

BALTIMORE

OFFICE OF PROMOTION & THE ARTS

WHO WE ARE & WHAT WE DO

The mission of the Baltimore Office of Promotion & The Arts, Inc. is to make Baltimore a more creative and vibrant city by:

- Producing high-quality special events, arts programs and festivals that stimulate communities economically, artistically and culturally;
- Inspiring and promoting literary, performing and visual arts and artists;
- Celebrating Baltimore's rich, diverse heritage while enhancing the quality of life and sense of community for all residents;
- Forging partnerships that make Baltimore a premiere visitor destination;
- Managing cultural and historic attractions;
- Generating positive local, national and international publicity about Baltimore.

EVENTS WE PRODUCE

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade **January 17, 2011**

This commemoration of the birth of Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. features floats, marching bands and church choirs; it's produced in partnership with the Baltimore City Community Relations Commission.

LOTTA ART **April 24, 2010**

An evening centered around a lottery-style drawing to benefit School 33 Art Center's exhibitions and education programs, each ticket holder is guaranteed a piece of artwork, donated by one of more than 175 local artists. Doors open at 6pm. Drawing begins at 7:30pm.

Baltimore Farmers' Market **May 2 – December 19, 2010**

Neighbors and friends enjoy an abundance of fresh fruits, vegetables, breads, organic foods, smoked meats, cheeses, crafts and more fill the state's largest producers-only market.

MECU's Pee Wee Preakness **May 11, 2010**

Junior jockeys race to the finish line on bouncy hippity hops at MECU's Pee Wee Preakness in Federal Hill Park, located on Warren Street near Battery Avenue.

Baltimore's Fourth of July Celebration

July 4, 2010

An array of entertainment throughout the day culminating with a spectacular fireworks finale at 9:30 p.m. at the Inner Harbor.

Artscape

July 16-18, 2010

The region's premier celebration of the visual and performing arts featuring continuous musical performances by local, regional and national talent on three outdoor stages, indoor and outdoor visual arts exhibitions, film, theater, the Artists' Market with crafts and works of art for sale, opera, dance, street theater and hands-on activities for children.

Baltimore Book Festival (15th anniversary!)

September 24 -26, 2010

The mid-Atlantic's premier celebration of the literary arts takes place in Mount Vernon Place with well-known authors, local bookstores, publishers, children's writers, storytellers, author signings, crafts, refreshments and entertainment.

Open Studio Tour

October 9 & 10, 2010

Visitors observe more than 100 of Baltimore's visual artists in their local studios during this annual tour on Saturday and Sunday from Noon – 5 p.m.

Baltimore's New Year's Eve Spectacular

December 31, 2010

Ring in the New Year with a night of live music at the Amphitheater and then countdown to 2011 with spectacular fireworks show choreographed to music over Baltimore's scenic Inner Harbor.

FACILITIES WE MANAGE

School 33 Art Center

This center for Baltimore's contemporary visual arts is dedicated to providing affordable opportunities for artists and the general public through professional art classes, exhibitions, workshops, a Studio Artist Program and annual special events such as the Open Studio Tour in October and the LOTTA ART Benefit in April. Call 410-396-4641 or visit www.school33.org for more information.

The Cloisters

Complete with a cloistered garden and based on late medieval French and English Architecture, the 60-acre estate in Brooklandville was bequeathed to the City of Baltimore by its original and native Baltimore owners. It currently operates as one of the prime rental and reception facilities in the Baltimore metro area. Visit www.cloisterscastle.com for more information.

Top of the World Observation Level

Located on 401 East Pratt Street on the 27th floor of the World Trade Center in Baltimore, this attraction provides visitors with a breathtaking view of the Inner Harbor, city of Baltimore and the Chesapeake Bay. Top of the World is open from Labor Day to Memorial Day, Wednesday-Sunday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; from Memorial Day to Labor Day its open daily, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. and on Saturdays until 8 p.m.

The Historic Bromo Seltzer Tower

The Bromo Seltzer Arts Tower, located at 21 South Eutaw Street, is a cultural and architectural icon in Baltimore City and has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places since 1973. As one of BOPA's newest projects, the building, which has been empty since March 2002, has undergone a renovation and been converted into non-residential artists' studios and gallery spaces, which are open to the public one Saturday every month.

CULTURAL PROGRAMS

Artist-in-Residence Program (AIR)

By recruiting the most outstanding professional artists to teach inside Baltimore City Public Schools, this program offers exceptional fine arts immersion opportunities for elementary, middle and high school students during the school year. The Artist-in-Residence Program has conducted month-long workshops in more than 107 Baltimore City schools since the program began in the fall of 2002.

Arts & Humanities Month

BOPA collaborates with the Mayor's Office and the Greater Baltimore Cultural Alliance to produce the Mayor's Cultural Town Meeting during Arts & Humanities Month. The meeting is open to all and focuses on the importance of the arts to the revitalization of Baltimore.

Baltimore City Arts & Entertainment Districts

The Station North Arts & Entertainment District is located around the intersection of Charles Street and North Avenue. The 358-acre Highlandtown Arts & Entertainment District is centered on Eastern Ave. near Patterson Park. These state designated districts encourage arts-related businesses and activities through tax incentives and abatements. BOPA provides both districts with technical assistance.

Baltimore Cultural Resource Guide

This on-line guide provides essential information on over 250 arts institutions, attractions, and performing artists in the Greater Baltimore area. BOPA accepts applications from organizations and individuals interested in being included in the Baltimore Cultural Resource Guide year-round.

Baltimore Mural Program

In an effort to combat the problem of graffiti, this nationally recognized project works with artists, neighborhood groups and associations, and funding sources to commission murals in neighborhoods across Baltimore.

Bright StARTS Art Workshops

From October through June, BOPA offers free artist-led workshops throughout the city at various after-school programs to Baltimore City children ages 7-15 years old. Workshops are taught by professional artists who are also experienced teachers. The children's artwork is exhibited once a year.

PNC Bank Neighborhood Grant Program

Community grant program that provides funding and education (via workshops) enabling citizens to conduct events such as festivals, fundraisers, street fairs and concerts into their communities and neighborhoods. Funds are available to Baltimore City neighborhood associations, parent groups, churches, arts and culture programs and nonprofit community based groups. Activities must be of value to residents and open to the public.

Division of Film, Video & Television

Baltimore has been the setting of many feature films and television shows including "Enemy of The State," "Ladder 49," "Homicide: Life on the Street," "The Wire" and more. Their mission is to provide exceptional service to motion picture production companies scouting and shooting in the City of Baltimore. They serve as an aggressive advocate for film, video and television companies and act as their liaison to Baltimore city government, residential and business communities.

Free Fall Baltimore

Free Fall Baltimore is a city-wide celebration of the arts. This program champions the important role creativity plays in building a vibrant, exciting and livable city. Cultural organizations offer free performances, exhibitions, workshops and events throughout the month of October.

Public Art/1% for Art

Public Art is an important component of our cityscape, which provides artistic enhancements that improve the quality of life of Baltimore residents, offers visibility to the arts, improves the climate for artistic creativity in the city, stimulates and supports our artists, and promotes understanding and awareness of the visual arts in the public environment. Through the Public Art Commission, BOPA enforces the One Percent for Art Ordinance, which administers the expenditure of public funds, at least 1% of the construction costs of a public project, for the commissioning of art works and the care and maintenance of the city's public art collection.