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Brandon Scott Wins Democratic Nomination



Mayor Brandon Scott of Baltimore City won the Democratic nomination in the Baltimore mayoral race held on May 14, 2024. After thanking his main opponent, Mayor Scott took to the stage at his victory party in South Baltimore at the recently redeveloped Baltimore Peninsula declaring that, "A victory tonight means that the work has just begun. Winning is not just a triumph, but a challenge to go farther, to be better, and do more for Baltimore. It's a mandate to double down and work harder for this city and each and every one of you!"

(See article on page 11.) Photo credit: J.J. McQueen

What You Need to Know if Seeking a Name Change in Maryland

By Nancy Grimm, Esq

Over the last several years, Maryland has streamlined the process for a person to legally change their name. Previously, a name change petition required publishing a notice in a newspaper or at the courthouse to allow anyone to object. Now that this requirement has been removed, the process is faster and less expensive and requires only one or two trips to the courthouse.

The first step when seeking a name change is to prepare a “Petition for Change of Name of an Adult” (Form CC-DR-060). This form can be found on the Maryland Courts website (mdcourts.gov). Name changes are allowed unless they are for any illegal or fraudulent reason.

In addition to the petition, the applicant must provide documentation of their current name. This could be accomplished by providing a copy of a birth certificate, driver’s license or other government-issued ID or passport. The petition and attachments must then be filed online or in person in the Circuit Court of the county where the filing person lives, conducts regular business, is employed or was born.

There is a fee (currently \$165) to file the petition. The fee can be waived if the person filing meets the established income requirements. If the person is a client of a pro bono legal services organization like Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service (MVLS), that organization can request that this fee be waived.

Once a petition is filed, the court is required to wait 30 days to see if anyone opposes the request for a name

change. The court may also schedule a hearing to find out more information about the reasons for the name change. If everything is in order, the court will issue a signed order legally changing the name. It is important to ask for at least three to five certified copies of the order, one for each of the agencies or businesses where proof of the name change will need to be provided.

It is also possible to change the name of a child. The process is similar to that for adults, but may take longer because it requires the consent of each parent, guardian or custodian. If the child is at least 10 years old, the child must also provide written consent to the name change. For more information on the name change process for children, see <https://www.mdcourts.gov/legalhelp/family/namechange>.

Marriage

A court order is not required to change a name because of marriage. A person can use any name they want after marriage, provided the name is used consistently. It is important to provide a certified copy of the marriage certificate to each of the agencies or businesses that need to be notified of the name change.

Divorce

If a new name was acquired due to marriage, upon filing for divorce a person can return to their birth name or some other previous name by simply requesting a name change within the Complaint for Divorce. If the name change is not done at the time the decree is issued, a separate request can be made within 18 months after the divorce decree is issued.



Photo: Billion Photos via Canva.com

Gender Identity

When filing a “Petition for Judicial Declaration of Gender Identity of an Adult” (Form CC-DR-120), a name change can be requested at the same time. To do so, check the “With Name Change” box at the beginning of the form and answer the questions regarding the name change. The name change rules in this context are the same as those given above.

Adoption

When adopting a child, the adoptive parent may change the adopted person’s name by adding the desired name to the adoption petition.

Minor Child Under One Year Old

If a minor child is born in Maryland, their name can be changed on their birth certificate within the first year after the birth without a court order. This can be done by filing a written request with the Maryland Department

of Health. For more information and to download the affidavit, visit the Maryland Department of Health website at <https://health.maryland.gov/vsa/Pages/changename.aspx>.

I have my court order. Now what?

Use the certified copy of the court order to change the name on documents such as your Social Security card, driver’s license, passport and birth certificate. Also inform banks, health care providers and employers of the name change.

Get Legal Help

Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service provides pro bono legal services for eligible individuals in name change cases. To learn more or find out how MVLS can help, visit mvlslaw.org.

Nancy Grimm, Esq., is a family law attorney for Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service.

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Jayne Hopson
Courtesy Photo

By Jayne Hopson

The Baltimore Times' Health Matter series, "Illiteracy: Black America's Public Health Enemy #1," continues its examination of the connection between literacy, racial health disparities, and disproportionately high rates of chronic and acute illness in the African American community.

The financial costs of medical illiteracy are astronomical. It is estimated several billion dollars are spent on the treatment of preventable diseases and illnesses suffered by patients who are functionally illiterate, millions of individuals who lack the skill to read at the fifth-grade level. People who cannot accurately read prescription medicine labels and understand written hospital discharge instructions significantly increase their risk for making medical errors.

This deficit hits hardest poor, chronically ill people who self-administer their medications and rely on caregivers, who may have limited literacy as well.

Medical content is generally written to be understood by a wide audience around the eighth-grade reading level. To illustrate the differences in complexity and explanation of tasks compare these three post-outpatient surgery instructions written at the eighth-grade, fifth grade and third-grade reading levels:

Medical Illiteracy: Black America's Public Health Enemy #1 Fueled by Low Reading Levels, Part 2

Eighth Grade Reading Level

- Care Instructions After Your Surgery
- Limit Physical Activity: For the next few days, focus on resting. You can do light activities like reading but avoid anything strenuous.
- Diet and Hydration: Begin with bland foods that won't upset your stomach. Keep yourself well-hydrated by drinking plenty of fluids throughout the day.
- Follow Medication Guidelines: If you've been prescribed medications, it's crucial to take them exactly as directed to manage any discomfort.
- Wound Management: Ensure your wound stays clean and the dressing intact. Follow your healthcare provider's instructions regarding wound care and dressing changes.

Fifth Grade Reading Level

- What to Do After Surgery
- Rest Well: It's important to relax and not do too much. Staying in bed or sitting quietly will help you heal.
- Eat Soft, Simple Foods: Start with foods that are easy to swallow like apple sauce or yogurt. Remember to drink lots of fluids, too.
- Medicine Rules: You might have medicine to take for pain. Always take it exactly how your doctor said.
- Care for Your Bandage: Keep the area with the bandage very clean. Don't let it get wet and change it when your doctor tells you.

Third Grade Reading Level

- Rest Time: You need to rest and get lots of sleep. Stay in bed or on the couch.

- Soft Foods: Eat soft things like pudding or mashed potatoes. Drink lots of water to keep you strong.
- Medicine Help: If you have pain, your medicine can help. Remember, only take it as directed.
- Keep Your Wound Clean: Don't touch your bandage except to change it. Seek help changing the bandage if it gets dirty.

The Face of Illiteracy

It is nearly impossible to calculate how many people die each year because they cannot correctly read a prescription medicine label nor determine the number of patients who became ill after surgery because they could not read or understand critical home care instructions. The Literacy Project has gathered U.S. Census Bureau data to offer a compelling look at illiteracy and the magnitude of the problem:

- *Currently, 45 million Americans are *functionally illiterate* and cannot read above a fifth-grade level
- *50% of adults cannot read a book written at an eighth-grade level
- *57% of students failed the California Standards Test in English
- *1/3 of fourth-graders reach the proficient reading level
- *25% of students in California school systems are able to perform basic reading skills
- *85% of juvenile offenders have problems reading
- *3 out of 5 people in American prisons can't read
- *3 out of 4 people on welfare can't read

The series Medical Illiteracy: Black America's Public Health Enemy #1,



Photo: Shutterstock

intends to identify ways to win the battle against health disparities by raising awareness of deep-seated challenges and attitudes to address the persistent root causes of illiteracy in the Black community. The legacy of historical, systemic barriers to Black literacy such as laws that made it illegal to teach slaves how to read, continues to this day, directly wielding a profound influence on the health outcomes of African Americans.

