



ARTS MARYLAND

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Key Bridge to get artistic touch for 1812 events

Members of the Maryland Commission on Public Art, Maryland State Arts Council, Maryland Office of Tourism and Maryland Transportation Authority toured the Francis Scott Key Bridge by water and land, Aug. 6, as a prelude to commissioning an installation of public art at the bridge. The project – which is expected to use 21st-century technology – will enhance the bridge in time for the start of the War of 1812 bicentennial celebrations in June 2012, when a parade of tall ships and other vessels sail under the bridge into Baltimore's Inner Harbor.



Morgan State conductor joins Arts Council

Eric Conway, director of the [Morgan State University Choir](#) and chair of the university's Fine and Performing Arts Department, was recently appointed by Gov. Martin O'Malley as the newest member of the Maryland State Arts Council.

"I am excited about this opportunity to serve Maryland on the Arts Council," Conway said. "The Council is vital for shaping the arts in this great state. I certainly look forward to taking on this important job."

Conway was associate conductor and principal accompanist for the Morgan choir prior to becoming its director in 2004. As a pianist, he has toured Eastern Africa and Eastern Asia. He has also performed as a soloist with several orchestras, including the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra and Baltimore Chamber Orchestra. Conway, who has a doctorate from the Peabody Conservatory of Music of the Johns Hopkins University, is also a certified public accountant.



Get familiar with Cultural Data Project

Training sessions for using the [Maryland Cultural Data Project](#) (CDP) – an online management tool for nonprofit arts and cultural organizations – are available this month in Annapolis, Bethesda, Cambridge and Frederick. Two webinars are also available. Check the Maryland State Arts Council web site for [information and online registration](#).

CDP was designed to enhance financial management capacity, evaluate grant-making activities and establish performance benchmarks. Pew Charitable Trusts developed the program and, launched it in Pennsylvania in 2004. It is now used in seven additional states: Maryland, California, Illinois, New York, Massachusetts, Ohio and Michigan. More than 150 public, private, corporate and community-based grant-makers with nearly 170 funding programs are linked to CDP.

Place local events on national *Arts and Humanities* calendar

Organizations can post their [National Arts and Humanities Month](#) events on the [NAHM calendar](#) at the Americans for the Arts web site. The Maryland State Arts Council also welcomes notice of plans and activities.



National Arts and Humanities Month is a nationwide celebration of art and culture during October. Since 1993, NAHM has provided Americans with opportunities to engage with the arts and humanities on local levels. It raises the visibility of the arts, promotes participation in the arts, and encourages legislators and community leaders to show support for the arts.



U.M.'s Driskell Center gets \$150,000 grant

The David C. Driskell Center for the Study of the Visual Arts and Culture of African Americans and the African Diaspora was recently awarded a grant for nearly \$150,000 from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The center is located on the University of Maryland's College Park campus in the Cole Student Activities Building, the former Cole Field House.

This two-year grant will provide support for documenting and presenting the Professor David C. Driskell (*pictured*) Archive of African American Art – a collection of 50,000 objects acquired over a period of more than 60 years. Funds will be used to hire an archivist and two graduate interns, and retain a consulting archivist. Accessibility to the archives will also be enhanced through an online site.

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for libraries and museums across the nation.



Arts in Education Week starts Sept. 12

In late July, the U.S. House of Representatives passed a resolution that designated the second week of September as Arts in Education Week. Rep. Jackie Speier (D-Ca.) introduced the resolution, along with 101 co-sponsors. It's the first time that Congress has expressed support for all of the disciplines in arts education: dance, music, theater and visual arts.

"You cannot have a first-class school system without the arts," said John Ceschini, executive director of the AEMS (Arts Education in Maryland Schools) Alliance. "The arts give students opportunities to think creatively, work collaboratively, solve problems and enhance cross-cultural understandings. We are fortunate to have the commitment of our state and school leaders in recognizing the importance of a strong arts program."

