



September 18, 2011

Dear Director Williams:

On behalf of the Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of Washington, D.C. (RPCV/W), thank you for agreeing to speak at the Peace Corps 50th Anniversary Arlington Cemetery Presentation on September 25, 2011.

Accompanying this letter, please find the following information:

- Overview
- Event Information (while you have agreed to speak at the Arlington Cemetery Presentation, there are actually three events at the cemetery that day)
 - JFK Wreath-Laying
 - Arlington Cemetery Presentation
 - Walk of Flags
- Run of Show

To ensure that we can best accommodate you, please reply via email to RPCV/W 50th Event Manager Kristina Owens at peacecorps50th@rpcvw.org with answers to the questions below. The sooner we have this information, the better we will be able to serve you.

1. What is your method of travel to Arlington National Cemetery on September 25, 2011? (e.g. Metro; driving personal car; driven by aide, etc.)
2. If you are traveling by car, what is the license plate state and number?
3. Will you be accompanied by anyone? If so, what are their names?
4. Will you attend the JFK Wreath-Laying and/or the Walk of Flags?

Thank you again for your participation. We look forward to seeing you at Arlington National Cemetery on September 25, 2011. If you have any questions, please contact Kristina at the aforementioned email address or by phone at (301) 742-5676.

Sincerely,

Chris Austin
Kenya 2003-2005
RPCV/W President

Kristina Owens
Bolivia 2000-2002
RPCV/W 50th Anniversary Event Manager



Overview

The Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of Washington (RPCV/W) are privileged to host a 50th anniversary event in the Amphitheatre at Arlington National Cemetery. The purpose of RPCV/W's event is to commemorate 50 years of the Peace Corps, specifically in regards to Volunteers that died during service, to honor the legacy of those that came before us and to look forward to the next 50 years.

Speakers include Senator Chris Dodd, Peace Corps Director, Aaron Williams, representatives of families of fallen Volunteers – Pamela Cameron and Kyle Chow, returned Peace Corps Volunteers – Al Guskin, Caitlin Givens, Maeve Kennedy McKean, Joe Kennedy, Kevin Quiqley and a representative from a host country, the Vice President of Liberia, Joseph Boakai. The Master of Ceremonies for the event will be *Vanity Fair* Special Correspondent Maureen Orth.

RPCV/W is also pleased to include performances by the Duke Ellington School of the Performing Arts as well as instrumental musical performances by Halley Schoenberg and Aaron Myers.

The event will be attended by numerous families of Volunteers that died in service to the ideals of the Peace Corps as well as notable public figures, representatives from the diplomatic community, and the general public. Members of the press have been invited. There is no other event taking place during the 50th anniversary commemorative year that specifically addresses and honors fallen Volunteers.

Event Information

JFK Wreath-Laying

Time: Guests arrive 7:45 AM; Presentation begins 8:00 AM

Location: Outside at the 101st Airborne statue across the street from the Visitor center entrance.

Each year RPCV/W leads a wreath laying ceremony at the grave of President John F. Kennedy. Prior to the Arlington Cemetery presentation in the Amphitheatre RPCV/W will lead a smaller more intimate wreath laying ceremony.

Introductory words will reflect on President John F. Kennedy, Sargent Shriver and the Peace Corps Volunteers who lost their lives during service. After these words, we will proceed to President John F. Kennedy Grave. No words will be spoken; this portion of the program will include a brief moment of silence and the laying of flowers on JFK's grave. Following this everyone will proceed to the Amphitheatre for the Arlington Presentation.

If you like to attend please RSVP to rsvp@rpcvw.org.



Arlington Cemetery Presentation

Time: Please arrive by 9:45AM; Presentation begins at 10AM sharp

Location: Arlington Cemetery Memorial Amphitheatre

Seating begins at 9:00AM, **please plan to arrive at the Amphitheatre no later than 9:45 AM.** The program begins promptly at 10:00 AM. A detailed run of show is included at the end of this document.