Jayne Hopson is a 2024 Commonwealth Health Care Performance Fellow. The special series "Illiteracy: Black America's Public Health Enemy #1 is funded by Association of Health Care Journalists (AHCJ) and supported by The Commonwealth Fund.

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National Adolescent Health Month

Part I of a II Part Series

Slow Their Scroll! Establish Screen Time, Social Media Boundaries for Children, Teens

By Andrea Blackstone

YouTube, TikTok, Instagram and Facebook are top online platforms.

Although social media is commonplace, it can affect adolescents academically, socially and developmentally. Pew Research reports that 35 percent of teens say they use at least one of them "almost constantly," according to Pew Research Center's teen survey 2022.

"Excessive use of social media can lead to distractions, reduced concentration, and decreased academic performance. Spending too much time on social media may also cut into study time and affect sleep patterns, which are crucial for learning," Rikki Clark McCoy said.

McCoy, CEO and founder of Flourishing Minds, runs a private practice providing holistic therapy and wellness coaching services. The therapist provided insight and tips to promote responsible online behavior to help your children develop the skills and habits they need to stay safe, respectful and informed in the digital age.

She added that while usage of social media can provide opportunities for connectivity, it can also lead to feelings of isolation or loneliness, especially if adolescents compare themselves unfavorably to their peers' curated online personas. It may also promote cyberbullying and a distorted perception of social norms and relationships.

Developmentally, McCoy noted that constant exposure to social media can influence adolescents' self-esteem, body image and identity formation.

She said, "They may feel pressure to conform to unrealistic beauty



Rikki Clark McCoy, a therapist and founder of Flourishing Minds.

Photo: JLavii Photography

standards or engage in risky behaviors to gain validation or acceptance online."

Additionally, excessive screen time can affect brain development and interpersonal skills. Too much recreational screen time can have harmful mental health effects on teens and children.

"Spending excessive time on screens, especially on social media, has been linked to higher rates of depression and anxiety in adolescents. Constant comparison with others and exposure

to negative content can contribute to feelings of inadequacy and low self-esteem," McCoy cautioned.

She further noted that screen time, particularly before bedtime, can disrupt sleep patterns.

"The blue light emitted by screens interferes with the production of melatonin, making it harder to fall asleep and negatively impacting the quality of sleep. Poor sleep quality is associated with various mental health issues, including depression and anxiety."

See **SOCIAL MEDIA**, page 13

Persistent Morgan State University Film Major Takes Home Two Film Awards at Local Film Festival

By Andrea Blackstone

Nina Rose, a 20-year-old Morgan State University junior, reflected on watching movie animations at the age of eight or nine with her family.

“Watching people make objects move without using their hands or wires and making the dolls I love come alive made me say to myself, ‘Wow! I wanna do that!’”

She grew up in northwest Baltimore and steadily invested in pieces of her creative passion.

“This is the third time I’ve entered a film festival,” Rose explained.

Last year Rose was selected to receive Judges Honorable Mention at Underground Studio’s Film Festival.

This time, Rose took home the Best Editing Award and the Judges Choice Award from Underground Studios on Wednesday, May 1, 2024 for her recent film, “Tennis Court.” Underground Studios is Morgan State University’s student lead film organization. Their Submerged Film Festival which featured creatives was held at Morgan State University.

Underground Studios was created for all creatives of all mediums to connect and create together, according to Morgan State University’s website. Underground Studios showcases a film festival, premiering student and local Baltimorean filmmakers’ short films every year, towards the end of the spring semester.

Rose’s short film features a 19-year-old girl named Angel. She blends her love of dolls and movie animation. The student has been a fan of dolls since she was a little girl. It took Rose a little over a month to create the stop motion short film.

“It is about a girl who wants to be better at tennis, but something is holding her back from it that day,” said Rose.



Nina Rose tries to get as much of her short film shot before it rains.

Photo: Odessa Rose

The film major uses a Canon camera and a tripod to shoot her films. She further explained that “Tennis Court” was inspired by a conversation Rose had with her friends who are encouragers. Rose likes to create mini masterpieces with the help of stop motion.

“Stop motion is a type of animation where you get a puppet or whatever you are moving frame by frame, picture by picture,” Rose said, explaining how the process gives off the effect of motion.

Rose, who aspires to write, produce, film, and direct stop motion films added that she mostly learned the technique from observing a lot of other people who were utilizing it. American Girl dolls’ AGTube, otherwise known as the American Girl YouTube Channel. She further explained that the community of people who also own dolls do stop motions with them.

“It made me look at the way it was filmed and made me think that I could do that,” Rose said.

Rose’s mother, Odessa Rose, explained how film professors at Morgan State University provide

support to enable Nina to learn more about the film industry.

“Nina’s professors give her a lot of encouragement,” Odessa said. “Professor David Roberts [who teaches her film editing] gives her great feedback on what she’s doing well and what aspects she needs to improve on. Professor Roberts also gives Nina the freedom to do stop motion instead of live action.”

Odessa and several of her daughter’s friends have given her daughter hands-on support with “Tennis Court.” Nina’s mother and Nina’s friend, Zorie Owens did the foley for the film. Foley is the art of adding everyday sounds to movies.

“We recorded the sounds of us playing tennis so Nina could use those sound effects in the film,” Odessa said.

Additionally, Warren Shakes helped with the set and props. Jada Carter and Tochukwu Opaigbeogu both did voiceovers.

Nina’s journey to take home awards at the film festival was not smooth sailing. Inclement weather was the biggest obstacle that she



Nina Rose won the Best Editing Award and the Judges Choice Award from Underground Studios at the Submerged Film Festival for her recent film, “Tennis Court.”

Photo: Nina Rose

encountered while filming.

“There were days I couldn’t even film the things I wanted to because it was so cloudy, and it wouldn’t match up with what I wanted,” Nina recalled.

She also learned that stop motion was a time-consuming medium requiring patience and determination to bring a good product on a screen.

Rose’s parents, Odessa and Michael Rose remarked that they feel especially proud because they know how hard their daughter worked to complete “Tennis Court.”

They added, “We listened to her talk about the story and writing the script; watched her create the tennis courts from cardboard boxes; spend her own money on equipment for the set; go out and film: and stay up late to edit the film, all the while she studied for exams and wrote papers for her classes at Morgan.”

Every step is an important one in a new adventure. A door opened because of Nina’s win. Underground Studios stated that they will produce her next stop motion film. Visit https://youtu.be/SYui2_OF2hA?si=CfIG2Qd6P4vBXRrb to watch “Tennis Court.”

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Summit Promotes Student Engagement

Black Student Voices Take Center Stage at I Love MYHBCU's GenerationNext Summit

By **Karanja Gaçuça**

A groundbreaking summit, GenerationNext: Thought Leaders, hosted by the I Love MYHBCU organization, brought together Black college students from across the nation on Tuesday, April 30, 2024. This unique event shattered the mold of typical conferences by placing Black students at the center of critical national issues.

Instead of relying solely on established experts, the summit empowered Black students to lead thought-provoking discussions on issues they care most about. This fostered a space for diverse perspectives and a unified demand for progress, acknowledging the complexities and occasional disagreements within the Black community.

