

## CHAPTER 5

# OUT AND ABOUT IN BALTIMORE

Baltimore has a lot to offer its residents, from art museums to dive bars, galleries to drag shows, music to architectural feats. These places are nestled within old neighborhoods, which maintain their unique character as they undergo

change. It's a perfect city for the exploration of what has come before, and the discovery of a favorite niche. This chapter will introduce you to some of the goings-on around town.

## ■ Touring Baltimore by day

If you have a car, you can get a lay of the land by driving. But those who must walk or bus to their destinations will have no trouble finding a lot to do and see along the way. If you have time for a sunny Saturday afternoon jaunt around the city and a thirst for exploration, daytime Baltimore excursions are many and varied.

Pounding the pavement is a great way to experience the fabulous historic architecture and get the flavor of each unique neighborhood. Here are 5 walking tours around the city to get you started, with maps on **Page X** of this guide.

### Self Guided Walks

#### *Your Home Turf: Homewood*

##### 1) Canterbury-Tuscany

This loop will take you into the neighborhoods north of campus, so start at the North Entrance to campus at E. University Ave. by the sports fields. Cross University towards **One World Café**, and if you are going for a stroll, grab a tasty fresh-squeezed fruit or veggie juice for the road. This route is also very nice for a jog. Take Canterbury past One World Café straight into the residential neighborhood, and enjoy the pretty gardens and homes. Turn left at Tuscany, and check out the enormous and impressive new elementary school on your right. When you hit Linkwood, turn right, and as you cross Overhill you will see a little path

through the grass that you can take instead of the sidewalk. It may not be a hike through the wilderness, but at least you are walking on a dirt trail! Meander your way through the quaint neighborhood, and you will find yourself entering a little park and medium-sized field of grass. The path continues north to Cold Spring Lane, a rather busy street. Loyola College will be in front of you. Turn left on Cold Spring, and follow the sidewalk uphill until you come to a very cute and inviting cluster of small shops, cafes, and restaurants. Now would be an ideal time to refuel at **Need Ice Cream** or **The Evergreen Café**, which face each other

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amidst the other small Mom & Pop shops. To get home, head south on Keswick and plunge back into the neighborhoods. These homes are a bit larger than those you have traversed on the way, and some of the architecture is quite impressive. When you hit W. University, turn

left to complete your loop. As you head East on University, you will find yourself in front of the North Entrance to campus and One World Café. What a pleasant break from the library or your apartment!

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## 2) Hampden Dell

Start at the South Entrance to campus at Wyman Park Dr. and Art Museum Dr. Head north on Wyman Park Dr. and as it merges into San Martin, keeping campus on your right. FYI, this route is a bit inconsistent in terms of sidewalk, but the road is very quiet and low-traffic. Oftentimes there are more people walking and jogging than cars. You will twist and turn along this road, perhaps gaining a new perspective of Hopkins as viewed from its western edge. On your left will be a continuous strand of trees, plunging into a creek below and park beyond. You're headed into that park. When you get to E. University, turn left and take the bridge across the creek. At Tudor Arms, turn left and enjoy the long, winding dirt path going south through the expansive Hampden Dell, a stretch of the **Wyman Park**. On your right will be a

friendly stretch of row houses, with just a touch of the quirky Hampden style. As you explore the park, you may catch a pick-up soccer game in one of the fields, observe dogs playing, and see children enjoying the playground. The path will eventually dead-end at Remington just past the playground. Take Remington across another bridge over the same creek, and then turn left immediately after the bridge at Wyman Park Dr. A bit further up Wyman Park Dr., and you will find yourself at the edge of campus right where you began, only a bit more relaxed and comfortable in your 'hood!

\*Insider Info: Hey runners, combine the first two loops (they intersect at University Parkway) for a super duper loop.

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## *Going Seaward: The Inner Harbor*

### 3) Waterfront Walk

So you're sick of the lack of corporate entertainment in Charles Village? You want to paddle around on plastic dragon boats in one of the deepest shipping channels in the US? Then the Inner Harbor is the place for you. Interest in the use of this obsolete shipping dock began in 1970 with a festival that drew 340,000 people to a then abandoned area of the city. Based on the festival's success, a more permanent development was built that draws hordes of strolling visitors daily. The #3 bus picks up along St. Paul and drops off at the **Baltimore Visitors Center** at the southern end of the harbor, and

is a good place to start your walk. Tickets to all of the attractions can be purchased at the visitor center. To the South is the **Maryland Science Center**, and **Federal Hill Park**. Heading north along the promenade, you will pass a series of moderately upscale restaurants and stores on your left, leading to the center of activity at the Inner Harbor, where Light Street intersects with the harbor. The **USS Constellation**, the last Civil War battleship still afloat, is moored here. It offers hourly tours and activities. This is also the launching point for the water taxi to Fell's Point and the aforementioned dragon boats. If

shopping is your thing, turn left and proceed to **The Gallery**, a shopping center just across Pratt Street. Otherwise, follow the harbor towards Baltimore's **World Trade Center**, the world's tallest equilateral pentagonal tower, designed by I.M. Pei (best known for designing the glass pyramids at the entrance to the Louvre in Paris). At 423 feet, the center offers a viewing deck on the top floor. Beyond the center are decommissioned Navy ships and submarines, and the

acclaimed **National Aquarium in Baltimore**. Stop by on Friday evenings from September to February, when admission is only \$7.50 after 5 p.m. As a final stop, the **Power Plant Live** is two blocks north of the Aquarium, and offers nightclubs and restaurants to top off your Inner Harbor experience.

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## *Ahh The Architecture: Peabody & Mt. Vernon*

### 4) Historic Mt. Vernon Walk

Amongst its quiet fountains and stately architecture, Mount Vernon provides a relaxed shopping quarter and cultural center. The best way to get a sense of the area is to take a stroll down Charles Street. From the southbound shuttle stop at Peabody, walk up Mount Vernon Place towards the **Washington Monument**. This monument, begun in 1815 and completed in 1842, predates the more famous one in DC. Local legend has it that the original designer, booted off the commission by the city government, enacted revenge by altering the design of the statue; view the monument from the base, look up at Washington's profile, and you'll see what we mean. After paying \$1 you can visit the gift shop at ground level, view the photo and text displays, and then burn off a week's worth of beer with a 228-step climb to the top. Directly to the south of the monument, **Peabody Institute** and the **Walters Art Museum** flank

the street. The Walters shows a series of excellent exhibits. The Peabody recently unveiled its elegantly refurbished library, performing spaces and new main concourse. Continuing one block south on the corner of N. Charles and Mulberry Street, you'll find the **Basilica of the National Shrine of the Assumption** (the first Catholic cathedral built in the U.S.), designed by Benjamin Latrobe, who also designed the U.S. Capitol Building. The lovely Basilica is one of the finest examples of neoclassical architecture in the world, complete with funky onion domes. The Basilica has been closed for renovations the past few years, but should be reopened by the end of 2006. Wander down the newly improved Charles Street and explore the shops, restaurants and boutiques lining the streets. Loop back and pick up the Hopkins shuttle at the monument.

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## *For True Explorers: East Baltimore*

### 5) The Patterson Park Loop

A bit further out than our other walks, this pleasant destination is well worth it if you're willing to go the extra mile. It's actually only about 15 minutes driving, or you can catch the number 10 bus from Fell's Point. If you would

like to see some of the city's property revitalization efforts, go for a walk around the periphery of the large, hilly, tree-spotted, lawn-covered "Central Park." Starting at Eastern and Patterson Aves., walk the circumference of the park.

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You'll notice that the homes bordering Patterson Park are of the typical row house variety, but are exceptionally well-kept and pleasant, owing to the recent refurbishment of these once-abandoned abodes. Inside the park, there is an ornate pagoda on the west side, as well as several soccer fields, baseball diamonds, and other sports facilities throughout. Check out [www.pattersonpark.com](http://www.pattersonpark.com) for a list of events held

in the park, including many seasonal festivals such as the Polish Festival or Latinofest, both held there every summer.

\*Source assistance for these walking tours was found in [A Guide To Baltimore Architecture](#), 1981, Tidewater Publishers.

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## Guided Tours

If you would like to tour Baltimore with an informed guide, Baltimore Heritage Walking Tours provide architectural and cultural excursions around town. Tours are daily during the summer, at 10 a.m. and 12 noon, visit the web site at [www.heritagewalk.org](http://www.heritagewalk.org) for details. For information, call 410-332-9992. Also, the

Baltimore Area Convention and Visitors Association has a thorough list of group walking tours, including spooky ghost walks, tours detailing the immigrant experience, and how the past is inscribed into the present. Tours vary in length and price. Visit [www.baltimore.org](http://www.baltimore.org).

## ■ Hitting the town

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### : Dance and Sing Your Heart Out and Your Night Away

When the clock strikes Baltimore's witching hour and no matter what your mood, you should be able to find a club, bar, or music venue to satisfy your need for nightlife. A word to the wise: the city tends to dry up around 2 a.m. (and they hustle you out quickly), so drink your beer before it turns into a pumpkin. Be sure

to check the City Paper ([www.citypaper.com](http://www.citypaper.com)) or the numbers we've provided for hours and events before heading out, and for additional places.

