

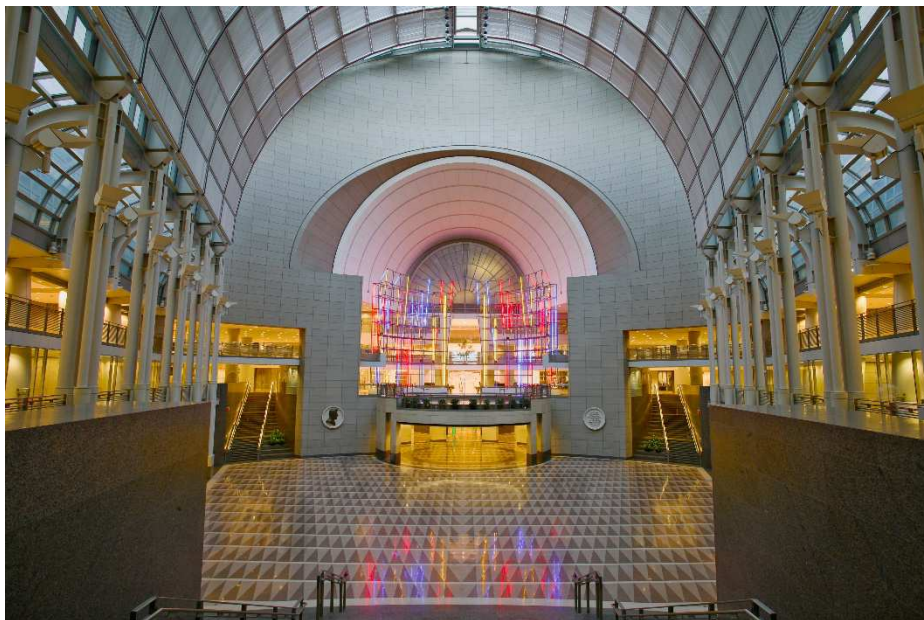


BEST BUDDIES CAPITAL REGION and Trade Center Management Associates Announce a Multi-Year Partnership

*4th Annual Best Buddies PROM 2017 Will Be Hosted in the Atrium of
The Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center
In Downtown Washington, DC on Friday, April 28th
As the Keystone Event Kicking Off the Partnership*

WASHINGTON, DC- October 19, 2016- Best Buddies Capital Region and Trade Center Management Associates (TCMA) for the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center proudly announce a Multi-Year Partnership. The keystone of this partnership is that TCMA will be the Platinum/Presenting Sponsor of the Best Buddies Prom 2017.

This 4th Annual Prom night of music and friendship for young people with and without intellectual and developmental disabilities and the adults who love, support and encourage them, will be held Friday, April 28, 2017 in the Atrium of the Reagan Building in downtown Washington, DC.



The Atrium of the Reagan Building in downtown Washington, DC.

“As the manager of the Reagan Building’s daily activities, TCMA is proud to partner with organizations such as Best Buddies to produce events like these that promote inclusion and further support our mission of bringing together and engaging the DC community,” said John P. Drew, President and CEO of TCMA. “We can’t wait until April to host the 2017 Best Buddies Prom, and we look forward to working with Best Buddies to support their other programs as well.”

“Best Buddies Capital Region is beyond thrilled and also quite honored to partner with the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center and Trade Center Management Associates,” said Karen Glasser, regional director of Best Buddies Capital Region. “We believe that this partnership will truly boost our 2017 Best Buddies Prom to the next level – where young people with intellectual and developmental disabilities [IDD] and their typical peers will enjoy an evening of dancing, food, and friendship in one of DC’s most spectacular buildings. Additionally, the Reagan Building is the ideal venue for adults who believe in Best Buddies’ mission of inclusion to take part in a joyous fundraising event as well. We can’t wait for spring!”

The 2017 Best Buddies Prom will once again be hosted by Prom Committee Chairman Tommy McFly of FRESH 94.7 FM’s *The Tommy Show*. Music will be programmed by popular local pink-haired disc jockey DJ Neekola. A video of last year’s Prom can be found at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LaUCOF06Xv4>

More info on TICKETS and additional sponsorships will be coming soon... at

www.BestBuddiesProm.org.

Additional Best Buddies Capital Region Programs Supported by TCMA:

TCMA will also participate in other Best Buddies Capital Region programs including:

- Ambassador trainings - whereby their staff will serve as speech coaches for our participants with disabilities
- Jobs program - hiring one or more of our adult Best Buddies participants

Funds Raised to Benefit Best Buddies Programs in the Capital Region

Beyond an evening of inclusion and friendship, funds raised at Best Buddies Prom in DC go towards Best Buddies Capital Region programs. One of our goals is to *open more Best Buddies chapters* in Middle Schools, High Schools and Colleges around the Capital Region. The operating cost per chapter -- there are currently forty-six school chapters in DC and VA -- is roughly \$8,000 per year. We have a wait-list of chapters that need to be funded in order to open! By dancing the night away, you’ll also help champion a *Jobs Program* that helps people with IDD find jobs of their choosing in order to earn an income, pay taxes, and work alongside others in the community. In addition, money raised from Prom will support an *Ambassadors Program* that empowers and educates our students with IDD to be leaders and public speakers in their schools, communities and workplaces. Contributions validate and support all of our participants who know that true inclusion is what Best Buddies is all about.

ABOUT BEST BUDDIES:

Best Buddies is a nonprofit 501(c) (3) organization dedicated to creating one-to-one friendships, integrated employment and leadership development for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Each day these young people with intellectual disabilities confront stereotypes and stigmas that make already difficult situations harder – at school, in the job search, and in their neighborhoods. What they need is just a fair chance – to be part of the mainstream of society. We will give them no less.

Founded in 1989 by Anthony Kennedy Shriver, Best Buddies is a vibrant, international organization that has grown from one original chapter to almost 1,700 middle school, high school, and college chapters worldwide. Best Buddies programs engage participants in each of the 50 United States, and in 50 countries around the world.

Best Buddies Capital Region is the state branch of Best Buddies that currently oversees and administers forty-five Middle, High School and College chapters in DC and VA. For more information, please visit <http://bestbuddies.org/find-programs/capital-region/>; www.BestBuddiesProm.org; www.facebook.com/bestbuddiesva; @BestBuddiesCR; #BBCR

About RONALD REAGAN BUILDING AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE CENTER (RRB/ITC)

The Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center is the largest structure (3.1 million square feet) in Washington, DC and is owned by the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) and exclusively managed by Trade Center Management Associates (TCMA). As the first and only federal building dedicated to both government and private use, it is mandated by Congress to bring together the country's best public and private resources to create a national forum for the advancement of trade. The Reagan Building is the official World Trade Center in Washington, DC, and a premier conference and event venue with executive office space, attractions, dining, retail, parking, and community activities.

About TRADE CENTER MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATES (TCMA)

Trade Center Management Associates is the exclusive manager of the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center (RRB/ITC). TCMA's team specializes in International Trade Services, Real-Estate Management and Hospitality. For more information, please visit <http://www.itcdc.com> or @ReaganITCDC #TeamTCMA #wherenationsconnect #whereeventsmatter

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