The summit featured compelling keynote speakers. Sommer Hill, a Howard University alum and media professional advocating for storytelling, creativity, and social justice, delivered the morning address. The afternoon keynote speaker was Alex Aaron, another Howard graduate and founder/CEO of BLANK SLATE, a company that revitalizes historic properties while promoting economic development and community integrity.

Prominent journalists and personalities also participated as moderators. Jenyne Donaldson, a co-anchor and reporter for 11 News, led a lively immigration panel discussion that included student panelists Morghan Blair, Chelsea Morton, and Ruvy Chigiji. Climate Equity Associate Anjali Gulati with Interfaith Power & Light moderated the U.S. Economy panel featuring student panelists Jade Nieves-Calderon, Oluwaseye Onasanya, and Karson Smith. Award-winning journalist Taylor Stewart hosted the Systemic Racism Panel with student

panelists Breana Mahoney, Alyssa Mark, and Kalee Williams. Ryan Turner, founder of GreenLight Fund Baltimore, moderated the U.S. Domestic Policy panel featuring students Aniyah Barnett, Nakayla Hill, and Chimaobi Uzowihe.

After her session, I also spoke with Nakayla Hill, who is president of the Black Student Union at Western Carolina University, about her experiences as a Black student at a PWI. "I chose Western Carolina due to financial reasons and a lack of knowledge about HBCUs among my family," Hill said. "But being here has opened my eyes to the importance of diversity and inclusion in education. We need to work together to create a more welcoming environment for all students." Nakayla was one of the students who traveled quite a distance to be at the summit.

The summit concluded with a fireside chat hosted by Dr. Tosin Adegbola Richard, I Love MYHBCU's founder, featuring Maryland State Senator Charles Sydnor III and activist Kayla Moore, a Coppin State College alumnus. This engaging discussion focused on the challenges faced by young Black students.

I asked Dr. Tosin what her favorite part of the event was, to which she responded, "That is such an unfair question." She offered, however, that "I had favorite moments out of each session." Surprisingly, Dr. Tosin who attended both HBCUs as well as PWI (Predominantly White Institutions), said that she "wasn't sure she would necessarily do it all again exactly the same way or in exactly the same order."

The event wasn't just about seeking agreement. GenerationNext: Thought Leaders acknowledged the complex and sometimes differing views within



(Left) Dr. Tosin Adegbola Richard, Founder of I Love My HBCU and Morgan State University Professor; (center) Senator Charles E. Sydnor III; and (right) Kayla Moore –Coppin State College Alum and Founder/Executive Director at Moore4Education and Concerned Citizens Demand Change (aka Concerned Citizens DC). Photo: Karanja Gaçuça

the Black community, aiming for understanding and a shared focus on moving forward.

- **Local Government and Transparency:** Senator Charles E. Sydnor III highlighted the importance of relationships and networking for navigating local government decision-making. Transparency in the legislative process was also emphasized, with several speakers from the audience calling for pro-transparency legislation and diversity initiatives.

- **HBCUs vs. PWIs:** The critical role of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) in fostering Black identity and success was a key theme. Speakers addressed the underfunding of HBCUs and its impact on students, while also acknowledging the challenges faced by Black students in predominantly white institutions (PWIs). Some speakers shared experiences of feeling isolated and unprepared at PWIs despite good grades.

- **Action Items:** The fireside chat offered actionable advice for students. Organizing student groups and

educating them on relevant policies, engaging in community organizing to understand local issues, and researching ways to empower communities upon returning home were all highlighted as important steps.

I asked Senator Sydnor about the underfunding of HBCUs, especially after what he had heard about the challenges faced by Black students in predominantly white institutions (PWIs). The senator argued that: "Those disparities in funding have greatly reduced" adding that "...there are numerous grants and scholarships currently available for students across the board that aren't being exhausted."

Activist Kayla Moore stated, "Political leaders must be held accountable for their actions and words on issues of race and social justice."

The GenerationNext: Thought Leaders summit marked a turning point for Black student engagement in the national discourse. This event provided a platform for future leaders to share their perspectives, build connections, and demand a rightful seat at the table.

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Meet Charlie Alexander: Board Member, Donate Life Maryland, President and CEO, Infinite Legacy

By Andrea Blackstone

Hopeful organ transplant recipients across America eagerly wait to receive calls that needed organs are available to help them have a chance to improve or save their lives. According to the CDC, approximately 100,000 people are on the active waiting list for organs in the United States, yet there were only approximately 14,000 deceased organ donors in 2021, with each providing on average three and a half organs.

The clock never stops for people who advocate for lifesaving transplantations. Charlie Alexander is one of them.

Alexander, Infinite Legacy's president and CEO, also serves on the Board of Directors for Donate Life Maryland (DLM), the state-authorized nonprofit organization. Alexander supports organ, eye, and tissue donation from dual facets. He remains passionate about serving people who face health challenges. Infinite Legacy, a nonprofit organ procurement organization (OPO), serves individuals in Maryland, Northern Virginia and Washington, DC. DLM works closely with Infinite Legacy.

"Donate Life Maryland manages the donor registry in Maryland where people can go either through the Motor Vehicle Administration, or directly onto a website and designate their wish to be an organ and tissue donor. It's a very powerful tool for us in supporting families at very difficult times. If, unfortunately, someone passed away and they had made their wish known that they wanted to be a donor, then it... relieves that burden of decision-making from the family. So, it's a really important partnership that we have where Donate Life Maryland educates, operates and runs

the Maryland donor registry," said Alexander. Alexander has been active in the field of transplantation since 1995. His passion to serve on the DLM Board and uplift individuals in need at Infinite Legacy is rooted in his critical care nursing background.

"I worked in Shock Trauma in Baltimore at Johns Hopkins," he said.

Alexander was intrigued by the good that was being done and wanted to be a part of it. He observed how amazing transplantation is while witnessing people within his own community receive help.

When he hears stories about people who were once tied to dialysis three days a week, then they are not after receiving a donated kidney, they never get old.

Alexander noted organ donation trends in Maryland.

"So, the number of donors has steadily increased year-over-year for several years. It's kind of like a wave—a little bit of up, a little bit of down—but the net has been increasing in organ donation for probably 15 years now. The percentage of people who choose to designate on the donor registry has been kind of flat. About half of people who carry a Maryland State ID have designated their wish to be an organ donor on that state identification card or in our registry. So, we would love to see growth in the registry."

He further noted an unfortunate trend in the Black community is more predisposition to hypertension and diabetes.

"We know that those things cause kidney failure at higher rates than anything. So, it's always going to be our African American community that's in the greatest need for kidney transplant. There have been times on

and off in the last 15-20 years where people of color represented 50% of our waiting list for kidney [transplants]," Alexander revealed.

He added, "We know that we can put a donated kidney into a recipient, and the more likely they are in their genetic makeup, the more likely they are to receive that organ and not kind of fight it as an outside visitor into their body. I think anytime people can donate to like people, it's definitely helpful for the system in getting people transplanted."

This year's priorities within Infinite Legacy and DLM's partnership include taking a grassroots approach to educate the public in Maryland, DC and Northern Virginia. Alexander mentioned the importance of people having accurate information about organ, eye and tissue donation to enable them to decide if they want to be a donor. A prevailing myth about donation is that sometimes people think they are too old or too sick. Another myth is that medical professionals will not attempt to save a registered organ donor's life who goes to the hospital during a medical emergency because their organs are wanted.