Note: No frills watering holes (i.e. basic bars) are listed in Chapter 6.

## Charles Village and Hampden

During the day, you can find locals lounging in front of neighborhood hangouts on St. Paul and N. Charles near campus, but by night Charles Village seems relatively deserted (except the occasional herd of undergrads walking to a fraternity party) and doesn't suggest that there is fun to be had. While mostly true, fun can be found near campus, if you know where to look.

**Clubs:** The Ottobar offers a music venue and bar downstairs, while the upstairs has comfy sofas and two pool tables. Daily happy hours often feature live jazz entertainment. From nerd rap to hip hop or death metal, the Ottobar books it all, and the fans of the sub-culture-genre-of-

the-night will be lining up outside.

**Live Music:** For one-stop shopping, Frazier's on the Avenue boasts food, drink, and entertainment. On Tuesdays, be the next American Idol on the karaoke mic. Friday and Saturday nights, enjoy live music. The funky Hon Bar

will whisk you away to the Hairspray days of Hampden's historic past, as will your server's hairsprayed beehive! Check out the weekly listing for live bands ranging from jazz to rock, and find out what time the early bird can catch a happy hour special.

## Mount Vernon

Frequented by students, hipsters, and artists, Mount Vernon buzzes by night amidst the splendor of well-preserved 19<sup>th</sup> century architectural interiors. Some places are polished, others more rustic, and several offer opportunities to go footloose. Most of these locations are a stone's throw away from the Hopkins shuttle's Penn Station or Peabody stops, on the popular bus routes from Charles Village (3, 11), or are a reasonably-priced cab ride from campus (about \$6 each way).

**Clubs:** **The Hippo** is an entire entertainment complex that has everything from pool tables, to a piano bar which hosts the "Miss" Maryland pageant, to a huge dance floor with a state-of-the-art light system. It's predominantly gay, but Saturday nights are mixed, and they have a women's night once a month. On Wednesdays, try your luck at bingo. **Grand Central**, caddy-corner to The Hippo, is another Mt. Vernon club that caters largely to the gay community. It is in the midst of many other great nighttime locales, as well.

**Club Phoenix**, a new but sure-to-become favorite for the Renaissance Clubber, features ladies night on Thursday, DJed oldies, 70's, and 80's on Friday, country on Saturday, afternoon tea dance (sorry, no tea served) on Sunday, and every other Sunday, a drag show is performed. **13<sup>th</sup> Floor at the Belvedere** is a pleasant lounge that offers stellar views of the city and a good martini. They often host live concerts or a DJ to get you onto the dance floor. For after-hours enjoyment at the Belvedere, head downstairs

(from the 13<sup>th</sup> floor, that is) to **Kobe Teppan and Sushi** for sushi and a DJ, but be sure to wipe that spicy tuna off of your hands before you grab a dance partner. No alcohol is served. **The Red Maple**, a superswank "lounge international," hosts belly dancing and sounds of the Middle East every Wednesday, occasional live salsa, and a DJ with accompanying live percussion Thursday through Saturday.

**The Spy Lounge**, befitting of its name, is well-hidden behind a swinging bookcase within a typical bar called the **Midtown Yacht Club**, through which one must traverse in order to get to the Spy's "door." Once inside, dark, secluded rooms offer a hideaway to talk and enjoy a drink, while others feature dance floors. The DJ spins trance, dance, and house music. Still haven't had enough of Mt. Vernon? Dance until the sun rises at **Club 1772**.

**Live Music:** The Irish pub **Mick O'Sheas** is a great place to grab a corned beef sandwich and a Guinness, and listen to anything from Irish, to bluegrass, hip-hop, or rock.

**Sascha's** is mainly a restaurant (pricey food, cheap martinis), but has begun hosting jazz on Thursday nights from 9-11:30 p.m. A short detour from the main drag will help you find entertainment at **The New 5 Seasons** restaurant and lounge, which features comedy nights, live bellydance, reggae concerts, poetry slam, and more. Call ahead for the night's specialty and cover charge (usually around \$5).

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## The Inner Harbor

Inevitably someone will drag you downtown to the urban mall that is the inner harbor. The area features some of the larger spaces in Baltimore, but also involves high parking costs (\$20+) if you can't find a meter, and expensive drinks. Many of the venues are parts of a chain, but if you want a drink with a view, check out the following:

**Clubs:** Fight the crowds at **Hammerjacks**, **Hard Rock Café**, and the **ESPN Zone**, all of which are pretty much in and around the old Power Plant. Similarly, **Power Plant Live!** (we didn't voluntarily put in that exclamation

point!) is a conglomeration of clubs with super trendy décors and a painful degree of unoriginality. In this enclave of entertainment, find the **Baja Beach Club**, **Bar Baltimore**, **Babalu's**, and **Have a Nice Day Café**. Nearby, but much less touristy, is the **Havana Club**, which has a DJed salsa night. Or, get your goth, industrial, synth-pop, and '80s retro at **Club Orpheus**.

**Live Music:** Check the snazzy website for the Power Plant Live's! updated live entertainment listings.

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## Fell's Point/Canton

East of the Inner Harbor and just slightly off the beaten track, this waterfront neighborhood nostalgically remembers its fisherman village past. However, if you show up at night, rather than a weathered mariner with tales of the high seas, you're more likely to encounter a tipsy 20-something from one of the local colleges.

**Clubs:** The **Latin Palace** hosts spicy salsa dancing, among other Latin dance favorites (including merengue, bachata, cumbia, and cha-cha) with either a live band or DJ, depending on the night. If you need a bit of a brush-up on your moves, take a lesson on Friday night. Don't let the tacky neon lights, fake palm trees, and tropical wall murals fool you...the music is good and the atmosphere is fun! **Paradox's** DJs spin hiphop, house, rave, and jungle music all night long, well past 5 a.m. on weekends. Their wooden dance floor is massive, and they have good sound and lighting.

**Live Music:** **Fletcher's** presents up-and-coming alternative and rock bands several nights a week, and has pool tables, foosball, and a 100-CD jukebox downstairs. **Bertha's** offers more than her famous mussels; on Tuesdays you can hear jazz, Fridays and the second and fourth Saturday listen to blues, and the first and third Wednesdays offer Dixieland. The **Cat's Eye Pub** has daily live music, mainly featuring blues. In addition, Mondays feature jazz. **Full Moon Saloon** has live blues Sunday to Thursday, and bring your favorite instrument for the daily open jam sessions. Friday and Saturdays feature national acts that play rockabilly and rock (Friday) and blues (Saturday); \$5 cover. Yummy Creole and Southern fair, befitting of the music, is also served.

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## Federal Hill

This neighborhood, near the Inner Harbor but

not "of the Inner Harbor," retains its individu-

ality with a host of small, unique locales. If you are seeking a diverse mix of fellow fun-lovers, and a variety of nightspots, this is your neighborhood.

**Clubs:** **Little Havana Restaurante y Cantina** has Cuban food, and on Friday's offers a DJ and dancing. During nice weather, enjoy the view from the deck overlooking the waterfront. An upscale and contemporary lounge called **Sky Lounge** provides both relaxing and grooving,

with a DJ spinning house/hip hop (Wednesday features old school). There are two floors of enjoyment; while you are lounging downstairs in a candlelit corner, just look up to see the dancing upstairs atop an opaque dance floor overhead. Open Wednesday through Sunday, usually with no cover. Tapas are served daily from 5:30-10:30 p.m., and they have a happy hour.

## Other Neighborhoods and Nighttime Activities

Some of the following listings are nearby but not within the previous regions, while others await your visit from an undiscovered realm of the city. Check out a few more moonlighting opportunities in Baltimore.

**Clubs:** **Club Charles** and the **Zodiac** are south of Charles Village on N. Charles St. They are connected by a sneaky back passageway (they are also next to each other and you can enter either from the sidewalk, if you're not so sneaky). Check in advance for their hip First Fridays dance party, with a DJ spinning funky 80s retro flair. If you're not dancing, enjoy the mood lighting, sorcery/zodiac décor, and comfy swivel chairs. Across the street, **Club Choices** is an urban hip hop, R&B, and soul joint with a slightly dubious façade (and you'll find it next to the 24-hour bail bond mart), but it draws a sizeable crowd owing to some good

dancing inside.

Across town and east of Mt. Vernon, **Sonar** is a large club hidden under the freeway in a less-than-conspicuous building. Inside the two huge rooms of vast dance space will impress you. There are plenty of plush couches along the periphery to rest and enjoy a drink. One of the rooms was recently opened to host rave-like parties, with a line-up of renowned DJ's spinning house, trance, jungle, and dance.

**Live Music:** **New Haven** is located in an obscure shopping center in northeast Baltimore. Though it may be in a new neck of the woods for you, this club touts itself as "the best jazz in Baltimore." And, there's no cover charge!