The *Arts in Education Week* resolution comes at a time when Congress is planning to overhaul U.S. education policy through the reauthorization of the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act*, also known as the *No Child Left Behind Act*.



Clarice Smith presents Liz Lerman premiere

Liz Lerman Dance Exchange offers its take on physics and beginnings when it presents the premiere of an interactive performance, *The Matter of Origins*, at the University of Maryland's Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center in College Park, Sept. 10 and 12. Lerman has described the production as "a performance, a conversation, a floor show, a quiz show and a chance to meet big minds."

The first act is a dance presentation with multi-media accompaniment that depicts Marie Curie's lab, the Large Hadron Collider at CERN (European Center for Nuclear Research) and the Hubble Space Telescope. During the second act, members of the cast serve tea to the audience in an interpretive representation of Edith Warner's tea house in Los Alamos, N.M. – a gathering spot for scientists working on the Manhattan Project.

Liz Lerman Dance Exchange, established in 1976, is based in Takoma Park. It received co-commissions from Clarice Smith and Peak Performances at Montclair State University (N.J.) to create *The Matter of Origins*. Clarice Smith has posted an interview with Liz Lerman discussing the production on its web site.



Funk, arts leader at bi-county commission, stepping down

Barbara Funk is retiring from her position as head of the Arts & Cultural Heritage Division at the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, an organization that serves both Montgomery and Prince George's counties. During her tenure at the commission, which began in 1974, she guided the renovation of Publick Playhouse and opened Arts/Harmony Hall Regional Center.

She also developed partnerships with the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center, Bowie Center for the Performing Arts and the Gateway Arts Center. She was a strong proponent of the Gateway Arts District. During a 20-year span, she coordinated a series of arts programs for Black History Month. Funk has served on boards for the Cultural Alliance of Greater Washington and the Prince George's Arts Council.

IN THE NEWS

- **Founder's departure leads to Maryland Shakespeare Festival transitions**
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- **Frank Zappa celebration consolidated to Sept. 19**
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- **Warren St. John, *One Maryland One Book* author, tours Maryland this month**
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- ***In Sight: Our Story* airing on Comcast's channel 77**
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- **MICA opening year-round community center for arts in East Baltimore**

EVENTS

Lewis Museum presents Druid Hill Park exhibition

Stories and imagery showing the relationship of Baltimore's African-American community with Druid Hill Park – especially during the 1940s and 1950s – are on display at the Reginald F. Lewis Museum until Dec. 5. *Druid Hill Park: A Community's Pride*, a Maryland Community Space exhibition, coincides with the 150th anniversary of the park in October.

Penn. Ave. festival celebrates Royal Theater community

A parade of Cadillacs, 40 musical groups, a fashion show and heritage-trail tours are all part of The Royal Theater and Community Heritage Corporation (TRTCHC)'s *Pennsylvania Avenue Homecoming Festival*, Labor Day weekend, Sept. 3-5 in West Baltimore. TRTCHC is a nonprofit dedicated to the redevelopment of West Baltimore's Historic Pennsylvania Avenue. The Royal Theater was once a venue for headliners such as Cab Calloway, Eubie Blake and Billie Holiday.

Eastern Shore festival to auction wine, art

Somerset County's first annual *Princess Anne Wine and Arts Fest* is Sept. 11. Wine and art will be auctioned at the festival. The art comes from a month-long *plein-air* event, *Painting Princess Anne*.

Many Moon Festival returns in September

Asian culture and traditions will be in the limelight at Towson University's *Many Moon Festival 2010*, Sept 12, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. The bi-annual festival has an expanded program of showcases, performances and demonstrations that include: music and dance; arts and crafts; short films; puppet theater; martial arts; yoga; and feng shui. To join the Asian Arts & Culture Center, call 410-704-2807, or e-mail Katherine O'Donovan.