"Having worked in trauma for seven plus years, I can assure you, the last thing we're doing is looking for people's driver's license when they



Charlie Alexander
Photo: Infinite Legacy

come in critically injured or sick. We're trying to save a life every time," Alexander said. Finally, people can give many lifesaving and life-enhancing gifts through tissue donation. Burn patients and sometimes diabetic ulcer patients benefit from them. Skin grafts are used in breast reconstruction surgery for cancer patients who endure mastectomies.

Alexander is a DLM Board Member who stays on the move. "It's been almost 30 years [working in the transplantation field] and I jokingly told my kids I've never gone to work a day in my life... because this has never felt like work!" he said.

Visit <https://www.donatelifemaryland.org> to learn more about becoming an organ, eye and tissue donor in Maryland.

Resilience and Recovery: Baltimore's Endorsement of Mayor Scott

By **Karanja Gaçuça**

Mayor Brandon Scott of Baltimore City won the Democratic nomination in the Baltimore mayoral race held on May 14, 2024. The race was tighter than expected with the AP calling the race for Mayor Scott at 11:24 p.m. after he opened up what appeared to be an insurmountable lead over his main primary opponent, former Mayor Sheila Dixon. After thanking his main opponent, Mayor Scott took to the stage at his victory party in South Baltimore at the recently redeveloped Baltimore Peninsula declaring that, "A victory tonight means that the work has just begun. Winning is not just a triumph, but a challenge to go farther, to be better, and do more for Baltimore. It's a mandate to double down and work harder for this city and each and every one of you!"

Scott's tenure has seen the city grapple with a global pandemic, civil unrest, and most recently, the collapse of the Francis Scott Key Bridge. The bridge collapse, which occurred the morning after Mayor Scott's State of the City Address on March 25, 2024, overshadowed the address. However, the incident inadvertently cast Mayor Scott into the limelight, arguably bolstering his re-election campaign.

The Leader Baltimore Affirmed

The collapse of the Francis Scott Key Bridge cast a pall over the city. Yet, in collaboration with state and federal officials including Maryland Governor Wes More and President Joe Biden, Mayor Scott's leadership has been widely recognized as instrumental in guiding Baltimore through these turbulent times. His empathetic response, decisive actions, and unwavering commitment to the city's recovery have earned him national and international acclaim.



Baltimore Mayor Brandon Scott gives victory speech after winning the Democratic nomination. Photo: J.J. McQueen

A Mandate for Resilience and Recovery

His global recognition and proven track record as a leader dedicated to ending gun violence, restoring public trust in government, and transforming Baltimore for the better solidified his standing among the electorate. The primary election results are a testament to this, as Mayor Scott won with a significant margin, reflecting the city's trust and confidence in his leadership.

Addressing Key Issues

Mayor Scott's policies, centered around the core issues of public safety and gun violence, infrastructure and transportation, economic development and equity, and education reform have been instrumental in his re-election. His approach to violence as a public health issue, his commitment to equitable neighborhood development, and his focus on education reform have resonated with the citizens of Baltimore.

A City Reimagined

Mayor Scott has acknowledged the challenges that Baltimore has faced, from the grip of a global pandemic to the scourge of violence that has tested the city's resolve. Yet, in the face of adversity, he declared, "The state of our city is stronger and more resilient than ever." This statement set the tone for an evening of reflection, celebration, and aspiration.

Triumph Over Trials

Reflecting on the tumultuous times when he first took office, Mayor Scott recounted the solitary experience of delivering his inaugural address virtually, amidst a city battling both a pandemic and an epidemic of violence. The progress since then has been nothing short of remarkable, with Baltimore achieving the largest single-year reduction in homicides it has ever seen, continuing that trend into the current year. Homicides and shootings fell in 2023.

Investing in the Future

Mayor Brandon Scott highlighted the new investments, developments, and projects that are reshaping the city's landscape. New schools, recreation centers, and new opportunities for all Baltimoreans are signs of a city on the rise. The use of ARPA dollars to support the most vulnerable and the reduction of unemployment to historic lows were cited as key achievements under his leadership. In addition, the Mayor has been instrumental in implementing a comprehensive plan to prevent and reduce violent crime.

Karanja Gaçuça is a credentialed White House Correspondent, a tech founder and former Wall Street analyst covering politics, economics & finance and international geo-politics pertaining to Africa and her diaspora.

Certified Child Life Specialist Pens Book, Reminds that Children of All Ages Can Grieve

By Andrea Blackstone

According to the Childhood Bereavement Estimation Model, one in 12 children nationally experience the death of a parent or sibling by the time they are 18 years old.

“One hundred percent of children will grieve something during their childhood or come in contact with individuals who are grieving,” said certified child life specialist (CCLS), Jessica Correnti. “Yes, even infants, can grieve.”

Correnti, founder of Kids Grief Support, supports grieving children and families one-on-one with in-person or virtual grief support services through her private practice. She works with children of all ages up to 18.

“I also provide parent/caregiver consultations to help adults support the grieving children in their lives,” Baltimore County-based Correnti said.

Correnti further explained that children can grieve because of death, but also due to divorce; medical diagnosis; a move; natural or manmade disaster; friendship changes and other losses. Her practice also publishes children’s books related to grief topics and collaborates with organizations and businesses as a consultant for grief programming or projects.

Correnti, who has clients who also see her virtually from all over the country, explained that adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), are potentially traumatic events that occur during childhood.

“The more ACEs that someone has, the more potential and correlations there are with things like chronic health problems, mental illness, substance abuse, incarceration, and other issues as the child grows into adulthood,” she added.

Children frequently show that they are grieving through their behavioral changes, sleep changes and themes in their play.

The CCLS added, “Children will grieve in bursts over time, often re-grieving as they get older and go through different developmental stages. Children need the opportunity to process their grief situations and develop coping skills, so it lessens some of the potential risk of having an adverse childhood experience.”

Specifically, a CCLS is a healthcare professional with expertise in child development who provides support to children and families who are navigating stressful life experiences to reduce stress, anxiety and psychosocial trauma.

“This may look like helping a child understand and cope with a new diagnosis, preparing them for what to expect with a procedure at the hospital, providing normative play during a lengthy hospital stay, or supporting a child through a death experience or funeral,” said Correnti.

They utilize a variety of creative, play-based tools to support children and teens with navigating new and potentially anxiety-producing situations. Correnti has been a CCLS for 16 years and has worked within the hospital setting.

She also penned “*The ABCs of Grief* in 2024 and *Forever Connected?*” to fill a gap in the current children’s grief literature. The children’s grief book was published in February of 2024. It is intended for all grieving children, not just ones who are experiencing death losses. The book can be utilized for children ages three and up.

Correnti added, “While the writing is simple enough for young children, the concepts can lead to deep and multi-layered conversations for older children, teens and even adults.



Jessica Correnti, certified child life specialist and author

Photo: Julie Linz Photography

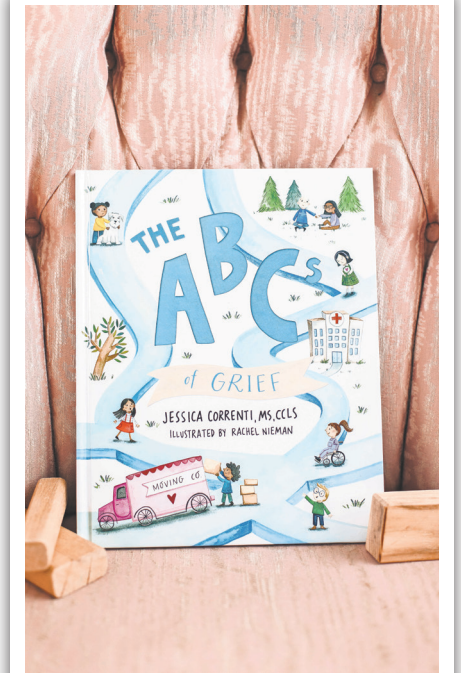


Photo: Amanda Feltmann

She further stated that any child would benefit from this book since all humans are grievers.