### Bars and Clubs

**Baja Beach Club**, 55 Market Place (Downtown), 410-727-0468, [www.bajabeachbaltimore.com](http://www.bajabeachbaltimore.com)

**Bar Baltimore**, 4 Market Place (Downtown), 410-385-2992, [www.barbaltimore.com](http://www.barbaltimore.com)

**Bertha's**, 734 S. Broadway (Fell's Pt.), 410-327-5795

Cat's Eye Pub, 1730 Thames St. (Fell's Pt.), 410-276-9866, [www.catseyepub.com](http://www.catseyepub.com)

**Club Charles**, 1724 N. Charles St. (Charles North), 410-727-8815

**Club Choices**, 1815 N. Charles St. (Charles North), 410-752-4602

**Club One**, 300 East Saratoga & Guilford St., 410-230-0049, [www.onebaltimore.com](http://www.onebaltimore.com)

**Club Orpheus**, 1003 E. Pratt St., 410-276-5599

**Club Phoenix**, 1101 Cathedral St., 410-727-9099, [www.baltimorephoenix.com](http://www.baltimorephoenix.com)

**Club 1722**, 1722 N. Charles St. (Charles North), 410-727-7431, [www.club1722.com](http://www.club1722.com)  
**Depot**, 1728 N. Charles St. (Charles North), 410-528-0174, [www.thedepot.us](http://www.thedepot.us)  
**ESPN Zone**, 601 E. Pratt St. (Inner Harbor), 410-685-ESPN  
**Fletcher's**, 701 S. Bond St. (Fell's Point), 410-558-1889, [www.fletchersbar.com](http://www.fletchersbar.com)  
**Frazier's on the Avenue**, 919 W. 36<sup>th</sup> St. (Hampden), 410-662-4914  
**Full Moon Saloon**, 1710 Aliceanna St. (Fell's Pt.), 410-276-6388, [www.fullmoon-saloon.com](http://www.fullmoon-saloon.com)  
**Gordon's**, 1818 Maryland Ave. (Charles North), 410-659-0412, [www.gordonbar.com](http://www.gordonbar.com)  
**Grand Central**, 1001 N. Charles St. (Mt. Vernon), 410-752-7133, [www.centralstationpub.com](http://www.centralstationpub.com)  
**Hammerjacks**, 316 Guilford Ave. (Downtown), 410-234-0044, [www.hammerjacks.com](http://www.hammerjacks.com)  
**Hardrock Café**, 601 E Pratt St. (Inner Harbor), 410-347-7625, [www.hardrock.com](http://www.hardrock.com)  
**The Havana Club**, 600 Water St. (Downtown), 410-468-0022, [www.havanaclub-baltimore.com](http://www.havanaclub-baltimore.com)  
**Have a Nice Day Café**, 4 Market Place (Downtown), 410-385-8669, [www.haveanicedaybaltimore.com](http://www.haveanicedaybaltimore.com)  
**The Hippo**, 1 W. Eager St. (Mr. Vernon), 410-576-0018, [www.clubhippo.com](http://www.clubhippo.com)  
**Hon Bar**, 1002 West 36th St. (Hampden), 410-243-1230, [www.cafehon.com](http://www.cafehon.com)  
**Kaos**, 8850 Orchard Tree Lane (Towson), 410-339-7880, [www.kaosgrill.com](http://www.kaosgrill.com)  
**Kobe Teppan and Sushi** 1 E. Chase St. (Downtown), 410-685-0780  
**Latin Palace**, 509 S. Broadway (Fell's Pt.), 410-522-6700, [www.latinpalace.com](http://www.latinpalace.com)  
**Little Havana Restaurante y Cantina Cubana**, 1325 Key Hwy (Federal Hill), 410-837-9903, [www.littlehavas.com](http://www.littlehavas.com)  
**Mick O'Sheas**, 328 N. Charles St. (Downtown), 410-539-7504, [www.mickosheas.com](http://www.mickosheas.com)  
**Midtown Yacht Club**, 15 East Centre St. (Mt. Vernon), 410-685-ISPY  
**New Haven Lounge**, 1552 Havenwood Rd. (NE Baltimore), 410-366-7416  
**The New 5 Seasons Restaurant**, 830 Guilford Ave. (Mt. Vernon), 410-625-9787, [www.the5seasons.com](http://www.the5seasons.com)  
**Ottobar**, 2549 N. Howard St. (Remmington), 410-662-0069, [www.theottobar.com](http://www.theottobar.com)  
**Paradox**, 1310 Russell St. (near M&T Bank Stadium), 410-837-9110, [www.thedox.com](http://www.thedox.com)  
**Power Plant Live!**, 34 Market Pl. (Downtown), [www.powerplantlive.com](http://www.powerplantlive.com)  
**Red Maple**, 930 N. Charles St. (Mt. Vernon), 410-547-0149, [www.930redmaple.com](http://www.930redmaple.com)  
**Sascha's 527**, 527 N. Charles St. (Mt. Vernon), 410-539-8880, [www.saschas.com](http://www.saschas.com)  
**Sky Lounge**, 1041 Marshall St. (Federal Hill), 410-625-1615  
**Sonar**, 407 East Saratoga St. (Downtown), 410-327-8333, [www.sonarlounge.com](http://www.sonarlounge.com)  
**Zodiac**, 1724 N. Charles St. (Charles North), 410-727-8815

## Strip Clubs

Maybe you're not surprised that Baltimore has an historic red light district downtown. The Block, as it's known, runs along E. Baltimore St., flanked by Gay and Holliday streets. The

most famous spot is the 2 O'Clock Club owned by Blaze Starr, a Baltimore legend ranking up there with Hairspray's John Waters (well, almost). The Block, which also features an ar-

cade and a few tattoo parlors, has some rough patches and, by many measures, can be unsafe. However, as a savvy Baltimorean, you should at least know of its existence. Clubs off just off The Block, such as **Kaos** and **Night Shift** (totally nude), advertise regularly in the City Paper. **Atlantis**, the male strip seen in Waters' film *Pecker*, has since switched genders and reopened as **Scores**.

**2 O'Clock Club**, 414 E. Baltimore St., 410-783-2656

**Kaos**, 8850 Orchard Tree Ln., 410-339-7880, [www.kaosgrill.com](http://www.kaosgrill.com)

**Night Shift**, 1725 Ponca St., 410-633-7100, [www.nightshiftgirls.com](http://www.nightshiftgirls.com)

**Scores**, 615 Fallsway, 410-528-1117, [www.scoresbaltimore.com](http://www.scoresbaltimore.com)

## ■ Visual and Performing Arts

### Museums

Baltimore has more museums and galleries than even a doctoral student can see while here. They're located in different parts of the city, which makes for a good excuse to explore: combine a trip to the American Visionary Arts Museum with a picnic in Federal Hill, swank-out with a leisurely stroll through the Walters followed by drinks at Red Maple, or have brunch at Café Hon and then walk off your Hon Bun legging it to all of the Hampden galleries. All are easily accessible from campus and perfect for out of town guests. Here is a breakdown of the museum and gallery scene.

**Visual Art:** Baltimore is home to two premier museums: the **Baltimore Museum of Art (BMA)** and the **Walters Art Gallery**. Both are convenient to access from Homewood campus, with the BMA actually on the Homewood campus and the Walters across the street from the free JHU shuttle's Peabody stop. Regular admission to the BMA is free for Hopkins students, although special exhibits require separate admission. Those with non-Hopkins affiliated friends can take advantage of the free admission and late night events on the first Thursday of each month. The Walters is also free to the public on the first Thursday of the month. But beware, special exhibits can be costly. In addition to art, both the Walters and the BMA house

decent eateries. The Walters has a restaurant at ground level open during museum hours. **Gertrude's** at the BMA is high-end restaurant overlooking the sculpture garden, and features a reasonably priced brunch, a classy bar, and the one of a kind "Dirty Gertie" (a.k.a. extra spicy Bloody Marys) (see Drinking and Dining Page X).

Baltimore also has the largest **American Visionary Arts Museum (AVAM)** in the country. The AVAM mounts eclectic displays of non-traditional art by self-trained artists. It is a Baltimore anchor, and hosts the **Annual Kinetic Sculpture Race**. The icing on the cake is **Joy America Café**, which boasts a fabulous view of the city and organic creations (see Drinking and Dining Page X). Don't miss the permanent display of the 55-foot whirligig by 77-year-old mechanic, farmer, and visionary artist Vollis Simpson. **The Contemporary** is a small art museum that purports to be redefining the museum-going experience. They are dedicated to creating educational programs and cultural experiences that move beyond the museum into communities, to link art with human experience. You may visit them at their home location in Mt. Vernon, or look into the other ways they promote art throughout Baltimore.

