



Grace Foods Launches Jerk Festival in Washington, DC

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Washington, DC - Caribbean culture will be on show when Grace Foods? hosts its inaugural Jamaican Jerk Festival in celebration of Caribbean American Heritage Month, which is being observed in June.

Grace Foods is pleased to announce the very first Grace Jamaican Jerk Festival, D.C. to be held on Sunday, June 19 at Pennsylvania Avenue, between 12th and 14th Streets NW in Washington D.C. The festival will feature a range of Jamaican jerk delicacies and refreshments, along with top class entertainment provided by some of the Caribbean?s finest musical talents.

Caribbean food and culture will be the main highlight of the festival, which gets underway at 12 noon and is slated to end at 9 pm. The venue will be set up to feature the best of Jamaican and Caribbean cuisine and lifestyle with a Food Village boasting a large variety of tasty Caribbean foods. There will also be a number of features and activities to engage patrons, including a main stage for headline acts, a cultural stage for traditional folk performances and upcoming acts, a kids? zone providing fun activities and interactive games for children, and a Jerk Cook-off Pavilion, which will see top chefs, celebrities and participating restaurants competing for top honors. Additionally, there will be a Sponsor?s Row offering prizes and giveaways to

patrons.

The Grace Jamaican Jerk Festival is presented by the Institute of Caribbean Studies and produced by Jamaican Jerk Festival NY, LLC, with support from the Mayor's Advisory Committee on Caribbean Community Affairs (MACCCA). Billed as a family-friendly event, it will attract residents of Greater Washington, as well as local and international visitors.

In addition to the Caribbean-flavored gastronomical delights that will be on offer, patrons will receive musical entertainment from top Reggae and Soca acts. The entertainment line-up is made up of some well-known names in the regional and international music business, including Freddie McGregor, Christopher Martin and Ikaya, all hailing from Jamaica, along with Barbadian Soca singer, Edwin Yearwood and the Pan Lara Youth Steel Orchestra. Comedian Michael Campbell will perform emcee duties for the festival.

The inaugural staging of the Grace Jamaican Jerk Festival marks the eighth anniversary of the observance of Caribbean American Heritage Month. June was set aside for the celebration by U.S. President, Barack Obama, in recognition of the contribution of the Caribbean people to the American society. With an approximate population of 10 million people from 30 territories, the Caribbean community living in the United States has significantly influenced the country's culture and politics, as well as added to its economic achievements.

Grace Foods' launching of the Jamaican Jerk Festival is aimed at highlighting the legacy and importance of Caribbean culture through its people, food and culture. Presold tickets for the event are currently on sale at various locations across Washington D.C., Maryland and Virginia, but tickets can also be purchased online. Additional information is available at DCjerkfestival.com.

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GraceKennedy

Gracefoods.com, the food website of GraceKennedy Limited, the Caribbean's leading food manufacturer and distributor. Since its beginnings in 1922, GraceKennedy has provided authentic Caribbean food products to generations of Caribbean people.

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