“We grieve moving schools and towns, changes in relationships or family dynamics, changes in our homes or communities, and yes deaths of friends, pets, and family members,” Correnti added.

Correnti also pointed out that adults can validate emotions and experiences and help children learn coping skills and ways to express their grief and emotions in ways that are healing.

“We can do this through the use of children’s books on grief and emotions, expressive activities, grief support groups, grief counseling or therapy sessions, and meeting children truly where they are in the moment emotionally,” she said.

Correnti wants people to know that we can and should be educating children about grief from the youngest of ages. A beginning point is one that fosters simple, direct, truthful conversations that naturally come up.

“For example, if you are on a walk in the fall and see dead leaves, flowers, or an insect/animal, you can talk about the life cycle of that once-living thing and how it is now dead and will never come back.”

Correnti added, “Grief is not synonymous with death. One can grieve anything. There are hundreds of scenarios that a child or adult could grieve. We can normalize and validate that grief is felt in so many different situations, not only death.

Visit www.kidsgriefsupport.com to obtain more information about Kids Grief Support and “The ABCs of Grief.”

Social Media

Continued from page 5

The expert also explained that excessive screen time can lead to social withdrawal and isolation. It may replace face-to-face interactions and outdoor activities. This can contribute to feelings of loneliness and exacerbate existing mental health problems.

Another consequence of heavy screen use can be impaired attention span and cognitive control in children and teens. This can lead to difficulties focusing in school, impulsivity and challenges with self-regulation.

Young people often model their parents' behaviors when it comes to the use of social media and screen time.

"When parents demonstrate responsible and balanced screen habits, children are more likely to follow suit and adhere to these guidelines," McCoy stated.

Excessive screen time can detract from quality parent-child interactions, such as conversations, shared activities and bonding time. Conversely, when parents demonstrate a healthy balance between screen time and other activities, such as outdoor play, reading, hobbies, and spending time with family and friends, they set a positive example for their children.

Quality interactions can be promoted by establishing tech-free zones and times to encourage face-to-face communication and meaningful interactions among family members and friends.

"Without the distraction of screens, people can fully engage with each other, share stories and strengthen their relationships," McCoy noted.

Mealtimes are an excellent opportunity for families to connect and bond.

"When screens are not allowed at the dinner table, it allows everyone to focus on enjoying their food, engaging

in conversation, and practicing mindful eating habits," McCoy said.

Parents should also educate their children and teens about online safety; set clear guidelines that include clear rules and guidelines for internet use, including time limits, appropriate websites and apps, and behavior expectations; help children develop critical thinking skills to evaluate online information critically; and promote empathy, kindness and respectful communication in online interactions.

Discuss the importance of treating others with kindness and consideration, both online and offline, and encourage children to stand up against cyberbullying and harassment. It is also important to stay involved in children's online activities by monitoring their internet use, setting parental controls, regularly checking in with your children about their online experiences, and addressing any concerns or issues that arise. McCoy added, "Talk to your children about the potential



Rikki Clark McCoy
Photo: JLavii Photography

consequences of their online actions, both positive and negative. Help them understand the impact of their digital footprint, including how their online behavior can affect their reputation, relationships and future opportunities."

Visit www.flourishingmindslc.com and on social media @therapywithrikki to learn more about McCoy.

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It is Festival Time!

By Rosa Pryor

Hello, my friends,
I hope all the mothers and mothers-to-be had a wonderful, delightful, and happy Mother's Day last week. Mine was wonderful. The weather turned out to be great. There were a lot of outdoor events to celebrate the holiday. Now, we have got to plan ahead for other things since the weather is getting warmer, and the days are getting longer. We want to start out by talking about the festivals that are coming up in the next couple of weeks.

The 51st Annual Arbutus Arts Festival is Sunday, May 19, 2024 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., located 5407 East Drive Arbutus in Halethorpe, Maryland. They have a little bit of everything, whether you're in the mood to browse handmade arts and crafts, savor delicious food and drinks, check out some great live entertainment, or just relax in the garden.

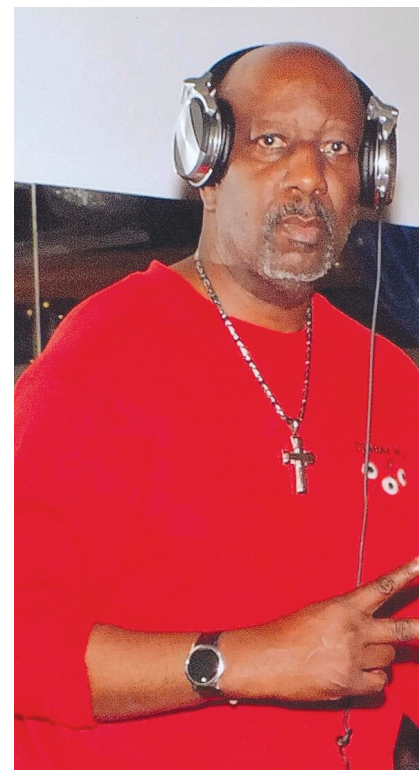
For my racetrack lovers, there is another event happening this month that will be lots of fun for many. It is Black-Eyed Susan Day in the Preakness Week Celebration events. The Preakness returns to Pimlico this May, Friday 17 and Saturday, May 18 and will feature the 100th running of the Black-Eyed Susan Day, showcasing six stakes races, leading up to the 149th Preakness Stakes on May 18. Preakness Live offers a new era of live music and entertainment on Preakness Day, with Jack Harlow headlining a lineup of performers and pop-ups by



Doresa Harvey, Mae-day Gospel Diva, is hosting an old School Gospel Sunday on Sunday, May 26, 2024 starting at 3 p.m. at Sweet Mercy Church & Ministries, located 701 Bonaparte Avenue in Baltimore. Performing are Robert C. Williams and the Nu Gospel Keynotes, The Christianaires, and James Price & Redemption For more information, call 410-542-1258.

local restaurants in the Pimlico infield, highlighting Baltimore's culinary and cultural scene. Now, my friends, let me tell you that traffic and road closures on race day are very heavy, so if you plan to attend, I recommend public transportation. It will be less of a headache.

On May 19, you can hear some of Maryland's rising talent during the sixth Annual Showcase featuring musical performances by students from Hunt Valley's Stage Music Arts at

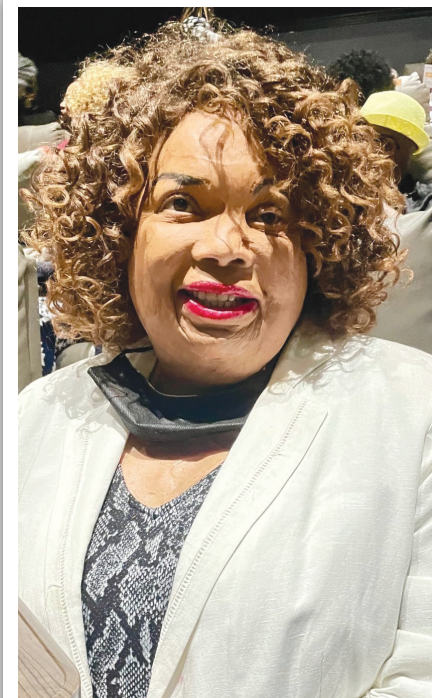


DJ Mike Jones is hosting a "Throwback Thursdays" and Lady's Night every Thursday at Not Just Crab, located 8731 Liberty Road in Randallstown, Maryland from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m.

the Recher, located 512 York Road in Towson starting at 12 p.m.