**Science:** The **Maryland Science Center**, lo-

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cated in the Inner Harbor, is a good museum to visit with the children in your life. It also houses a planetarium and an **IMAX** theater for post-finals escapism. Another acclaimed museum nearby is the **National Aquarium**, which offers fantastic experiences, especially on Fridays after 5 p.m. (fall and winter only) when admission is only \$7.50 (otherwise, get ready to pay \$21.50 for the privilege of seeing our aquatic compadres). If weird science is your thing, then head to the **Samuel D. Harris Museum of Dentistry**, which might have an audience with lovers of the odd. Kids don tiny lab coats, a tooth jukebox plays vintage commercials, and art of abscessed teeth cover some walls. Those who fear the drilling chair may not dare venture here!

#### **Natural and Social History and Industry:**

One of the leading historical societies in the country, the **Maryland Historical Society**, covers the whole span of the state's history and culture with over six million objects and memorabilia. It houses an extensive library, including thousands of genealogical records. Permanent displays include the original manuscript of the Star-Spangled Banner, while rotating exhibits include the famed Duchess of Windsor (a Mt. Vernon resident) and films shot in the state (including displays of Divine's dresses in Hairspray and stick figures from The Blair Witch Project). The **Baltimore Museum of Industry** is an interactive museum dedicated to 19th-century industrial Baltimore, where you can crank out your own handbill on an 1880s printing press, and board a steam tugboat. The **Baltimore Maritime Museum** houses the last surviving warship from the attack on Pearl Harbor, as well as the submarine that sank the last two Japanese combatant warships during WWII. The first museum dedicated to the history of public works, the **Baltimore Public Works Museum** contains a life-size recreation of utilities, from water to waste-disposal-running beneath these city streets.

The **B & O Railroad Museum** resides in the historic Mt. Clare train station and was once the starting point for the first passenger trains

in the US. For a feeling of old Baltimore, ride one of the streetcars at the **Baltimore Streetcar Museum**. The entrance fee includes unlimited rides and an audiovisual program. Rosa Parks and George Washington Carver are only two of the important individuals in black history cast in wax at the **Great Blacks in Wax Museum**. The **Jewish Historical Society of Maryland** is made up of two historic synagogues that hold a 150,000-item archive of Jewish Baltimore. For more Baltimore history, the **Mount Clare Museum House**, Baltimore's only remaining pre-Revolutionary mansion, lets you get a glimpse of life in the 18th and 19th centuries. The **Eubie Blake National Jazz and Cultural Center** promotes African-American art and culture in Baltimore through exhibitions, film screenings, and educational activities. Classes, ranging from dance to after school programs for kids, are periodically offered. The **American Dime Museum** is a homage to the era of 19<sup>th</sup> century side shows, with an eclectic collection the extremely bizarre. Unfortunately, the museum "closed" at the end of 2005, but still remains open for group tours by appointment. The recently restored **Robert Long House**, built in 1765, offers a glimpse into colonial-era Baltimore. If sports are more your thing, the **Sports Legends Museum**, located at Camden Yards, is devoted entirely to sports, with a strong emphasis on Maryland's role.

There are a number of small museums honoring individuals identified as contributing to Maryland in important ways. For stargazing, head to the **Babe Ruth Museum and Baseball Center**, with exhibits on the Great Bambino and the Orioles Museum and Maryland Baseball Hall of Fame. The **Edgar Allan Poe House** displays exhibits about the author's life and work in his former home. After your visit, take a side trip to **Westminster Hall & Burying Ground** for a tour of his gravesite. In quirky Baltimore fashion, each year on Poe's birthday a mysterious and anonymous admirer leaves a rose and a bottle of cognac there. The **Mother Seton House** was the home of Mother Elizabeth Ann Seton, founder of the Sisters of Charity and the first native-born American saint. Mother Seton

resided in Baltimore from 1808 to 1809 and took her vows here. The house showcases furnishings from the era and personal mementos of Seton. The **B. Olive Cole Pharmacy Museum** honors Cole, one of the first women graduates of the University of Maryland's School of Pharmacy. The museum features a replica of an early 19<sup>th</sup> century pharmacy, mortars and pestles, and root grinders. The **Star-Spangled Banner Flag House and 1812 Museum** is the former home of Mary Pickersgill, the seamstress who sewed the flag that flew over Ft. McHenry in 1812, inspiring Francis Scott Key to write "The Star-Spangled Banner."

one of the finest examples of a Federal-period mansion. It was given by the last living signer of the Declaration of Independence to his son as a wedding gift. The **Lacrosse Museum and National Hall of Fame**, on the northern edge of campus near the track, commemorates the history of this highly popular sport. North of Homewood, **Evergreen House** has collections of Post-Impressionist paintings, Japanese art, and a 35,000-volume rare book library.

**On Campus:** On the JHU Homewood campus at the front entrance near the Eisenhower library is the **Homewood House Museum**,

**American Dime Museum**, 1808 Maryland Ave (Charles North), 410-230-0263, tours by appointment only, [www.dimemuseum.com](http://www.dimemuseum.com)

**American Visionary Art Museum**, 800 Key Highway (Inner Harbor/Federal Hill), 410-244-5858, Tu-Sun 10 a.m.-6 p.m. \$11/\$7 Students, [www.avam.org](http://www.avam.org)

**Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Museum**, 901 W. Pratt St. (W of downtown), 410-752-2490, M-F 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Sat 10-5, Sun 11-4, \$14, [www.borail.org](http://www.borail.org) (\$8 tickets available from JHU FSRP)

**B. Olive Cole Pharmacy Museum**, 650 W. Lombard St. (W of downtown), 410-727-0746, M-F 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Free, by appointment only.

**Babe Ruth Birthplace and Museum**, 216 Emory St. (W of downtown), 410-727-1539, Tue-Sun 10 a.m.-5 p.m. (Apr to Oct Daily 10 a.m.-6 p.m.), \$6 (\$14 with Sports Legends Museum), [www.baberuthmuseum.com](http://www.baberuthmuseum.com)

**Baltimore Maritime Museum**, Piers 3 & 5 (Inner Harbor), 410-396-3453, Daily 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. (open until 6 p.m. during the summer) \$8, [www.baltomaritimemuseum.org](http://www.baltomaritimemuseum.org)

**Baltimore Museum of Art**, 10 Art Museum Drive (on Homewood campus), 443-573-1700, W-F 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Sat-Sun 11 a.m.-6 p.m., First Thu 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., \$10/Free for JHU students, [www.artbma.org](http://www.artbma.org)

**Baltimore Museum of Industry**, 1415 Key Highway (Federal Hill), 410-727-4808, Tue-Sat 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.-4 p.m., \$10/\$6 Students, [www.thebmi.org](http://www.thebmi.org)

**Baltimore Public Works Museum**, Eastern Ave. and President St. (Little Italy/Inner Harbor), 410-396-5565, Tu-Sun 10 a.m.-4 p.m., \$2.50/\$2 Students, [www.baltimorecity.gov/government/dpw/museum/](http://www.baltimorecity.gov/government/dpw/museum/)

**Baltimore Streetcar Museum**, 1901 Falls Rd. (Between downtown and Hampden), 410-547-0264, Sun Noon-5 p.m (Jun-Oct Sat-Sun 12-5) \$6, [www.baltimorestreetcar.org](http://www.baltimorestreetcar.org)

**The Contemporary**, 100 W. Centre St. (Mt. Vernon), 410-783-5720, Wed-Sun 12 Noon-5 p.m., \$5/\$3 Students, [www.contemporary.org](http://www.contemporary.org)

**Edgar Allan Poe House**, 203 N. Amity St. (W of downtown), 410-396-7932, April-Dec Wed-Sat Noon-3:45 p.m., [www.baltimorecity.gov/government/historic/poehouse.html](http://www.baltimorecity.gov/government/historic/poehouse.html)

(Westminster Hall & Burying Ground with Poe's Grave is at W. Fayette and Greene Sts.)

