



THE OFFICE OF BARACK AND MICHELLE OBAMA

February 2, 2018

We are pleased to send greetings to everyone participating in the Crosscut Festival. Although we could not join you in person in Seattle, we want you to know how grateful we are for your continued dedication to our shared mission of building a brighter, stronger future for the generations to come.

Progress in our nation happens when caring and engaged individuals come together to speak out and hold us accountable to our highest ideals. It's that uniquely American character—enhanced by a rich diversity of beliefs and a deep reservoir of ideas—that has always propelled us forward.

And that is why it is so important for citizens of every party, every background, and every walk of life to stay engaged, to remain involved in their communities, and to participate in our national discourse. We believe our problems are serious, but not insolvable. So during this festival and in the days and weeks to come, we hope you'll hold on to your optimism and never lose faith in the power of one voice to change the trajectory of our country's course. Because by daring to imagine the world as it could be and working tirelessly to realize that vision, you are helping America reach a better tomorrow.

Please enjoy the opportunity to reflect and reenergize, because the work is waiting for you. And as you continue looking for ways to spur progress across the country we both love, know we will be standing right alongside you every step of the way.

*Dream big dreams!*

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Michelle Obama'.

*Michelle Obama*