Moment of Celebration

While a bit untraditional, we wanted to let you know that instead of a moment of silence we will include a moment of celebration. In conversations with many families during the planning of this event we were asked to focus on the lives, not the deaths, of those Peace Corps Volunteers that we have gathered to honor. Following the speeches by the families representing those Volunteers, the Master of Ceremonies, Maureen Orth, will lead the audience in a moment of celebration.

Speeches for interpreters

The Arlington Cemetery presentation will include interpreters for the deaf. If possible, we would sincerely appreciate it if you could forward us an advance copy of your speech so that the interpreters can prepare for the presentation. Please send advance copies of your speech to Kristina Owens at peacecorps50th@rpcvw.org.

Presence of Media

We would like to inform you that the press has been invited to attend the presentation. While we have not committed any speakers to media interviews with the press, if you are willing to be interviewed please let us know so we can make the appropriate arrangements. Please contact Kristina Owens at peacecorps50th@rpcvw.org.

Getting There

Parking

Parking at the cemetery is limited and is not free. Parking fees are \$1.75/hour for the first three hours, and \$2.50/hour thereafter. The majority of parking is at the Visitors Center. The walk from the Visitors Center to the Amphitheatre is about 30 minutes. There are approximately ten spaces that are within a ten-minute walk of the Amphitheatre, and we are working with the Cemetery to allow those to be used by Speakers. However, the availability of these parking spaces is not certain, so please be prepared to park in the parking lot near the Visitors Center. Again, please notify Kristina Owens confirming your method of travel to the cemetery.

Metro

During all hours the cemetery is open, the Arlington Cemetery Metro stop is regularly served by subway trains. The Metro is a short walk to the Visitors Center. The walk from the Visitors Center to the Amphitheatre is about 30 minutes. Please visit the metro website



for more information: <http://www.wmata.com/>. Please note that on Sunday, Metro does not open until 7:00 AM, so please plan accordingly. Once again, please contact Kristina Owens confirming your method of travel to the cemetery.

Walking

The walk to the Amphitheatre may be challenging for some. The walk takes approximately 30 minutes from the Visitors Center and is mostly uphill; however, the Amphitheatre is easily accessed using the tour mobile. This service costs \$8.50 (\$7.50 for seniors) and tickets can be purchased at the Visitor's Center. The tour mobile ticket allows unlimited re-boarding for a single daily rate. Please visit the tour mobile website for more information: http://www.tourmobile.com/tours_arlington.php

Additional Transportation

RPCV/W has acquired a few vans so that we can shuttle those attendees unable to walk from the Visitors Center to the Amphitheatre. Persons with disabilities and senior citizens will be given priority. However, we would also like to offer this option to our Speakers if they prefer to not make the walk from the Visitors Center to the Amphitheatre.

Please refer to Arlington Cemetery's website for more information:

<http://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/>

Logistical Support

Volunteers will be stationed along the route from the Visitor's Center to the Amphitheatre to help guide you. You will be able to identify them from the t-shirts they will be wearing. Please let our volunteers know if you require any assistance.

Once you arrive to the Amphitheatre, Please identify yourself to the volunteer ushers and greeters. They will direct you to your seats.

Additional Information

Restrooms are also located in the Visitor's Center and in the basement of the Amphitheatre.

There are no restrictions on cameras or videos. However, tripods are not permitted above the mid level steps (white) of the Lincoln Memorial or in the Amphitheatre, except for press with proper credentials.

No water bottles or food will be allowed in the Amphitheatre (water fountains are located throughout the cemetery). Please note that food and other drinks, flags, and banners are not allowed in the Cemetery or the Amphitheatre.



Event Information

Walk of Flags

Time: 12:30PM – tentative depending on the end of the presentation

Location: Memorial Drive, in front of the Visitors Center to the Lincoln Memorial

Following the Arlington Cemetery Presentation all are welcome to join in a Walk of Flags from Arlington Cemetery to the Lincoln Memorial. The walk will follow the Arlington Cemetery Presentation beginning at 12:30 on Memorial Drive outside the Arlington Cemetery Visitors Center. The Walk of Flags will cross Memorial Bridge, and turn left on Lincoln Memorial Circle as the walk approaches the Lincoln memorial.