On May 18, a Biennial broadcast event will highlight the achievements of local and regional musicians. A live music showcase will feature various genres. Proceeds will benefit children with cancer through the Nicole Van Horn Foundation, at the Rams Head Live, 20 Market Place at 8 p.m.

Sun Ra Orchestra, an acclaimed experimental music group brings its cosmic, jazz-infused sound to Harbor



Valerie Fraling Relocating to Charleston, South Carolina Party on Friday, May 24 from 6-9 p.m. at Little Havana, 1325 Key Highway. Say farewell to one of Baltimore's icons. She will be truly missed. All are invited. Farewell, my friend. Much love.

East in honor of its frontman's 100th birthday at the Keystone Korner, located 1350 Lancaster Street at 7 p.m.

Oh well, this is enough for you to get started. I have to go now. But remember if you need me, or if you have an event you want to invite me to or put into my column, please call me at 410-833-9474 or email me at rosapryor@aol.com

UNTIL THE NEXT TIME, I'M MUSICALLY YOURS.

Rescheduled Avenue Bakery Event

Baltimore Hip Hop History Honored with Mural Unveiling

By Wendy Saulters

“It was just something we were doing as kids, to have fun, as young teenagers,” said Rodney “Kool Rod,” when asked how he feels learning about the impact his early rap career had on his peers, who are now in their mid-fifties. Rodney “Kool Rod” Holloman (Numarx), Marvin “Marvin C” Caldwell (Z3MC’s), Carla “MC Spicey” Gales (the Uno Girls), Richard Burton (Chocolate Boogie), and Terry “Terry Tee” McCoy (We Rock Krew) were more than grateful, energetic, and proud when they saw a mural dedicated to them unveiled at the Avenue Bakery this past Saturday.

The mural, painted by Cisco the Artist, bridges the musical history of Baltimore from jazz to hip hop with a depiction of “Scat King,” Cab Calloway, and iconic hip hop images. The turntable, the kango hat, the thick-rimmed glasses, the boom box, and the DJ represent early staples of hip hop culture. The Legendary Dorothy Brunson, America’s first African-American woman to own a radio station, dominates prime real estate on the mural. Brunson, the visionary, gave access and the DJs of WEBB and WWIN, invested time in teen artists exploring a new genre of music.

Baltimore Hip Hop Historical Project (BHHHP) leaders, Dr. Tenyo Pearl and Stacia Dashiell are challenging Generation X to create access for today’s youth. “Many of us have connections, key positions, businesses, and we can open internship programs... shadow days... it doesn’t have to be just entertainment. We can take the model that was demonstrated during that time,” said Dr. Pearl.

“When I saw the mural, it took me way back. We had a voice to advocate our feelings, to touch our peers,” said Uno Girl, Carla Gales AKA MC Spicey. She was in attendance with her son, Michael Gales III, who performs as Major Wednesday. “Both of my sons joke and say they feel like a proud parent, and I motivate them to achieve more in the same field as their mother.” MC Spicey and Major Wednesday weren’t the only intergenerational duo in attendance. Richard Burton of Chocolate Boogie shared the moment with his nephew, Joseph Evans, as they posed in front of the mural pointing to his group name. Stacia Dashiell implores today’s youth to learn about the artists on display at the Avenue Bakery and see their dedication to their community as a model for using their voices and uplifting Baltimore positively.

A quote from English writer A.A. Milne says, “We didn’t realize we were making memories; we just knew we were having fun.” In the ‘80s, teenage hip hop groups didn’t realize they were making history, but they did. The commemoration from their fans solidifies their story in Baltimore’s history. The core values of the BHHHP are grounded in intergenerational storytelling, unity, empowerment, and the rich tapestry of experiences.

By capturing the narratives of Generation X, BHHHP preserves the past, inspires the present, and builds a bridge to a more connected and inclusive future. By putting the hip hop themes of community, unity, and empowerment into action the BHHHP has created a Hip Hop Day of Service, the third weekend in November. The BHHHP is calling out for communities and nonprofit



Marvin “Marvin C” Caldwell (Z3MC’s)



Carla Gales aka MC Spicey of The Unos

organizations to partner together to continue Baltimore’s prideful tradition, “We love our City.” Let’s help our city.

The misty evening ended with a soulful melody from Queen Songbird

and her Vision Band. Fans of every generation danced and took pictures in front of iconic figures and another Baltimore story was adequately preserved.

Ravens vs Chiefs to Kickoff 2024 NFL Schedule

By Tyler Hamilton

The Baltimore Ravens will have a chance to open the 2024 season with sweet revenge when they face the Kansas City Chiefs in the NFL Kickoff game. The Ravens are scheduled to head to Kansas City on Thursday, September 5, 2024 at Arrowhead Stadium.

Dreams of advancing to a third Super Bowl were crushed the last time the Ravens faced Kansas City. Everything seemed to be perfect heading into the game. The Ravens had secured the top seed in the AFC and Lamar Jackson put together yet another MVP season.

But things didn't work out as Kansas City shocked the Ravens and left M&T Bank Stadium with a 17-10 win on their way to consecutive Super Bowl championships.

"When you get to the playoffs, you want to win, but sometimes the best team doesn't always win," Ravens receiver Zay Flowers said after the game.

Jackson's arch nemesis, Patrick Mahomes was an efficient 30 for 39 with 241 passing yards and a touchdown.

Jackson now has only one win in five matchups against Mahomes over his career. That includes playoff clashes.

But Harbaugh wouldn't want any other quarterback leading his team.

"In my opinion, there's nobody better in this league, especially nobody better for the Baltimore Ravens and for this organization and for this city and just from a historical perspective. I'm excited about the future; I'm excited about taking this offense to the next level next year," Harbaugh said.

The AFC Championship game was a close one, which sparked questions regarding the Ravens unwillingness to



Lamar Jackson
Photo: Shawn Hubbard/Baltimore Ravens

stick to their identity of running the ball. The Ravens only ran the football six times in the second half despite remaining no more than 10 points behind.

Offensive coordinator, Todd Monken, is unlikely to abandon the run this year with Pro Bowl running back Derrick Henry in the backfield. The free-agent addition has been one of the most dominant rushers over the last five seasons.

Henry will make his Ravens debut in

Kansas City to open the season. How much he influences the Ravens will be put to the test from the start.

Ravens head coach John Harbaugh has a stellar 12 – 4 in Week 1. Harbaugh's teams have opened the season with a victory in seven of their last eight games including two consecutive wins dating back to 2022.

Baltimore can improve upon an already solid opening week record and set the tone for the AFC with a road win over the Chiefs.

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NOTICE TO BID

Minority Subcontractor/Supplier Schummer, Inc. seeking Certified Minority Subcontractors, MWBE subcontractors for: Detention Center Pump Station ITB 24-029, Charles County, MD. Bids due in our office by May 29, 2024. Certified MBE's & WBE's for: Excavation, Paving, Pipelaying, Shoring, Electrical, Pipe, Trucking and Aggregates. Fax quotes to: 410-798-1709 or email: schummerinc@aol.com. For more information call 410-956-8080.

