

# White House

1983  
Visitors Program



## The Program

Since the days of John Adams, the White House has been the home and office of each President of the United States. Besides being a residence, the White House is also a public building, and, as such, is open at certain times for tours. On an average day, more than 7,000 people see the state rooms. To help make your visit enjoyable and avoid as much fuss and confusion as possible during the busy summer season, the National Park Service, which is responsible for the care and upkeep of the White House and its grounds,

hosts the White House Visitors Program at the Ellipse. The key features of the program are free tickets for a visit at a specific time, live musical entertainment while waiting, canopied seating, and uniformed rangers, who are available to answer your questions about the White House and other places of interest in the area. Restrooms and refreshments are also located in the immediate vicinity. If you should leave the immediate area, make sure you return for the White House tour at the time specified on your ticket.

## How to get the Tickets

Tickets are given out at booths on the Ellipse, a 52-acre park just south of the White House where the President and his family light the live National Christmas Tree each year. At the booths each person must pick up a ticket. A group representative cannot request a block of tickets. They are distributed on a first-come, first-served basis, allowing everyone an equal chance to visit the White House. All tickets are free. They cannot be reserved. Each ticket shows the approximate time that your tour will form on the Ellipse. A park ranger will escort you on the short walk from the Ellipse to the East Gate. Do not go directly to the gate.

From May 28 through September 5, 1983 the White House is open to the public from 10 a.m. until noon. The ticket booths are open from 8 a.m. until noon. The booths may close earlier, however, if the day's supply of tickets is exhausted before noon.

No tickets are required the rest of the year, when the hours are 10 a.m. until noon. Visitors should go directly to the East Gate for admittance. The White House is closed to tours on Sunday and Monday and occasionally for official functions.

## Tours for the Handicapped

Handicapped visitors to the White House should go directly to the Northeast Gate (Tour Exit) on Pennsylvania Avenue for immediate admittance. No ticket is required.

Special White House group tours given in sign language may be scheduled in advance by calling (202) 456-2202, or, for TTY callers (202) 456-2216.

## Other Information

The Washington Monument, Jefferson Memorial and the Lincoln Memorial are open daily from 8 a.m. until midnight. No tickets are required. The Vietnam Veterans Memorial is near the Lincoln Memorial to the northeast.

The main floors of the Jefferson and Lincoln Memorials may be reached by elevators. Curb ramps and specially marked parking areas are conveniently provided at the Washington Monument grounds.



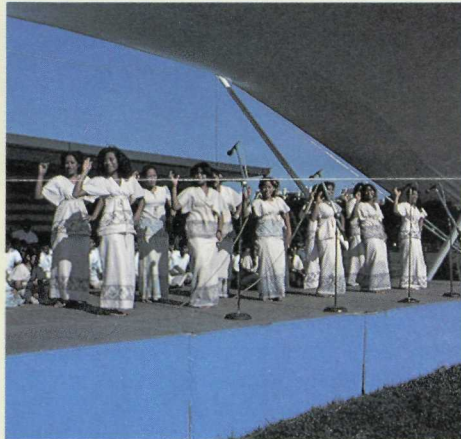
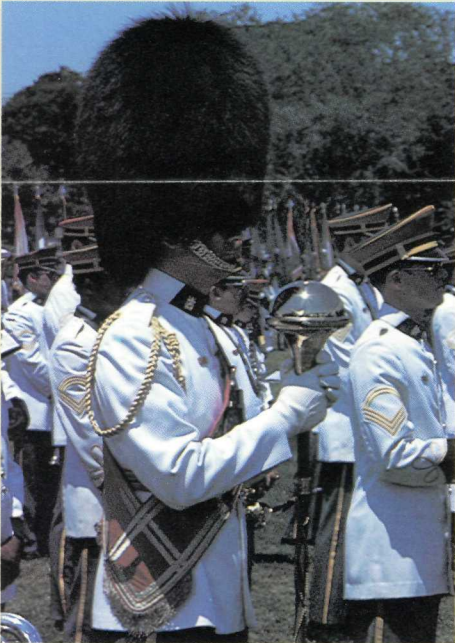
# 1983 Musical Program

# National Park Service U.S. Department of the Interior

## The White House

The White House is the home and office of the President of the United States and his family. It is opened at specified times to all who wish to see it. Every year more than one million visitors from across the country and abroad come to Washington to tour the White House, and sometimes its grounds, where so much of our history has been made. Generally in the spring and summer—the peak visitation

period—the wait to enter the White House is long. To eliminate confusion and the tedium of waiting in line, the National Park Service hosts the White House Visitors program on the Ellipse, just south of the White House. Here you can get free tickets for a visit at a specific time and can wait in the comfort of covered bleachers listening to musical performances until it is time for your tour to begin.



## How You Can Help

From May 28 to September 5, 1983, volunteer musical groups from across the Nation and abroad will perform daily to entertain the thousands of people waiting for White House tours. In the last 6 years over 800 groups from 45 states and 15 countries helped entertain the crowds. Bands, choruses, ensembles, folk singers, and blue grass groups

are all welcome to participate. Each group performs on a specially designed stage fully equipped with sound equipment before audiences of 2,000 to 5,000 people. You will receive a handsome Presidential Certificate and the appreciation of thousands of people whose visit has been made much more enjoyable by your efforts.

## Performance Information

**Dates:** May 28 until September 5, 1983  
**Days and Times:** Tuesday through Friday 10:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.  
 Saturdays (3 groups) 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.; 10:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.; 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
**Contact:** Phil Walsh or Faye Bullock (for scheduling)  
 President's Park  
 1100 Ohio Drive, SW  
 Washington, D.C. 20242  
 (202) 755-7798  
**Note:** For Saturday performances from May 28 through July 9, 1983, High School and College groups contact:  
 Ms. Harriet Mogge  
 Music Educators National Conference  
 1902 Association Drive  
 Reston, Virginia 22091  
 (703) 860-4000

For 24-hour sightseeing information in and around Washington, D.C., call Dial-A-Park, 426-6975.