**Eubie Blake National Jazz and Cultural Center**, 847 N. Howard St. (W of Downtown), 410-225-3130, [www.eubieblake.org](http://www.eubieblake.org) (see website for current events and exhibits)

**Evergreen House**, 4545 North Charles St. (N of Homewood), 410-516-0341  
Tu-F 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Sat-Sun Noon-4 p.m. \$6/\$3 students. Tours begin on the hour. [www.jhu.edu/evrgreen/](http://www.jhu.edu/evrgreen/)

**Great Blacks in Wax Museum**, 1601 E. North Ave. (East Baltimore), 410-563-3404, Tue-Sat 9 a.m.-5 p.m, Sun Noon-5 p.m (Jan 15-Oct 14 closes at 6 p.m., open Monday for Feb, Jul, Aug, and most federal holidays), \$9/\$8 Students, [www.ngbiwm.com](http://www.ngbiwm.com)

**Homewood House Museum**, 3400 N. Charles (Homewood campus, next to the MSE Library), 410-516-5589, Tu-Sat, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sun 12 noon-4 p.m. \$6/Free for JHU students. Tours begin on the half hour. [www.jhu.edu/hwdhouse/](http://www.jhu.edu/hwdhouse/)

**Jewish Historical Society of Maryland**, 15 Lloyd St. (N of Little Italy), 410-732-6400, Sun, Tu-Th, Noon-4 p.m. \$8. [www.jhsm.org](http://www.jhsm.org)

**Lacrosse Museum and National Hall of Fame**, 113 W. University Pkwy. (Homewood campus, next to the stadium), 410-235-68823, Jun-Jan M-F 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Feb-May Tu-Sa 10 a.m.-3 p.m., \$3, [www.uslacrosse.org/museum/](http://www.uslacrosse.org/museum/)

**Maryland Historical Society**, 201 W. Monument St. (Mt. Vernon), 410-685-3750  
We-Sun 10 a.m.-5 p.m. \$8/\$6 students (first Thursday free), [www.mdhs.org](http://www.mdhs.org)

**Maryland Science Center**, 601 Light St., 410-685-5225, Tu-F 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sat 10 a.m.-6 p.m, Sun 11 a.m.-6 p.m. (Summer: Th-Sat 10 a.m.-8 p.m., Sun-M 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.) \$14.50 includes Planetarium, \$18.50 includes IMAX, [www.mdsci.org](http://www.mdsci.org)

**Mother Seton House**, 600 N. Paca St. (Mt. Vernon), 410-523-3443, Sat-Sun 1 p.m.-3 p.m., Free, [www.mothersetonhouse.org](http://www.mothersetonhouse.org)

**Mount Clare Museum House**, 1500 Washington Blvd. (Carroll Park), Tu-Sat 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tours on the hour. \$6, [www.mountclare.org](http://www.mountclare.org)

**National Aquarium**, 501 E. Pratt St. (Inner Harbor), 410-576-3800, Sat-Th 9 a.m.-5 p.m., F 9 a.m.-8 p.m.. \$22, \$7.50 "Friday Nights" Sept-Feb., [www.aqua.org](http://www.aqua.org)

**Robert Long House**, 812 S. Ann St. (Fell's Point), 410-675-6769, tours at 1 and 2:30 p.m. daily, free, [www.preservationsociety.com](http://www.preservationsociety.com)

**Samuel D. Harris National Museum of Dentistry**, 31 S. Greene Street, 410-706-0600, W-Sat 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sun 1 p.m.-4 p.m., \$4.50/\$2.50 students, [www.dentalmuseum.org](http://www.dentalmuseum.org)

**Sports Legends at Camden Yards**, 301 W. Camden Street (Downtown / Inner Harbor), 410-727-1539, Tue-Sun 10 a.m.-5 p.m. (Apr to Oct Daily 10 a.m.-6 p.m.), \$10 (\$14 with Babe Ruth Birthplace), [www.sportslegendsatcamdenyards.com](http://www.sportslegendsatcamdenyards.com)

**Star-Spangled Banner Flag House and 1812 Museum**, 844 E. Pratt St. (Little Italy), 410-837-1793, Tu-Sat 10 a.m.-4 p.m., \$7/\$5 students, [www.flaghouse.org](http://www.flaghouse.org)

**Walters Art Gallery**, 600 N. Charles St. (Mt. Vernon), 410-547-9000, W-Sun 10 a.m.-5 p.m., \$10/\$6 students under 25 and Free first Thursday, [www.thewalters.org](http://www.thewalters.org)

Washington Monument, 699 N. Charles St. (Mt. Vernon), 410-396-0929, W-F 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Sat-Sun 10 a.m.-5 p.m., \$1, [www.baltimoremuseums.org/washington.html](http://www.baltimoremuseums.org/washington.html)

## Galleries & Cultural Centers

Gallery and cultural center dense areas include Baltimore), and Hampden. Some of them are lower Charles St., Fell's Point, SoWeBo (SW listed here, and you can keep track of openings

through the City Paper, or contact the galleries to get on their mailing/email lists. To briefly highlight a few of those listed below, **The Creative Alliance at Patterson Park** is an intensely vibrant multi-media center. They have performances, films, lectures, workgroups, and community events going on almost every day. You may view clay art (thrown and otherwise), and take pottery classes at the **Baltimore Clayworks**. While class prices are steep, they offer a monitoring program for students so that you may donate hours of studio and office work in

exchange for almost half of your class fees. Sign up early, because class space is limited. Most of the other galleries listed feature contemporary American art. View the websites, and stop by the galleries to get a sense of the ways in which the Baltimore art community is fashioning itself. Also, the **Maryland Institute College of Arts** has many public events. Stay abreast of their shows, most of which are free and take place in a creative and lively student environment.

**Angelfall Studio**, 2936 Remington Ave. (Charles Village), 410-261-3313, Th-Sun Noon-8pm, [www.angelfallstudios.com](http://www.angelfallstudios.com)

**Baltimore Clayworks**, 5707 Smith Ave. (Mt. Washington), 410-578-1919, M-Sat 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun Noon-5 p.m., [www.baltimoreclayworks.org](http://www.baltimoreclayworks.org)

**C. Grimaldis Gallery**, 523 N. Charles St. (Mt. Vernon), 410-539-1080, Tu-Sun 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m., [www.cgrimaldisgallery.com](http://www.cgrimaldisgallery.com)

**Craig Flinner Gallery**, 505 N. Charles St. (Mt. Vernon), 410-727-1863, M-Sat 10 a.m.-6 p.m., [www.flinnergallery.com](http://www.flinnergallery.com)

**The Creative Alliance**, 3134 Eastern Ave. (Patterson Park), 410-276-1651, [www.creativealliance.org](http://www.creativealliance.org)

**Fleckenstein Gallery**, 29 Allegheny Ave. (Towson), 410-296-8588, Tu-Fr 11 a.m.-7 p.m., Sat Noon-5 p.m., [www.fleckensteingallery.com](http://www.fleckensteingallery.com)

**Maryland Art Place**, 8 Market Place, Suit 100 (Downtown), 410-962-8565, Tu-Sat 11 a.m.-5 p.m., [www.mdartplace.org](http://www.mdartplace.org)

**Maryland Institute College of Art**, 1300 Mt Royal Ave. (Mt. Vernon), [www.mica.edu](http://www.mica.edu)  
Meredith Gallery, 805 N. Charles St. (Mt. Vernon), 800-753-3575, Tu-F 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Sat 11 a.m.-4 p.m., [www.meredithgallery.com](http://www.meredithgallery.com)

**Minas Gallery**, 815 W. 36<sup>th</sup> St. (Hampden), 410-732-4258

**OXOXO Gallery**, 1617 Sulgrave Ave. (Mt. Washington), 410-466-9696, Tu-Sat 11 a.m.-6 p.m. [www.oxoxogallery.com](http://www.oxoxogallery.com)

**Steven Scott Gallery**, 9169 Reiserstown Rd. (Owings Mills), 410-902-9300, [www.stevenscottgallery.com](http://www.stevenscottgallery.com)

**Westnorth Studio**, 106 W. North Ave., 410-962-1475, W-F 12 noon-6 pm, [www.westnorthstudio.com](http://www.westnorthstudio.com)

## Formal (alterna-bar) Music Events

**Classical:** The **Meyerhoff Symphony Hall** is the home of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra (BSO), directed by Yuri Temirkanov. The award-winning orchestra performs over 200 concerts each year, and the BSO offers student rush tickets the day of the performance.

The **Lyric Opera House** is the home of the Baltimore Opera Company, which presents four to six productions each season. They also offer half-price tickets to students one-half hour before show time. Call ahead to check schedule listings, as both venues also host other

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performances.

**The Homewood campus features performances in Shriver Auditorium, such as those by the Hopkins Symphony Orchestra, the Shriver Hall Concert Series the Women Composers Orchestra, and performances scheduled by the Office of Special Events (www.jhu.edu/special). The Peabody Conservatory holds concerts throughout the school year that are often free or reduced admission for students. Also, try the Homewood Cultural Hotline or visit check out the Calendar of Events for anything that might not fall into the above categories.**

**Rock/Eclectic:** The **Recher Theatre**, located in Towson, presents national and local rockers in a 700 capacity space. They serve light dinner fare along with drinks but offer no seating; this means gulping, shoveling, and then dancing the night away. The **Funk Box** in Federal Hill is a sizeable venue that hosts many well-known and local bands. Ticket prices tend on the high side,

but you can catch some very talented artists as they tour through town.

**Folk: Roots Cafe**, a series of folk and ethnic music performances, has left Charles Village for Siedel's Bowling Alley. Where else can listen to great live music while in a (duckpin) bowling alley?

**Jazz and Blues: Normal's**, a bookstore in Waverly that moonlights as the music venue **Red Room**, holds Saturday night performances that push the boundaries of avant-garde jazz in the Red Room. Performances begin at 8:30 p.m. on select days, and usually cost \$6. No food or drink served. Jazz lovers should check out the **Jazz Baltimore Alliance** who exhaustively lists all jazz events around town broken down by day, and listed at least two weeks in advance.