Employment

Johns Hopkins University: Associate Director, Portfolio Analytics – Baltimore, MD. Manipulate & design data & data visualization in SQL, Power BI and Tableau. Master's degree in quantitative mathematics or information systems with course work in Data Science, Statistics, Econometrics, Quantitative Finance, or similar fields from a top institution. 2 days/wk telecommuting authorized. Up to 5% domestic travel. Apply directly online at <https://jobs.jhu.edu/> & reference (Req ID: 113524)

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

PROJECT # 1389 PLANNING/FEASIBILITY STUDY WEST BALTIMORE UNITED RECONNECTING COMMUNITIES PROJECT

The City of Baltimore's Department of Transportation has been authorized to request the Office of Boards and Commission (OBC) to advertise Project No. 1389 Planning/Feasibility Study West Baltimore United Reconnection Communities Project for selected services.

It is the expectation of the City that interested firms providing these services must demonstrate and document the following, to undertake a federally funded planning/feasibility study for the 1.4-mile-long US 40 Expressway corridor in West Baltimore that includes the development of transportation and redevelopment concepts and associated analysis in conjunction with deconstructing or reconfiguring the US 40 expressway.

Consultant services funded in whole, or in part, with Federal-aid highway program funds shall be procured and administered in accordance with the requirements of Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (2 CFR 200). In addition, contracts for engineering, planning and design related services which utilize Federal-aid highway program funds and are directly related to a planned construction project must also comply with the requirements established in 23 U.S.C. § 112 and 23 CFR 172. Engineering and design related services are defined as program management, construction, management, feasibility studies, preliminary engineering, design, engineering, surveying, mapping or architectural related services, (as specified in 23 U.S.C. § 112(b)(2)(A) and 23 CFR § 172.3). Many additional Federal laws and regulations apply to the procurement and administration of engineering, planning and design related services including the Brooks Act (40 USC Chapter 11).

Legal Notice

City personnel will utilize the City of Baltimore Guidelines for the Performance Evaluation of Design Consultants and Construction Contractors for this contract/project.

Prequalification Requirements

All firms listed in the specific proposal for the project, whether prime or subcontractors, must be prequalified by the Office of Boards and Commissions for each discipline in which they propose to perform work at the time of submittal for this project. Any contracting firm listed in this specific proposal to perform work must also be prequalified. A copy of the prime and all subcontracting firm's current prequalification must be included in the submitted package. Information regarding the prequalification process can be obtained by calling the Office of Boards and Commissions in 410-396-6883

Submittal Process

Five (5) copies of the Federal Form 330 and response to the detailed technical proposal (NOTE: DO NOT PROVIDE A COST PROPOSAL) must be submitted on or before 12:00 P.M. (Noon) on **06/21/2024 to the Office of Boards and Commissions, 4 South Frederick Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202.**

To obtain a detailed scope of work and to obtain an invite to the pre-submittal meeting, please contact Brenda Simmons at Brenda.simmons@baltimorecity.gov.

The Department of Transportation will be hosting a virtual pre-submittal meeting on **05/17/24**, at **11:00 AM**. All interested parties must email their Firm Name, Representative Name, Email address and phone number to Brenda Simmons at Brenda.Simmons@baltimorecity.gov, no later than **5/13/2024**, in order to receive an invite. DOT asks that no more than two representatives from your firm participate in the virtual meeting.

Failure to follow directions of this advertisement or the application may cause disqualification of the submittal.

All questions should be submitted to Mr. Stuart Sirota at Stuart.sirota@baltimorecity.gov no later than **05/22/2024 at 11:49 PM**. Questions will be compiled, and responses sent on **05/29/2024** to those that have provided e-mail addresses.

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DBE Requirements

It is the policy of the City of Baltimore to promote equal business opportunity in the City's contracting process. Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) participation goals apply to this contract. This project is federally funded and is required to comply with 49 CFR, Part 23, as amended.

The DBE goal for this project is 16%

The proposed DBE firms must be named and identified as DBEs within Item 6 of the Standard Form (SF) 330 in the spaces provided for identifying outside key consultants/ associates anticipated for utilization for this project.

Any submittal that does not include proper DBE participation may be rejected as not reasonably susceptible of being selected for award.

Payment to DBE Subconsultants

Pursuant to 49 CFR 26.29, a provision must be placed in every USDOT-assisted contract requiring the prime consultant to promptly pay subconsultants for satisfactory performance on their contracts no later than 30 days from receipt of each payment that BCDOT makes to the prime consultant. To the extent that it is not inconsistent with federal law, all prime consultants shall also comply with all Maryland and Baltimore City laws and regulations regarding prompt payment to subconsultants.

Verifying Certification:

Each firm submitting a SF 330 for consideration for a project is responsible for verifying that all DBEs to be utilized on the project are certified by the Office of Minority Business Enterprise, Maryland Department of Transportation prior to submitting the proposal. A directory of certified DBEs is available from Office of Minority Business Enterprise at 410-865-1269. You may also access the directory at www.mdot.state.md.us/mbe/directory.html.

A firm submitting as a prime consultant that fails to comply with the requirements of 49 CFR Part 23 when executing a contract is subject to the following penalties: suspension of a contract; withholding of funds; rescission of contract based on material breach; disqualification from eligibility to provide services to the City for a period not to exceed two years; and payment for damages incurred by the City.

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A resume for each person listed as key personnel and/or specialist, including those from DBEs, must be shown on the page provided within the application.

In State and out of State consultants will be given a fair opportunity to be considered for award and encourage MDOT certified SBE/DBE firms to respond.

Out of State Corporations must identify their corporate resident agent within the application.

Non-Affiliation:

A firm submitting a proposal may not use DBE to meet a contract goal if:
The firm has a financial interest in the DBE.
The firm has an interest in the ownership or control of the DBE.
The firm is significantly involved in the operation of the DBE (Article 5 subtitle 28-41 of the Baltimore City Code (2000 Edition) – Minority and Women's Business Program).

In accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C §§ 2000d to 2000d-4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all offerors that it will affirmatively ensure that any contract entered into pursuant to this project advertisement, MDOT-certified Small Business Enterprise (SBE) / DBE firms will be afforded full and fair opportunity to submit proposals in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, age, sex, English proficiency, income level, or disability in consideration for an award (23 CFR § 200, 49 CFR § 21 and 26).

Pursuant to 49 CFR 26.29 a provision must be placed in every USDOT-assisted contract requiring the prime consultant to promptly pay subconsultants for satisfactory performance on their contracts no later than 30 days from receipt of each payment that BCDOT makes to the prime consultant. To the extent that it is not inconsistent with federal law. All prime consultants shall also comply with all Maryland laws and regulations regarding prompt payment to subconsultants.

Insurance Requirements

Errors and Omissions:
\$3,000,000
Commercial General Liability:

cont'd on page 18

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\$1,000,000 per occurrence /
\$2,000,000 aggregate

Worker's Compensation as
required by law.

Commercial Automobile Liability:
\$1,000,000

Liability

The firm/consultant shall be and will remain liable, in accordance with applicable law, for all damages to the City of Baltimore caused by its acts or omissions related to any of the work furnished under this solicitation, to the extent such damage is caused by its acts or omissions within the scope of provision of goods and services under the contract, and to the extent it would be liable to the City for such damage under any applicable legal theory.

