

News

National Portrait Gallery Smithsonian American Art Museum

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July 17, 2009

Media Advisory

WHAT: Washington Nationals Baseball Family Day

- **WHEN:** Saturday, July 18 11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.
- WHERE: Smithsonian American Art Museum National Portrait Gallery Eighth and F streets N.W.

The National Portrait Gallery and the Smithsonian American Art Museum will host Washington Nationals Baseball Family Day Saturday, July 18, from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Washington Nationals players Josh Bard (catcher) and Josh Willingham (left fielder) will be in attendance until 1 p.m. to pose for pictures with children.

Other activities planned for the event include a baseball-themed scavenger hunt through the museums' galleries, live music featuring original and traditional baseball songs by Steve Vozzolo, a baseball beanbag toss challenge and appearances by players from The Eclipse vintage baseball team of Elkton, Md. Members of the public can enter a raffle to win tickets to a Nationals baseball game, a baseball signed by Nationals players or art posters featuring Babe Ruth. The Washington Post's KidsPost sportswriter Fred Bowen will be on hand to sign his children's books, which will be available for purchase in the museum store.

During the event, the Courtyard Café will feature a cart with baseball-themed treats, including specialty hot dogs, refreshing lemonade and Cracker Jack, for sale by a Nationals uniformed vendor.

Press who want to attend and cover Washington Nationals Baseball Family Day should contact Alex Muckerman. Camera crews must check in with Alex the day of the event; a staff escort is required to film in the galleries.

The museums are located above the Gallery Place/Chinatown Metrorail station. Hours are 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily, except Dec. 25. Admission is free. Smithsonian Information: (202) 633-1000 or TTY (202) 633-5285. Museum information: (202) 633-7970 (American Art), and (202) 633-8300 (Portrait Gallery). Web sites: <u>americanart.si.edu</u> and <u>npg.si.edu</u>.

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