

2027 RCA Convention for VA 2026-07-30

12:31(GMT-4:00)

Key Outcomes

Ruth (convention chair) connected with Dayna from Visit Richmond to plan attendee experiences for a ~150-couple recovery convention at the Omni Hotel in July 2027. Dayna confirmed Visit Richmond can provide historical tours, reenactment arrangements, transportation connections, and on-site visitor materials. Multiple concrete options were identified across entertainment, transportation, and marketing collateral.

Client Requirements

- Showcase **Richmond's local attractions** rather than nearby destinations (beach, mountains)
- Convention theme: "**Bridging Recovery**" — bridges imagery to be incorporated
- **Saturday night entertainment** for ~100 attendees on-site at the Omni
- **Friday daytime activity** (July 23) for ~12 couples arriving before the convention opens
- **Airport transportation** solution for older attendees who prefer not to use Uber/cabs
- **Visitor guides/brochures** for welcome packages or on-site distribution

Decisions & Commitments

- **Bus tour preferred over walking tour** for July heat; air-conditioned bus addresses attendee comfort concerns
- **GRTC free public bus** (airport to downtown/Omni area) identified as primary transportation option to promote
- **Information table at the Omni** to be set up by Visit Richmond with brochures, guides, and current event materials — plus a portion pre-packed in welcome bags
- Dayna will handle tour/transport arrangements either directly or via referrals, per Ruth's preference

Pending Confirmation

- Whether **St. John's Church reenactors** will perform on-site at the Omni (vs. attendees traveling ~5–10 min by car to the church)
- Committee approval required before confirming any entertainment or tour bookings
- Final quantity of visitor guides needed (estimated **100–150 copies**)
- Transportation partner quote for **private shuttle service** from airport for groups

Action Items

- **Dayna:** Confirm with St. John's Church reenactors whether they can perform at the Omni
- **Dayna:** Send Ruth the exact **GRTC bus route, number, and schedule** for airport-to-downtown service
- **Dayna:** Connect Ruth with **private transportation partners** for tailored airport shuttle quotes
- **Dayna:** Share meeting notes follow-up to stay on track with all discussed items
- **Ruth:** Bring tour, reenactment, and entertainment options back to the **convention committee** for approval
- **Ruth:** Confirm final visitor guide quantity and preferred distribution method as convention approaches

Notable Attractions Discussed

- **Historical tours:** Gary Flowers' African American history walking tour (Jackson Ward); bus tours
- **St. John's Church reenactment:** ~1–1.5 hr Patrick Henry "Give me liberty" speech performance
- **Museums:** VMFA, Institute of Contemporary Art, American Civil War Museum, Black History & Culture Museum, Shackles Institute, Holocaust Museum
- **Hollywood Cemetery:** Tours including graves of ~4–5 U.S. presidents
- **Haunts of Richmond:** Guided haunted history walking tours

Next Steps

- Reconnect closer to the event to finalize bookings, confirm reenactor availability, and coordinate the Omni information table setup