**Blue Grass: If you're into bluegrass, check out the DC Bluegrass Union at www.dcbu.org.**

**DC Bluegrass Union**, www.dcbu.org

**Funk Box**, 10 E. Cross St. (Federal Hill), 410-625-2000, www.thefunkbox.com

**Jazz Baltimore Alliance**, www.baltimorejazz.com

**St. John's Church**, 2640 St. Paul St. (Charles Village), 410-366-7733

**Johns Hopkins University:**

- **Homewood Cultural Hotline**, 410-516-5473
- **Calendar of Events**, webapps.jhu.edu/eventslist/
- **Hopkins Symphony Orchestra**, 410-516-6542, www.jhu.edu/~jhso
- **Peabody Conservatory**, 410-659-8100, www.peabody.jhu.edu
- **Shriver Concert Series**, 410-516-7164, www.shriverconcerts.org

**Baltimore Opera**, Lyric Opera House, 110 W. Mount Royal Ave. (Mt. Vernon), 410-727-6000, www.baltimoreopera.com

**Baltimore Symphony Orchestra**, Meyerhoff Symphony Hall, 1212 Cathedral St. (Mt. Vernon), 410-727-6000, www.baltimoreopera.com

**Baltimore Symphony Orchestra**, Meyerhoff Symphony Hall, 1212 Cathedral St. (Mt. Vernon), 410-783-8000, www.baltimoresymphony.org

**The Red Room at Normal's**, 425 E. 31<sup>st</sup> St. (Waverly), 410-243-6888, www.redroom.org

**Roots Cafe**, 4443 Belair Rd. (Siedel's Bowling Center), 410-880-3883, www.rootscafe.org

**Recher Theatre**, 512 York Rd. (Towson), 410-337-7178, www.rechertheatre.com

## Theater

Baltimore offers many opportunities to enjoy live theatre, be it professional or community, equity or non, traditional, or experimental. For convenience's sake, the first place you might want to go when looking for a performance is **Theatre Hopkins**, the professional theatre company at Johns Hopkins. Moving away from campus, check out **Center Stage**, Maryland's state theater that presents contemporary plays and innovative interpretations of classics in its two intimate theaters, where the audience is never more than 30 feet from the actors. They offer student subscriptions and also sell student rush tickets the day of the show. The city's new pièce de resistance is the refurbished **Hippodrome Theatre**, a non-profit foundation that replaced the Baltimore Center for Performing Arts. Large traveling productions can be viewed at this luxurious venue.

Baltimore's smaller stages also offer great shows. The **Theater Project**, which won the

2003 City Paper Best Live Theatre award, is experimental and offers reasonably priced tickets to experience original and experimental theatre, music, and dance productions. The **Arena Players**, Baltimore's only predominantly black production company (and the nation's oldest black theater) presents about six shows each season, and student tickets are priced at \$10. The **Everyman**, **Spotlighters Theatre**, and **Fell's Point Corner Theater** also offer several shows each season which they perform with great energy.

For a concise list of current performances in Baltimore, check out the **Baltimore Theatre Alliance's** "What's Playing?" list, available on its website.

**Arena Players**, 801 McCulloh St. (Mt. Vernon), 410-728-6500, [www.thearenaplayers.org](http://www.thearenaplayers.org)

**Baltimore Theatre Alliance**, [www.baltimoreperforms.org](http://www.baltimoreperforms.org)

**Center Stage**, 700 North Calvert St., 410-332-0033, [www.centerstage.org](http://www.centerstage.org)

**The Everyman**, 1727 North Charles St. (Charles North), 410-752-2208, [www.everyman-theatre.org](http://www.everyman-theatre.org)

**Fell's Point Corner Theater**, 251 S. Ann St. (Fell's Point), 410-276-7837, [www.fpct.org](http://www.fpct.org)

**Hippodrome**, 12 N Eutaw St. (Downtown), 410-837-7400, [www.france-merrickpac.com](http://www.france-merrickpac.com)

**Spotlighters Theater**, 817 N. Charles St. (Mt. Vernon), 410-752-1225, [www.spotlighters.org](http://www.spotlighters.org)

**Theatre Hopkins**, The Merrick Barn (Homewood Campus), 410-516-7159, [www.jhu.edu/~theatre](http://www.jhu.edu/~theatre)

**Theater Project**, 45 West Preston St. (Mt. Vernon), 410-752-8558, [www.theatreproject.org](http://www.theatreproject.org)

## Readings & Cabarets

There are a few spots for readings in town, but they seem to crop up and disappear quickly. For a comprehensive list of readings and literary events in the city, check out the **Baltimore Writers Alliance's** newsletter, WordHouse, which is often available at the university bookstore. At the time of this publication,

places you might want to check if looking for this type of event are: **Minas Gallery** (see Galleries listings), **The Creative Alliance at Patterson Park** (see Galleries listings) and the **Eubie Blake National Jazz and Cultural Center** (see Museum listings). And remember, there's no shame in the big chains. If you are

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in the mood for the musings of nationally-known authors and want to get your bestseller signed, check out **Borders Books and Music**

or **Barnes & Noble** at the Inner Harbor and in Towson.

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## Performative Dance and Movement

Baltimore hosts many touring dance companies, and is home to several student dance groups, many of which are affiliated with universities. You may enjoy seeing the annual Nutcracker

performance by the **Baltimore Ballet Company and School** (410-337-7974, [www.baltimoreballet.com](http://www.baltimoreballet.com)). Check out additional listings

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## Movies

Many movies can be seen without leaving campus. **Tarang** shows Indian cinema. **JHU film** shows more mainstream movies, and puts on the annual **Hopkins Film Festival**. During the summer months, the **JHU Summer Outdoor Film Series** shows a number of releases from the past year, for free, in the upper quad, outside of Gilman Hall. When active, **Trojka** shows weekly free, GRO-sponsored, independent and mostly international movies. In addition, departments often feature movie series around a particular topic, so keep your eyes out.

If you are eager to leave campus and eat popcorn with your movie of choice, there are a number of unique places to go. **The Senator**, an Art Deco movie house, is an historic landmark and a local favorite. The screen is huge, the sound system is phenomenal, the artwork in the lobby is striking, and the atmosphere makes going to the movies fun. You might recognize it from Baltimore director John Waters' [Cecil B. Demented](#), filmed and premiered on location. All shows at the Senator cost \$8.

The **Charles Theater** shows mainly independent films on all five screens and has been a student favorite for many years, films are \$8, or \$6 before 6 p.m. It hosts the **Maryland**

**Film Festival** every May and regularly screens local films by Baltimore directors. While you're sitting in the lobby, don't be surprised if Rollmops, the friendly black cat with the white patches, jumps into your lap while you wait. The **Rotunda Cinematheque** is a small two-screen theatre located a few blocks from campus in the Rotunda shopping mall, which shows a selection of new releases. Tickets are \$6 Monday through Thursday, \$8 Friday through Sunday.

While Baltimore has the independent movie scene covered, it is devoid of large multi-screened cineplexes. To check out Julia, Renee, or Tom, you'll have to head out to mall country. Luckily, the **A.M.C Towson Commons** (where movies cost \$8.50 but only \$6.50 for matinees or with student ID) and **Regal Hunt Valley Cinema 12** at Hunt Valley (\$9 or \$6.75 for matinees) are accessible by public transportation, either by bus or light rail. Farther out and less accessible without a car is the very new, clean, **Loews White Marsh 16** with stadium seating (\$9 or \$7 for matinees.) Other venue listings dotting the near and far suburbs are listed in the City Paper with phone numbers and addresses.

Finally, because Baltimore is a throw-back kind

of town, we must mention the classic drive-in, where behind you is only forest, and in front nothing but a big, bright, beautiful movie screen. Check out **Bengies Drive-In Theatre** in Middle River, which was built in 1956 and

is home to the biggest outdoor theatre on the East Coast. This excursion is only about a half-hour from JHU's Homewood campus. (\$5-\$8, depending on the movie, \$7 extra to bring in outside food.)

### **Campus**

**JHU Film**, [www.jhu.edu/jhufilm](http://www.jhu.edu/jhufilm)

**JHU Summer Outdoor Film Series**, [www.jhu.edu/summer/films](http://www.jhu.edu/summer/films)

**Hopkins Film Festival**, [www.hopkinsfilmfest.com](http://www.hopkinsfilmfest.com)

**Tarang**, [www.jhu.edu/tarang](http://www.jhu.edu/tarang)

**Trojka**, [www.jhu.edu/trojka](http://www.jhu.edu/trojka)

### **Off-Campus**

**A.M.C Towson Commons**, 435 York Rd. (Towson), 410-825-5233, [www.amtheatres.com](http://www.amtheatres.com)

**Bengies Drive-In Theatre**, 3417 Eastern Blvd. (Middle River), 410-687-5627, [www.bengies.com](http://www.bengies.com)

**Charles Theater**, 1711 N. Charles St., 410-727-3456, [www.thecharles.com](http://www.thecharles.com)

**Regal Hunt Valley Cinemas 12**, 11511 McCormick Rd. (Hunt Valley), 410-329-9800, [www.regalcinemas.com](http://www.regalcinemas.com)

**Loews White Marsh 16**, 8141 Honeygo Blvd. (the Ave. at White Marsh), 410-933-9034, [www.loewstheaters.com](http://www.loewstheaters.com)

**Maryland Film Festival**, 410-752-8083, [www.mdfilmfest.com](http://www.mdfilmfest.com)

**The Rotunda Cinematheque**, 711 W. 40<sup>th</sup> St. (at the Rotunda Mall), 410-235-4800, [www.senator.com](http://www.senator.com)

**The Senator**, 5904 York Rd. (Belvedere Square), 410-435-8338, [www.senator.com](http://www.senator.com)

## ■ Festival, Street Fairs, and Block Parties

If you like greasy food served on a napkin, cheap tchotchkes, and daytime drinking, you may have just moved to heaven; Baltimore loves its festivals, block parties, and street fairs.

