

Barracks Row Fall Festival on Capitol Hill 2012

Written by BRMS

Tuesday, September 11, 2012, 1:06 PM -

If you love DC's famously diverse spirit then put **Barracks Row Fall Festival on Capitol Hill** on your must-do list

Saturday

September 22, 2012

; festival opens at 11 a.m. and closes at 5 p.m. The midway includes the oldest post in the Marine Corps, hundreds of historic buildings plus forty international restaurants. To add to the adventure, llamas, goats and hedgehogs are waiting to meet you at the petting zoo; ladies from nearby Trapeze School New York will be performing at treetop height on "silks" all day long, and Swing Band, Blue Sky, begins at 2:30 p.m. and includes free dance lessons!

Take Eastern Market Metro then turn down 8th Street, S.E. There, under the elms, urban adventure hooks up with an All-American small town fair. Near the corner of 8

and I Streets, SE, a black-box cook-off starts at 7:00 a.m. Chefs from all branches of the United States armed forces, including the White House, compete for the trophy as Top Chef in the US Military. This year, four Wounded Warriors will be competing consecutively, too. Culinary creations are developed right out on 8

Street then whisked off to sequestered judges. Announcers give the play-by-play as you cheer for your favorite chef teams.

DC State Fair joins Barracks Row Fall Festival on Capitol Hill this year showcasing unique categories: Funkiest-Looking Vegetable Grown in DC, Best Home Brew, Best Bike Accessory, Best Pie, etc. There are dozens not-to-be-missed DC State Fair contests all day long. This year Barracks Row Fall Festival features 130 booths, including those of DC State Fair.

Bringing the kids? The freshly renovated Meader Theater, circa 1910, now the National Community Church will play free cartoons so little ones can catch their breaths. Along with the petting zoo there are loads of kid's activities. Playseum, partnering with the National Community Church, is devising a spectacular Kids Zone. Older kids can compete in corn hole, shuffleboard and bocce or take in the Labyrinth tent where board game drama unfolds throughout the day.

Watch Chesty, the Marine Corps mascot bulldog out walking; learn the right strokes on an ERG

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machine from Capitol Hill Rowing Club. Demonstrations take place at midway booths: Capitol Hill Yoga, Biker Barre and the amazing Marine Corps Pull-Up Challenge. Thinking about your outfit for an Inaugural Ball? Let the stylist at the Tracey & Co give you a Cinderella up-do. Grab a massage at Skin DC's booth. Holiday shopping? Start at our booths and finish at our shops!

During the festival, the Home of the Commandants and Marine Barracks Washington are both open for docent led tours! From your photo op with the glamorous Red Skins Cheerleaders to nostalgic harmonies from the Georgetown Chimes... it's all about DC, Capitol Hill and a gem of a neighborhood revival called Barracks Row Main Street.