



Metropolitan Washington-Baltimore

MISSION: MAIL CALL

Keeping our military community & friends of USO-Metro connected across the National Capital Region

UPCOMING EVENTS >

BBQ BATTLE

Worrying your summer bod will not be ready for July? *Don't!* We'll all be wearing t-shirts in the pool after the 29th Giant® National Capital Barbecue Battle benefiting USO-Metro.

The virtual food and music festival kicks off May 28th and spans all of June. While every BBQ lover has a meaty slate of events ahead, we're particularly excited for the Military Chef Cook Off. One chef from each of the five service branches has been hand-selected for their insane brisket abilities. Can the Coast Guard retain its spot at the top?! Will the Navy redeem last year's dual-branch podium miss? Find out June 1st!

Pictured: Marine Corps Chef Selection Sgt. Alexander Jones, Gibsonville, NC



UPDATES FROM THE FIELD >

TIME TO SHINE

USO-Metro's Operations Team continues to bring fun and impactful programming to our military community. For the month of May, we partnered with **EY** to host our Shine series, formerly known as Project Cinderella. This series of programs focused on engaging and empowering military spouses.

First, we provided complimentary meals to couples at the USO Warrior and Family Center at Bethesda. Next, we deployed the Mobile USO fleet to Marine Corps Base Quantico for the Shine Fun Run on May 16th. Military families enjoyed a day of music, concessions, and plenty of excitement at Butler Stadium. We concluded Shine with our signature Dress & Accessory Boutiques at Bethesda and Fort Belvoir. Scattered in between, we hosted everything from Q&A panels to yoga classes. With the help of **EY**, we provided meaningful and engaging programs to military spouses and families across the region.

DEVELOPMENT >

RUN/WALK TO GIANT THIS JUNE

It's a great time to lace up your running or walking shoes in support of USO-Metro and our local military community. The **2021 Firecracker 5K for the Troops** presented by **Leidos** is held every year on July 4th. Register [here](#) to secure your position in either the in-person or virtual race event. We cannot wait to see you there!



Before hitting the starting line, make a stop at **Giant Food** stores throughout the month of June. As part of their BBQ Battle campaign, customers are able to round-up their purchase total or make a donation to USO-Metro at check-out. Last year **Giant Food** raised over \$1.2 Million and their goal is to exceed that number again this year!