**Spring:** The **SoWeBohemian Arts Festival** is a one-day spring event held around Hollins Market. Baltimore also hosts a one-day art festival at **The Mill Centre** where local artists open their studios to the general public. It's easy to get to from campus and is worth the trip. You won't want to, or even be able to, miss Hopkins' own **Spring Fair**, where local families mix with JHU students to

flood the quads and parking lot. Live music, food, rides, crafts, and beer in the president's garden are among the offerings. The annual **Baltimore Blues Festival** ([www.baltimore-bluesfestival.com](http://www.baltimore-bluesfestival.com)) takes place in Patterson Park in May, and the **Flower Mart** will block your JHMI shuttle ride around the same time.

**Summer:** From May and throughout the summer, most weekends offer a variety of celebratory ethnic and neighborhood festivals; check the City Paper and the city's own festival Web site ([www.bop.org](http://www.bop.org)) for scheduled events. Ones that merit distinction include Artscape ([www.artscape.org](http://www.artscape.org)), a three-

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day festival of arts, crafts, food, and music in July, centered around the Maryland Institute in Bolton Hill. Another great event every June is the Charles Village Festival ([www.charlesvillage.net/festival](http://www.charlesvillage.net/festival)) where you can enjoy food and fun with your neighbors. And last but certainly not least is the John Water's inspired Hon Fest ([www.honfest.net](http://www.honfest.net)) (said to honor and appreciate the working women of Baltimore, but we know it's really just an excuse to put your hair in a beehive and hide behind sexy gem-studded cat-eye sunglasses). Will you be the next "Ms. Hon"?

In June Patterson Park offers quite an international experience. Early in the month the park plays host to the Polish Festival ([www.polishcommunity.com](http://www.polishcommunity.com)), with excellent authentic polish food and music. Later in the month come back to the park for Latinofest where you can sample the food, music, dance, and crafts representing many Latin American countries ([www.latinofest.org](http://www.latinofest.org)).

**Winter:** Though not officially designated a festival, the 'Miracle on 34th Street' (700

Block W. 36<sup>th</sup> St., [www.christmasstreet.com](http://www.christmasstreet.com)) is a must-see. The residents of this Hampden block spend the entire year readying for the holiday blowout at Christmas. The week before the big day, don't even try to drive the strip: either walk from campus or park closer to the Avenue (36th St.) and walk down to witness the miracle. Not to be out done, the Hanukkah House (6211 Park Heights Ave.) stays lit for all eight nights. The Mayor of Baltimore usually shows up for one night to light the giant menorah and help disperse thousands of jelly donuts to the crowd.

**Fall:** Fall brings the Baltimore Book Festival to Mr. Vernon. It started in 1996 and has been a huge success, featuring sales of new and used books, readings, and cooking demonstrations by famous chefs. October brings the Fell's Point Fun Festival ([www.preservationsociety.com](http://www.preservationsociety.com)), featuring live music, a large beer garden, and plenty of food (street fair pit beef is a must!).

## ■ Sports

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### Participant Sports

So you're sick of sitting on your you-know-what and want to actually play? Well here are a few options to blow off steam and have some physical fun.

**Dance:** Hopkins offers opportunities to sign up for dance classes throughout the year. If you would like to practice sans other grad students, you can get your salsa/swing/tango/social ballroom dance on with the **Ballroom Dance Company**. They offer classes around the area, so check their website to find one that suits your needs. **Dance in Time Productions** offers lessons in salsa, rueda, cha cha, meringue, mambo, and swing for all levels around the Baltimore area. For ballroom styles, head to the **Towson**

**Dance Studios**, where classes are offered most nights of the week.

**Yoga:** Yoga classes can be found without leaving campus at the **Ralph O'Connor Recreation Center**, through their Fitness & Lifetime Sports program, for only \$40 per semester. **Midtown Yoga Center**, with two locations, one in Mount Vernon and the other in Fell's Point, offers all types of classes for all degrees of flexibility and experience, including HOT yoga and prenatal. Single session \$12, book of 6 for \$60, and drop-ins welcome. **Ahimsa Yoga Center** is closer to campus and offers a range of pre-registered and drop-in classes. They charge \$15 for walk-ins (\$12 with student

ID), or \$100 for ten classes over 12 weeks. Finally, **Aikido Baltimore Tomiki Center** in Federal Hill offers hatha yoga and aikido for a real steal: \$5 for yoga, \$4 for aikido, and the first class is free!

**Soccer:** When the weather is nice, there are a number of weekend pickup games on the fields on and around campus (such as in Wyman Park: see walking tour 2). For indoor leagues, the **Soccerdome** is a short drive south of Baltimore and is fun for all skill levels.

**Rugby:** If you're into women's rugby, you can join **Chesapeake Rugby**, great group of women who play every Tuesday and Thursday, from 7-9 p.m. in Druid Hill Park. For local men's rugby, check out the **Baltimore Chesapeake RFC**.

**Golf/Driving Range:** Whether you want to smack through some buckets at the driving range, or work on your finesse on the course, the **Pine Ridge Golf Course** will surely satisfy your golf gusto. Located about 25 minutes from campus, charges vary from \$17 for a late twilight game, to \$45 for a weekend morning. A bit closer is the **Mount Pleasant Golf Club**, which at one time was an official U.S.G.A. course. Information for these, and other public golf courses in the area can be obtained from the **Baltimore Municipal Golf Corporation**.

**Crew:** The **Baltimore Rowing Club** consists of sweep and sculling programs for all levels (even if you don't know what that means!). New rowers may sign up for seven-week sessions which usually begin in early April, and returning or more senior athletes have ample opportunity to join teams.

**Marathon Running:** Are you a marathon runner? If so, you run one without leaving the city. The **Baltimore Marathon** is held every October, and spans most of Baltimore, including Charles Village. The races include a full- and half-marathon, 5k, and team relay. The **Charles Village Festival** is also plays host

to a 5k through the neighborhood, which is one of many local races sponsored by **Charm City Run**.

**Ahimsa Yoga Center**, 3000 Chestnut Ave #15 (Hampden), 410-662-8626, [www.ahimsayogacenter.com](http://www.ahimsayogacenter.com)

**Aikido Baltimore Tomiki Center**, 1120 S. Charles St. (Federal Hill), 410-727-5457

**Ballroom Dance Company**, 310-294-1797, [www.BallroomDanceCompany.org](http://www.BallroomDanceCompany.org)

**Baltimore Marathon**, 410-605-9381, [www.thebaltimoremarathon.com](http://www.thebaltimoremarathon.com)

**Baltimore Municipal Golf Corporation**, 410-443-4933, [www.bmgcgolf.com](http://www.bmgcgolf.com)  
Baltimore Chesapeake Rugby (for men), [www.baltimore rugby.net](http://www.baltimore rugby.net)

**Baltimore Rowing Club**, [www.baltimore rowing.org](http://www.baltimore rowing.org)

**Charles Village Festival (5k run)**, [www.charlesvillage.net/festival](http://www.charlesvillage.net/festival)

**Charm City Run**, 410-561-3570, [www.charmcityrun.com](http://www.charmcityrun.com)

**Chesapeake Rugby (for women)**, [www.chesapeake rugby.com](http://www.chesapeake rugby.com)

**Dance in Time Productions**, [www.danceintimeproductions.com](http://www.danceintimeproductions.com)

**Midtown Yoga**, 107 E. Preston St. (Mt. Vernon), 410-234-8967, and 901 Fell St. (Fell's Pt.), 410-276-YOGA, [www.midtownyoga.org](http://www.midtownyoga.org)

**Mount Pleasant Golf Club**, 6001 Hillen Rd., 410-254-5100, [www.bmgcgolf.com](http://www.bmgcgolf.com)

**Pine Ridge Golf Course**, 2101 Dulaney Rd. (Lutherville), 410-252-1408, [www.bmgcgolf.com](http://www.bmgcgolf.com)

**Ralph O'Connor Recreation Center**, Homewood Campus, 410-516-4434 [www.jhu.edu/recsport](http://www.jhu.edu/recsport)

**Soccerdome**, 7330 Montevideo Road (Jessup), 443-755-0014, [www.soccerdome.com](http://www.soccerdome.com)

**Towson Dance Studios**, 31 Allegheny

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## Spectator Sports

The Baltimore Orioles play at the most beautiful ballpark in the country, **Oriole Park at Camden Yards**. The park was designed to complement a warehouse, which now houses the Os' ticket windows, sports store, and administrative offices. Pick out homeruns by your favorite players from the baseball-shaped plaques embedded in the ground behind the outfield bleachers as you scout for Orioles paraphernalia. Tickets are available—as long as the Yankees or Red Sox aren't playing—days or even hours before the game. There's even a legal scalping area, and bleacher seats are a bargain. Student tickets are \$5 on Friday nights.

