



INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL  
INTERPRETERS ASSOCIATION  
Leading the advancement of professional interpreters

## 2015 International Congress on Medical Interpreting Opens Registration

November 14, 2014, Boston, USA - The International Medical Interpreters Association (IMIA) is proud to announce dates for an International Congress on Medical Interpreting to take place on April 24-26, 2015 in the nation's capital, Washington DC. The dates were selected to coincide with the Cherry Tree Blossom Season and also to avoid travel delays during the harsh Northern weather during winter.

*"We've had it in January last year, but the board decided to delay it due to the weather and so we could enjoy the beautiful Cherry Blossom Season,"* stated IMIA Executive Director Izabel S. Arocha, MEd, CMI-Spanish. This year their theme is: *United We Are Stronger! Aligning Forces for Good*. The programming will be rich with two plenary panels on Aligning Forces and the Impact of National Certification, book signings, multiple receptions, and a plethora of skills-based workshops to increase the knowledge of medical interpreters and support their continuing educational needs.

Our goal is to create an environment to serve as a forum to showcase all the initiatives in our field. *"We were overwhelmed with a large number of proposals to our call for papers, which indicates there is a strong interest for 2015. We had to shorten the workshop times in order to accept more proposals, and to date we are at 60 interactive workshops,"* stated Fanny Tchorz, Workshop Selection Committee.

A key pre-congress activity with this event, *US Congress Advocacy Day*, is on Thursday, April 23. Interpreters from across the United States as well as other countries will unite to advocate for the provision of certified medical interpreters to ensure patient safety and appropriate language access in healthcare. *"We did this once before in 2010 where interpreters and advocates convened for the first rally for recognition of professional medical interpreters,"* said Jeanette Anders, IMIA Events Committee. *"This was a landmark event and we are calling on interpreters from every state to gather as it is time to take our message to the congressmen's doors once again!"* International attendees learn and have taken some of our advocacy initiatives to their own countries.

Early bird registration ends December 31<sup>st</sup>, <http://www.imiaweb.org/conferences/2015conference.asp>

Sign up to make a difference and actively engage in advocating for certification as a requirement of practice and for national reimbursement.

### About IMIA

The International Medical Interpreters Association (IMIA) is an umbrella association that promotes all standards and best practices in the field of medical interpreting. As an international non-profit organization of medical interpreters, it represents over 2,000 practicing medical interpreters as the ultimate experts in medical interpreting and as the best option for equitable care for minority language patients around the world, promoting language access as a human right. [www.imiaweb.org](http://www.imiaweb.org)