Twitter – www.twitter.com/July4thPhilly