The walk will be led by the Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of Washington Banner, flanked by the United States flag and the Peace Corps flag, followed by the National Peace Corps Association banner, and 139 flags representing all of the countries in which Peace Corps has served.

The banners and flags will be in formation by 12:00 PM along Memorial Drive outside the entrance/exit to Arlington Cemetery. Flags will be in rows of four flags across beginning with Afghanistan and following with all flags in alphabetical order. We anticipate as many of 5,000 Walk of Flag participants.

Depending on your pace and weather conditions, the walk is likely to take thirty minutes to an hour. Water will be available at the beginning and end of the walk.

If you are unable to participate in the Walk of Flags please contact Kristina Owens at peacecorps50@rpcvw.org so we can make arrangements to escort you from Arlington Cemetery as some roads will be closed during the Walk of Flags.

For speakers who drive to Arlington National Cemetery and participate in the Walk of Flags to the National Mall, RPCV/W vans will be able to transport them back to the cemetery.

Additional Information

Following the Walk of Flags all are invited to attend a gathering at [Recessions](#) bar in Washington, D.C.

Recessions is located just south of Dupont Circle just two blocks away from Peace Corps Headquarters. Recessions has historically supported RPCVs, and has agreed to open solely for Sunday's event and offer special discounts for event volunteers. The closest metros are Farragut North and Farragut West. See [the Metro website](#) for additional information.



Run of Show

- 7:45 AM Speakers/Special Guests arrive for JFK wreath-laying ceremony at 101st Airborne Memorial (opposite Memorial Drive of Visitors Center)
- 8:00 AM JFK wreath-laying ceremony begins at 101st Airborne Memorial, then proceeds to JFK gravesite
- 9:00 AM Guests and media begin to arrive at Memorial Amphitheater. All speakers/special guests will be seated in VIP booths. Event Volunteers will assist with seating. Press interviews for Speakers available on the grassy area outside main entrance to Memorial Amphitheater.
- 9:40 AM Instrumental Music
- 10:00 AM National Anthem / Honor Guard
- 10:05 AM Maureen Orth, Master of Ceremonies
Welcoming remarks, introduces Senator Dodd
- 10:10 AM Senator Chris Dodd
- 10:25 AM Maureen Orth
Introduces Kyle Chow
- 10:28 AM Kyle Chow, Brother of FPCV Joseph Chow
- 10:35 AM Maureen Orth
Introduces Pamela Cameron
- 10:37 AM Pamela Cameron, Mother of FPCV Matt Costa
- 10:45 AM Maureen Orth leads moment of celebration
Introduces Duke Ellington Choir
- 10:50 AM Duke Ellington School of the Arts
Performs one song
- 11:00 AM Maureen Orth
Introduces Chris Austin and Kevin Quigley
- 11:03 AM Chris Austin and Kevin Quigley



RPCV/W

Returned Peace Corps Volunteers
of Washington, DC

Peace Corps 50th Anniversary Event
September 25, 2011 - Arlington National Cemetery

- 11:15 AM Maureen Orth
 Introduces Al Guskin
- 11:17 AM Al Guskin (60's RPCV)
- 11:25 AM Maeve Townsend and Joe Kennedy III
 Introduce Caitlin Givens
- 11:30 AM Caitlin Givens (Recent RPCV)
 Reads winning essay
- 11:38 AM Maureen Orth
 Introduces Duke Ellington Choir
- 11:39 AM Duke Ellington School of the Arts
 Performs one song
- 11:49 AM Maureen Orth
 Introduces Liberian Vice President Joseph Boakai,
- 11:50 AM Joseph N. Boakai
- 11:58 AM Maureen Orth
 Introduce Peace Corps Director Aaron Williams
- 12:00 AM Director Aaron Williams
- 12:10 PM Maureen Orth
 Closing remarks
- 12:13 PM Chris Austin
 Announcements regarding Walk of Flags
- 12:14 PM Duke Ellington
 Sings for 15 minutes while audience exits.
- 12:30 PM Walk of Flags Begins
 Starts at Visitors Center