

OBAMA'S INAUGURATION DAY

Barack Obama will be sworn in as the nation's 44th president on the West Front of the U.S. Capitol on a day steeped in tradition.

Theme for ceremony

"A New Birth of Freedom," from Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. The theme for the entire Inauguration is "Renewing America's Promise."

Military presence

About 5,000 service members will provide ceremonial support in marching bands, color guards and salute batteries.

Program

Music: U.S. Marine Band

Music: San Francisco Boys and Girls Chorus

Call to Order: Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.)

Invocation: Rick Warren

Music: Aretha Franklin

Vice presidential swearing-in: Joseph R. Biden Jr. by Associate Justice John Paul Stevens

Music: John Williams, composer/arranger; Itzhak Perlman, violin; Yo-Yo Ma, cello; Gabriela Montero, piano; Anthony McGill, clarinet

Presidential swearing-in: Barack H. Obama by Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr.

Inaugural address: President Obama

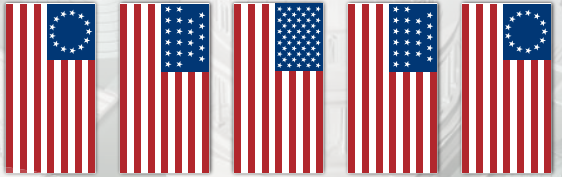
Poem: Elizabeth Alexander

Benediction: Rev. Joseph E. Lowery

National Anthem: U.S. Navy Band "Sea Chanters"

U.S. flags

50-star flag in center; 21-star flags on either side (flown when Illinois joined the Union in 1821); 13-star Betsy Ross flags on far ends



Platform: More than 10,000 square feet; holds about 1,600 guests and dignitaries; built entirely of lumber to protect the surfaces of the Capitol.

Upper West Terrace: Holds about 1,000 guests, choirs.

Swearing-in ceremony

Chief Justice John Roberts administers presidential oath.

"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office of the President of the United States and will to the best of my ability preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States."

The events

- Worship service
- Procession to Capitol of the outgoing president and the president-elect
- Swearing-in ceremony
- Inaugural address
- Departure of outgoing president
- Inaugural luncheon in Capitol's Statuary Hall
- Inaugural parade
- Inaugural balls

Balls ●

There will be 10 official balls and dozens of unofficial ones.

- 1-6 Washington Convention Center
- 7 National Building Museum
- 8 Union Station
- 9 Washington Hilton Hotel
- 10 D.C. Armory

Parade

Tradition: Began in 1809 for James Madison.

Parade route: 1.7 miles

Security: All attendees will be screened.

Bands: At least one from each state

Where to watch

Bring binoculars. It is 0.25 mile from the top of the Capitol steps to the Capitol Reflection Pool.

Inauguration at the Smithsonian Museums on The Mall will have 10 inauguration-related exhibits; open on Inauguration Day

The Mall
2 miles long
300 acres

Ticket holders
All 240,000 get the closest in restricted area.

The public
Can gather on The Mall, watch swearing-in on JumboTrons.

Area for ticket holders

