



Congress of Russian Americans, Inc.

2460 Sutter Street, San Francisco, CA 94115 * tel. 1-415-928-5841 * email: crahq@earthlink.net * www.russian-americans.org

for immediate release

“Russian America: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow”

Founded in 1973, Congress of Russian Americans (CRA), a nationwide organization, headquartered in San Francisco, CA, with chapters throughout the US, has been the recognized voice of Russian-Americans in the US for the past 40 years. The main objectives of CRA are to preserve the Russian spiritual and cultural heritage in the US and to pass it on to the next generation; to defend the interests of Russian-Americans and to foster their participation in the social life of the US; to combat Russophobia and enable the development of friendly relations between the US and Russia.

In 2013, CRA celebrates the fortieth anniversary of its founding and will mark the jubilee with a conference “Russian America: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow”, which will be dedicated to preserving Russian language, culture and history abroad and also, to socio-economic issues to stimulate a better business climate between US and Russia. With the support of the Russian Embassy in the US and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, the conference is planned to be held on Friday, July 26th in the San Francisco Bay Area to enable our out-of-town and out-of-country guests to attend the annual “Fort Ross Festival” at Fort Ross during the weekend of July 27-28, 2013.

The conference will be held on July 26, 2013 at the Russian Center of San Francisco (2460 Sutter St., SF, CA 94115), national headquarters of CRA, with special networking reception, followed by a gala banquet

The purpose of this conference is to bring together US and Russian leaders, Russian American organizations, businessmen, teachers, cultural, historical, and business activists, community leaders and youth representatives. The forum will provide an opportunity to meet other community and business leaders from the different cities and states of America, as well as Russia, discuss common interests and concerns, capitalize on the experience of other Russian Americans, exchange information and network, with a focus on our youth and educational programs, as well as business and economical prospects of a working relationship between US and Russia.

The following topics are proposed for discussions: during the conference:

1. Preserving and strengthening of the Russian language and culture among Russian Americans in the US, with a focus on the younger generation in understanding their culture, heritage and historical roots and to develop leadership skills and encourage their involvement in the community.
2. Development of strong US-Russia Business ties through understanding the business and economic climates of both countries. Networking and building a strong working relationship between the two nations.

Proceeds & donations will go to youth educational & children's humanitarian aid programs in US & Russia.

The conference will be held with the following sessions:

- arrival of participants, registration, receipt of badges and conference material.
- intro by official delegates, incl. Russia's Ambassador to the US, Hon.S.I. Kislyak, the new Consul General to RF in SF, S. V. Petrov, representatives of Russia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ruskyi Mir, representatives of city, state & regional administrations of US & Russia, historians, educators, community leaders and others.
- sessions in culture, history, language, business and media with special guest speakers, on working in and with Russia, investments & economy, as well as audience participation.
- special post-conference reception for networking & opportunity to visit Museum of Russian Culture.

Cost of Conference includes bountiful lunch, breaks & networking reception.

Cost of Gala Banquet includes networking reception, sit-down dinner with wine, concert and music for dancing.

Pre-Registration is mandatory and all participants, incl. Media **must register before July 15** due to limited space.

For registration, information or sponsorship and/or advertising opportunities, please contact the CRA office at crahq@earthlink.net or telephone 1-415-928-5841 Mon.&Weds.- 10:30am-2:30pm

For airline/hotel reservations & tours, please contact Andrey at Russian Connections at congress@gettorussia.com or tel.1-415-434-0100, ext.101, www.gettorussia.com

For sponsorship or advertising opportunities in the program brochure, contact ngsab@aol.com or tel.1-415-928-5841 (Mon.& Weds. 10:30am -2:30pm)

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