Though many Baltimoreans still mourn the loss of the Colts to Indianapolis, football fans can get their fill with the **Baltimore Ravens**, who play at the **M&T Bank Stadium**, adjacent to Camden Yards. Single game tickets start at \$40 and often sell out.

The **Baltimore Blast** plays soccer downtown at the **Baltimore Arena**.

Maryland also takes pride in horse racing. The

**First Mariner Arena**, 201 W. Baltimore St. (Downtown), 410-347-2020 where the Baltimore Blast play, 410-732-5278, [www.baltimoreblast.com](http://www.baltimoreblast.com)

**Baltimore Ravens**, 1101 Russell St. (Downtown), 410-261-7283, [www.baltimore Ravens.com](http://www.baltimore Ravens.com)

**Oriole Park at Camden Yards**, 400 W. Camden St. (Downtown), 410-685-9800, [www.theorioles.com](http://www.theorioles.com)

**Pimlico Race Course**, 5201 Park Heights Ave. (Northwest Baltimore), 410-542-9400, [www.pimlico.com](http://www.pimlico.com)

Preakness Stakes, the second jewel of the Triple Crown, is held each May at **Pimlico Race Course**. Many visitors go to the Preakness and devote much more time boozing it up on the infield than watching the races. Normally admission to the grandstand is \$3, but for the Preakness admission is \$55 for the infield and \$20 to watch from the grandstand.

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## ■ Volunteering

Even though you might feel exceedingly busy in your day to day activities, when things feel a little too removed, you might want to turn to some of these volunteer opportunities. Here are some suggestions to get you started.

**Volunteer Maryland:** Work with volunteer and service-learning programs that meet critical needs in the areas of education, human needs, public safety, and the environment. **American Red Cross of Central Maryland:** Volunteer opportunities include working as a blood drive volunteer, teaching babysitting skills to teens, teaching CPR and first aid, and many others. **National Aquarium in Baltimore:**

Work behind the scenes with aquarists and horticulturists, or train to be an exhibit guide or information specialist. **Rebuilding Together Baltimore:** Help low-income homeowners through home renovation and repair. **Baltimore County Volunteers:** The county offers numerous volunteer positions through various local groups such as The Sky is the Limit Creative Arts Program and the Maryland Interfaith Recovery Team. **United Way of Central Maryland:** Volunteer opportunities include Women's Initiative and WINGS volunteers, database volunteer, First Call For Help (volunteers trained as information specialists, linking callers to

community resources such as food pantries, child care and health providers). **The Arc of Baltimore:** Develop resources, provide services, and serve as an advocate for people with mental retardation and developmental disabilities. **The Baltimore Zoo:** Help out with education and special events, animal care, and horticulture. **Baltimore Office of Promotion and the Arts:** Assist with parades and festivals around Baltimore. **Baltimore County Public**

**Library or Enoch Pratt Free Library (Baltimore City):** Volunteers are welcome at all locations and placements are tailored to your skills and interests. **Habitat for Humanity (Chesapeake and Sandtown):** Help convert vacant Baltimore row houses into homes for low-income families.

**American Red Cross of Central Maryland,** 4700 Mount Hope Dr., 410-624-2000, [www.redcross-cmd.org/Chapter/volunteer/](http://www.redcross-cmd.org/Chapter/volunteer/)

**The Arc of Baltimore,** 7215 York Rd., 410-296-2272, [www.baltimorearc.org](http://www.baltimorearc.org)

**Baltimore County Public Library,** various locations in Baltimore County, 410-887-6100, [www.bcplonline.org](http://www.bcplonline.org)

**Enoch Pratt Free Library,** various locations in Baltimore City, 410-396-9940 (Central Library), [www.pratt.lib.md.us/info/hr/volunteers/](http://www.pratt.lib.md.us/info/hr/volunteers/)

**Baltimore County Volunteers,** 400 Washington Ave., Old Courthouse Mezzanine, 410-887-2715, [www.co.ba.md.us/agencies/volunteers/](http://www.co.ba.md.us/agencies/volunteers/)

**Baltimore Office of Promotions and the Arts,** 7 Redwood St. Suite 500, 410-752-8632, [www.bop.org](http://www.bop.org)

**The Baltimore Zoo, Druid Hill Park,** 410-396-7623, [www.baltimorezoo.org/involved/volunteer.htm](http://www.baltimorezoo.org/involved/volunteer.htm)

**Chesapeake Habitat for Humanity,** 410-366-1250, [www.chesapeakehfh.org](http://www.chesapeakehfh.org)

**Sandtown Habitat for Humanity,** 410-669-3309, [www.sandtownhabitat.org](http://www.sandtownhabitat.org)

**National Aquarium in Baltimore,** 501 East Pratt St. (Inner Harbor), 410-576-3886, [www.aqua.org/volunteer.html](http://www.aqua.org/volunteer.html)

**Rebuilding Together Baltimore,** 1014 W. 36<sup>th</sup> St., 410-889-2710, [www.rebuildingtogetherbaltimore.org](http://www.rebuildingtogetherbaltimore.org)

**United Way of Central Maryland,** 410-685-0525, [www.uwcm.org/volunteer/opportunities.cfm](http://www.uwcm.org/volunteer/opportunities.cfm)

**Volunteer Maryland,** 410-767-6203, [www.volunteermaryland.org](http://www.volunteermaryland.org)

## Budget Baltimore

Have you gotten excited about all that Baltimore has to offer? Here are a few last ideas that are sure to make both you and your wallet happy. If you are a starving student or simply like to save a few bucks, here are bargains in Baltimore that will make your shoe-string budget last until the next boom (whenever that might come).

### On Campus:

As you've surely noticed, our very own JHU provides stimulation and entertainment if you keep your eyes open. This guide, as well as postings on campus, and weekly events such as the GRO happy hour and coffee hour, won't tug too hard on your purse strings.

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Hopkins provides an online, searchable, calendar of events at [webapps.jhu.edu/eventslist](http://webapps.jhu.edu/eventslist). You can also find a printed list of upcoming events in the back of JHU's weekly administrative paper, *The Johns Hopkins Gazette*, available all over campus.

Take advantage of your student status by bringing your student ID card to select movie theaters and museums mentioned in this chapter, which offer discounted student admissions. A more novel approach is ushering, a great way to catch a show for the mere price of passing out stagebills and doing minimal clean-up afterwards. Contact a theater well in advance to inquire about volunteer opportunities.

Partake in Meyerhoff Rush where, subject to availability, a limited number of discounted tickets will be sold for \$10 to students. Student tickets are available beginning at noon on concert day, one ticket per valid student ID, cash only. Call the ticket office the Monday prior to performance day for rush availability. Tickets must be purchased in person at the Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Hall.

Free First Thursdays of the month are a treat at The Baltimore Museum of Arts (BMA), and at the Walters Museum. At the BMA, enjoy the free admission to both the museum and any special exhibit, with extended hours and other evening festivities. The Walters is free all day.

Baltimore Collegetown offers special discounts for students, often slashing the ticket prices by more than half, to many of Baltimore's popular,

and typically expensive, cultural and art events in Baltimore. The current week's discounts can be found at [www.colltown.org/cheaptix/](http://www.colltown.org/cheaptix/), or you can sign up to receive the current offers through e-mail each week.

Keep your eye out for Baltimore's "Downtown Dollar or Less days", usually the second weekend in December. Most museums in Baltimore reduce their admission price to \$1 or less for the entire weekend. Over a dozen museums participate each year, including heavy hitters like the National Aquarium in Baltimore and The Walters Art Museum. For an updated list of participating museums visit the Baltimore Area Convention at Visitor's Association website at [www.baltimore.org](http://www.baltimore.org) in early December.

Students can pick up discount tickets for several local attractions through the JHU Office of Faculty, Staff & Retiree Programs located in the Evergreen House or online at [www.jhu.edu/hr/fsrp/promo.html](http://www.jhu.edu/hr/fsrp/promo.html). At the time of publication, discount tickets were available for the Maryland Zoo, the B&O Railroad Museum, the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, and many Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania theme parks.

Our final budget suggestion is by far the most amazing perk in Baltimore. The Book Thing is, incredibly, a large warehouse of free books to peruse and choose, with a limit of 150,000 free books per day per person. Its open Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., at 3001 Vineyard Lane (near 30<sup>th</sup> and Barclay). Don't believe us? Check out the website at [www.bookthing.org](http://www.bookthing.org). Now get out and about...