Western Maryland celebrates Appalachian heritage

Frostburg State University presents its fifth annual *Appalachian Festival*, Sept. 18, with related events on Sept. 16-17. The free festival showcases the Appalachian region's history, culture, natural environment, and music and art traditions. *Appalachian AdVentures: Celebrating the Region's Entrepreneurial Spirit* runs on Sept. 16-17, and the *Appalachian Film Festival* is Sept. 17. Call 301-687-4102 for more information.

Baltimore Book Festival plans full weekend

More than 200 celebrity and local authors will be at the 15th annual *Baltimore Book Festival*, Sept. 24-26 in Mount Vernon Place. The free weekend event includes poetry readings, workshops, panel discussions, cookbook demos and children's activities, along with dozens of exhibitors and booksellers, live music and food. Nigel Barker, Holly Robinson Peete, Jesse Ventura and Sherri Shepherd are some of the authors who will participate.

Local stars to dance for Harford's art center

Dancing for the Arts, an annual fundraiser for Harford County's Center for the Arts, is Oct. 2 at the Residents' Club at Bulle Rock. Event includes auction, food and drink, and dancing competition. Call 410-838-2177 for ticket information.

Silver Spring street festival showcases world cultures

Performers from China, Latin America, Africa and across the U.S. will be

featured at *Magical Montgomery Festival – A Celebration of Arts and Heritage*, Oct. 9, noon to 6 p.m. in Silver Spring's arts and entertainment district.

NASAA stages *Assembly 2010* in Texas

The National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (NASAA) presents its annual conference in Austin, Tx., Oct. 14-16. *Assembly 2010* includes briefing sessions, dialogue sessions, presentations and networking opportunities. NASAA is a membership organization dedicated to strengthening state arts agencies through research and education services, national representation and advocacy, and networking.

OPPORTUNITIES & DEADLINES

- **Poetry Out Loud contest open to grades 10-12**
Registration for Maryland's expanded *Poetry Out Loud* competition this school year has begun. Students in grades 10-12 at all Maryland schools can compete. Call or e-mail Chris Stewart, 410-767-6476, for a teacher's guide to the program. Also, visit the *Poetry Out Loud* web site for recorded recitations by past winners and a video about the competition. Maryland's *Poetry Out Loud* champion, Nora Sandler (Montgomery County), finished third in the 2010 national contest, which is presented by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation.
- **Arts in Communities applications due soon**
Applications for the *Arts in Communities* grant program must be filed by Sept. 15. Among other aspects, this program extends funding to organizations that deliver programming to underserved audiences. Call or e-mail Shirley Howard, 410-767-6542, for more information.
- **Apply for visiting performer, artist-in-residence rosters**
Arts in Education (AiE) is a Maryland State Arts Council program designed to boost the arts and arts education in the state's elementary and secondary schools. Two major components of AiE are the Visiting Performers and Artists-in-Residence programs. Artists and arts organizations can apply for registration on Arts Council rosters as visiting performers or artists-in-residence. Residencies are available in performing arts, playwriting, poetry and visual arts. In an average year, the Arts Council supports about 7,000 performances and workshops, reaching 200,000 students in nearly 500 Maryland schools. Deadline for applications is Sept. 17. Call or e-mail Chris Stewart, 410-767-6476, for information.
- **Learn how to apply for a state bond for a capital project**
Maryland Citizens for the Arts (MCA) offers two free training sessions for arts organizations interested in proceeding with capital projects by securing state bonds. Del. Adrienne Jones, speaker pro tem, and Douglas R. Mann, chair, MCA board will lead the sessions: Oct. 19, 10 a.m. at Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts in Annapolis; and Oct. 26, 2 p.m. at Lyric Opera House in Baltimore. RSVP to MCA to attend.
- **Grants for Organizations deadline approaching** Applications for the FY2012 Grants for Organizations program are due Oct. 21. Organizations new to the program must submit the *Intent to Apply* form by Oct. 5. All applications require eGrant and the Maryland Cultural Data Project.

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