



AMERICA'S 400TH ANNIVERSARY

The Journey That Changed the World

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Jamestown 2007 Sponsors “The Roots of Virginia Culture”

Smithsonian Folklife Festival Focuses on Virginia's Indian, English and African Cultures

Williamsburg, VA. – “The Roots of Virginia Culture” will be on display later this month for more than 1 million visitors to the 41st-annual Smithsonian Folklife Festival. The program is being sponsored in part by Jamestown 2007 and being held on the National Mall in Washington D.C., June 27 – July 1 and July 4 – July 8. This year's event explores Virginia's cultural heritage through performances and exhibits representing the Virginia Indian, West African, English and other cultures that first met along the shores of the James River at Jamestown, Va.

Peanut farmers and orchardists, shipwrights, potters, carpenters, blacksmiths and other artisans from across Virginia will guide visitors through the Commonwealth's rich cultural history during the 10-day festival.

Spotlighting Virginia for the first time since 1977, the Smithsonian Folklife Festival's “Roots of Virginia Culture” program continues the 18-month commemoration honoring the 1607 founding of Jamestown, Va., as America's first permanent English-speaking settlement. Participants from Virginia and Virginia's eight state-recognized Indian tribes will be joined by participants from Kent County, England and Senegal, West Africa.

“The three cultures that converged at Jamestown laid the foundation for modern America. For the first time in 30 years, the Smithsonian Folklife Festival is highlighting Virginia's cultural contributions to American history,” said Jeanne Zeidler, Jamestown 2007's executive director. “Being a part of the

Smithsonian Folklife Festival further underscores the important role Jamestown and the rest of Virginia played in America's development.”

The Smithsonian Folklife Festival is being held on the National Mall between 7th and 14th streets. Festival hours are from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. each day and admission is free. The Festival features concerts, special events and performances extending into most evenings. For more information about Virginia's participation in the Folklife Festival, please visit www.Americas400thAnniversary.com.

Jamestown 2007, a sub-agency of the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, is coordinating efforts to commemorate the 400th anniversary of Jamestown, Va., the first permanent English settlement in the Americas. The nation's first representative government, free enterprise system and culturally diverse society began at Jamestown. State, national, and international commemorative events to salute these legacies began in May 2006 and continue into 2008. Major corporate sponsors of America's 400th Anniversary include Norfolk Southern Corporation (NYSE: NSC), Verizon (NYSE: VZ) and The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. Other supporters include Anheuser-Busch Companies, Inc. (NYSE: BUD), AirTran Airways (NYSE: AAI), Dominion, James City County, Philip Morris USA, SunTrust and Wolseley PLC/Ferguson Enterprises, Inc. More information about the commemoration is available at www.Americas400thAnniversary.com.

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