



# Finding the color around the District

*In D.C. Dream Day, we ask our favorite people in the area to tell us how they would spend a perfect day in the District.*

**Rose Jaffe** credits D.C.'s creative community with being a critical support network that helped launch her prolific art career. Known for her colorful murals around the city — including a depiction of Ruth Bader Ginsburg near the intersection of 15th and U streets in Northwest — she's now giving back to the community through her Petworth studio, the Stew. It's not only a workspace for Jaffe, but also serves as a hub for artists to connect and showcase their creations at

public events.

"I found that creating spaces for artists to meet and connect and heal and express themselves was a great way to bring the community together," says Jaffe, 31.

On her dream day, the full-time artist and Brookland resident would spend time visiting other art spaces around town — and getting some pho in, too.

— as told to Stephanie Williams

I would wake up, make a cup of warm water, and do some meditation. Then, I would go to yoga. I love **Bluebird Sky Yoga** — it's my new favorite neighborhood yoga studio because I live in Brookland now.

I would come home, change, and then go to **Rock Creek Park**. There is a walk by Beach Drive, behind Carter Barron [Amphitheatre], along the creek. I have been taking walks there with my family since I was a kid. I love taking a quick escape from the hustle and bustle and connect with nature but not have to go very far. If it's warm, I would stick my feet in the creek for a bit.

And then, after that, I would go to my very favorite restaurant in D.C., **Pho Viet** [in Columbia Heights]. I love that it is kind of just a little hole in the wall and it's not really a fancy place. It's the best pho I've ever had. I eat a lot of Asian food because I'm gluten free, and it's just delicious.

If I wanted to get inspiration, I would go to the **National Museum of Women in the Arts**, one of my very favorite museums. The gift shop is one of the best museum gift shops in the whole city. It's not only because I have a huge mural in the gift shop ... They really work to highlight local artists in that gift shop, and also fun, feminist art. And then, the building itself — seeing its beautiful interior is a wonder in and of itself, and just the fact that it is a museum of all women artists.

Then I would maybe walk to the **National Portrait Gallery**. The Portrait Gallery is definitely one of the best places in D.C. Specifically, I would check out their rotating exhibition and then I love the third floor, which is contemporary art.

If I had it my way and money were no object, I would go to some fancy restaurant. **Equinox** serves seasonal dishes and is working to eliminate food waste (something I care a lot about). I would get anything that is fresh, vegetarian and seasonal! My partner is also veg, so we might share something and have some wine.

To round out the night, I would go to an art opening. Ideally, my perfect day would be on the first Friday of the month because that's when all the art openings happen. There's **First Friday Dupont** with **Hillyer Art Space**, **Studio Gallery** and more galleries in the neighborhood.

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JONATHAN NEWTON/THE WASHINGTON POST

Last January, visitors could see the work of artist Kumi Yamashita in the "Black Out: Silhouettes Then and Now" exhibition at the National Portrait Gallery. The rotating exhibitions and third-floor contemporary art make this D.C. Dream Day tour.



DIXIE D. VEREEN FOR THE WASHINGTON POST



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LEFT: Pho Viet on 14th Street NW is a hole-in-the-wall place that serves the Vietnamese soup. ABOVE: Rose Jaffe painted this mural of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg near the corner of 15th and U streets NW.