

# NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HISTORIC AND CONTEMPORARY FLAGS IN NATIONAL SCULPTURE GARDEN  
TO COMMEMORATE STARS AND STRIPES ON FLAG DAY

WASHINGTON, D.C. June 3, 1977. A special ceremony marking the 200th anniversary of the Stars and Stripes as the official design for the United States flag will be held at 10:45 a.m. on Tuesday, June 14 (Flag Day), at the National Sculpture Garden. Twenty-six historic American flags in replica, first displayed in the Sculpture Garden last summer and the first of two exhibitions organized under the title of "New Glory," will be on view for the last time.

On June 15, the second exhibition, consisting of twenty-eight contemporary flags chosen for the excellence of their designs in a nationwide competition, will go on view, remaining through Labor Day, September 5.

Photo and tv editors: (The contemporary flags will be on view temporarily on Monday afternoon, June 13, for photography.)

J. Carter Brown, Director of the National Gallery of Art, and Manus J. Fish, Jr., Director of National Capital Parks, will join Paul Chadbourne Mills, Director of the Santa Barbara (California) Museum of Art, in the Bicentennial ceremony on June 14. Mr. Mills has organized the exhibitions. The National Sculpture Garden, located on the Mall at Seventh Street, is under the joint administration of the National Gallery of Art and the National Park Service.

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Honored guests will be delegates to the Seventh International Congress of Vexillology (the study of flag symbolism and history), who for the first time are meeting in the United States, and members of the North American Vexillological Association. Music for the event will be presented by the United States Marine Corps Band and the St. Martin's Fife and Drum Corps. Boy Scouts from the National Capital Area Council will also participate in the ceremony.

The display of contemporary flags on view from June 15 includes flags proposed by artists and designers throughout the nation and abroad for states, cities, federal and state agencies, art museums, citizens groups and other organizations. Among the works chosen by the jurors of the national competition are flags designed for the states of Alaska, Connecticut, Oregon and Washington; the cities of Cambridge and Nantucket (Massachusetts), Rome (New York), Pittsburgh (Pennsylvania) and Roanoke (Virginia); the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts and the Grand Rapids Art Museum; and the Audubon Society, which inspired two winning designs.

Catalogues for both the historic and contemporary flag exhibitions will be available at the National Gallery of Art and the Santa Barbara Museum of Art.

Both exhibitions have been aided by grants from the National Endowment for the Arts. The aluminum poles and general installation of

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the displays in Washington have been made possible by a grant from McDonald's Restaurants. Indoor versions of the exhibitions are being circulated to museums and galleries throughout the country by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service.

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