

TIPS to help negotiate Washington, DC

(for those attending DCA's 2008 conference at Kennedy Center, June 13-15)

AIRPORTS. Three airports serve the Washington, DC area.

Reagan National Airport, the closest (4 miles) to the center, is across the Potomac River from the city and adjacent to the suburb of Alexandria, Virginia. It has a DC Metro Rail station.

Dulles Airport is about 26 miles into semi-rural Virginia. It has a designated (Washington Flyer) bus every 20 minutes to a suburban DC Metro Rail station.

Baltimore/Washington Airport is in semi-rural Maryland between Baltimore and Washington, about 45 miles north of the latter. It has a designated but not frequent DC Metro bus to a suburban DC Metro Rail station. BW Airport is underused and fares may be cheaper than to the other two terminals.

RAILWAY STATION. Union Station is Washington's central railroad station. It has a DC Metro Rail station.

BUS TERMINAL. Washington's Greyhound Bus Terminal serves Greyhound, Peter Pan and other but not all bus lines (the Chinatown bus connects New York's and Washington's Chinatowns). The Greyhound Bus Terminal is located near but not at Union Station and its Metro Rail line; the walk between the bus terminal and Union Station is doable except in heavy downpours. Very reasonable fares for Greyhound and Peter Pan are available, but only via Internet.

METRO RAIL & BUS. The DC Metro Rail system requires a ticket for entering **and** exiting. Ticket machines are located at all stations. Metro rail is the fastest way to travel locally, particularly at rush hour. However, the Metro Rail system closes at midnight most nights (3 AM on Fridays and Saturdays) and opens at 5 AM most morning (7 AM on Saturdays and Sundays). There is also a Metro Bus system (exact fare needed). A special, free and frequent Kennedy Center shuttle bus connects the Foggy Bottom Metro Rail Station with the KC.

TAXIS. Washington's cabs are switching from zone fares to meters on May 1, 2008. This may make suburban trips cheaper. Trips within the city may remain much as they were. Ask for an estimate before entering.

DANCE UPDATES. Dance Metro DC's website www.dancemetrodcc.org is the best way to check on the area's dance performances and other dance events including additions, cancellations, and changes to schedules. A preliminary list of performances, press contacts and travel tips during the DCA conference is posted at www.dancecritics.org under Conference.