Please be advised that for the purpose of reviewing price proposals and invoices, the City of Baltimore defines a principal of a firm as follows:

A "Principal" is any individual owning 5% or more of the outstanding stock of an entity, partner or a partnership, a 5% or more shareholder of a sub-chapter "S" Corporation, or an individual owner.

All firms, both prime and subconsultants, must be in good standing with the Maryland State Department of Assessment and Taxation (SDAT) at the time of recommendation for award.

Consultant Selection Criteria

All proposals will be evaluated on the basis of technical merit (including areas required within the Technical proposal such as work program, team and personal experience, project management, adherence to RFP and DBE integration) and proposed cost. This is not a low-bid procurement. BCDOT staff and/or appropriate project partners will conduct the evaluation of proposals. Technical merit includes work program and approach, as well as staff experience and qualifications. Teaming is permissible but the offeror will be with a single prime contractor.

The evaluation criteria for selection will be:

The consultant team's collective experience and performance, within the past 5 years, in developing similarly complex, multi-disciplinary plans involving transformative change, extensive stakeholder engagement, and consensus building in urban communities. **40%**

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The consultant team's use of innovative techniques and best practices in developing transformative land use and transportation plans and feasibility studies. **40%**

The individual consultant team members experience working together on projects. **15%**

The consultant team's local experience working with the community and stakeholders. **5%**

The inclusion of DBE-owned firms on the Consultant's team. **5%**

All federally funded projects are subjected to FHWA-SHA policy and price proposal limitations on payroll burden and overhead shall not apply. The duration of the professional services contract is estimated to be 24 months.

Deena Joyce, Executive Secretary
Chief Office of Boards and Commissions

Legal Notices

CITY OF BALTIMORE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS OFFICE OF ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION NOTICE OF LETTING

Sealed Bids or Proposals, in duplicate addressed to the Board of Estimates of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore and marked for **SANITARY CONTRACT NO. 1006-Jones Falls Sewershed Inflow & Infiltration Reduction-Area A** will be received at the Office of the Comptroller, Room 204 City Hall, Baltimore, Maryland until 11:00 A.M on **June 26, 2024**. Positively no bids will be received after 11:00 A.M. Bids will be publicly opened by the Board of Estimates and can be watched live on CharmTV's cable channel 25/1085HD; charmtyvbaltimore.com/watch-live or listen in at (443) 984-1696 (ACCESS CODE: 0842939) from City Hall at Noon. The Contract Documents may be examined, without charge, at Contract Administration 4 South Frederick Street Baltimore, Maryland 21202 on the 3rd floor (410) 396-4041 as of **May 17, 2024** and copies may be purchased for a non-refundable cost of **100.00**. **Conditions and requirements of the Bid are found in the bid package.** All contractors bidding on this Contract must first be prequalified by the City of Baltimore Contractors Qualification Committee. Interested parties should call (410) 396-6883 or contact OBC at 4 S Frederick

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St., 4th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202. **If a bid is submitted by a joint venture ("JV"), then in that event, the document that established the JV shall be submitted with the bid for verification purposes.** The Prequalification Category required for bidding on this project is **B02552 – Sewer Construction**. Cost Qualification Range for this work shall be **\$20,000,000.01 to \$30,000,000.00**.

A "Pre-Bidding Information" session will be conducted via Microsoft Teams. Vendor can call 332-249-0605 Passcode: 710559518# on **June 4, 2024 at 10:00 AM.**

To purchase a bid book, please make an electronic request at:

https://publicworks.baltimorecity.gov/dpw-construction-projects-notice-letting_and_dpwbidopportunities@baltimorecity.gov. For further inquiries about purchasing bid documents, please contact the assigned Contract Administrator **Doreen.Diamond@baltimorecity.gov**

Principal items of work for this contract include, but are not limited to:

Cured-in-place pipe (CIPP) lining of sanitary sewers;
Excavate and replace segments of sanitary sewer via point repairs;
Manhole repair and rehabilitation work;
Sewer house connection (SHC) repair and rehabilitation work;
New manhole and cleanout installation work

This project is funded by SRF program

The MBE goal is **22%**
The WBE goal is **16%**

APPROVED:
Clerk, Board of Estimates

APPROVED:
Khalil Zaied
Acting Director
Department of Public Works

To place
Legal Notices,
call: 410-366-3900
email:
legals@btimes.com

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CITY OF BALTIMORE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS OFFICE OF ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION NOTICE OF LETTING

Sealed Bids or Proposals, in duplicate addressed to the Board of Estimates of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore and marked for **SANITARY CONTRACT NO. 1039-Urgent Needs Improvements to Baltimore City Sanitary Sewers in Various Locations-Zone 3** will be received at the Office of the Comptroller, Room 204 City Hall, Baltimore, Maryland until 11:00 A.M on **June 26, 2024**. Positively no bids will be received after 11:00 A.M. Bids will be publicly opened by the Board of Estimates and can be watched live on CharmTV's cable channel 25/1085HD; charmtyvbaltimore.com/watch-live or listen in at (443) 984-1696 (ACCESS CODE: 0842939) from City Hall at Noon. The Contract Documents may be examined, without charge, at Contract Administration 4 South Frederick Street Baltimore, Maryland 21202 on the 3rd floor (410) 396-4041 as of **May 17, 2024** and copies may be purchased for a non-refundable cost of **100.00**. **Conditions and requirements of the Bid are found in the bid package.** All contractors bidding on this Contract must first be prequalified by the City of Baltimore Contractors Qualification Committee. Interested parties should call (410) 396-6883 or contact OBC at 4 S Frederick St., 4th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202. **If a bid is submitted by a joint venture ("JV"), then in that event, the document that established the JV shall be submitted with the bid for verification purposes.** The Prequalification Category required for bidding on this project is **B02552 – Sewer Construction**. Cost Qualification Range for this work shall be **\$5,000,000.01 to \$10,000,000.00**.

A "Pre-Bidding Information" session will be conducted via Microsoft Teams. Vendor can call 1 667-228-6519, 485944158# Passcode: **DZosTi** on **May 31, 2024 at 10:00 AM.**

To purchase a bid book, please make an electronic request at:

https://publicworks.baltimorecity.gov/dpw-construction-projects-notice-letting_and_dpwbidopportunities@baltimorecity.gov. For further inquiries about purchasing bid documents, please

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contact the assigned Contract Administrator
Latonia.Walston@baltimorecity.gov
Principal items of work for this

contract include, but are not limited to:

Sewer cleaning and closed-circuit television (CCTV) inspection;
Open cut point repairs of sanitary sewers;
Cured-in-place pipe (CIPP) lining of sanitary sewers;
Excavate and replace segments of sanitary sewer via point repairs;
Manhole repair and rehabilitation work;
Sewer house connection (SHC) repair and rehabilitation work;
New manhole and cleanout installation work

The MBE goal is **12%**
The WBE goal is **5%**

APPROVED:
Clerk, Board of Estimates

APPROVED:
Khalil Zaied
Acting Director
Department of Public Works

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CITY OF BALTIMORE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS NOTICE OF LETTING

Sealed Bids or Proposals, in duplicate addressed to the Board of Estimates of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore and marked for **BALTIMORE CITY NO. RP22806 Patterson Boat Lake** will be received at the Office of the Comptroller, Room 204 City Hall, Baltimore, Maryland until 11:00 A.M. **June 26, 2024**. Positively no bids will be received after 11:00 A.M. Bids will be publicly opened by the Board of Estimates in Room 215, City Hall at Noon. The proposed Contract Documents may be examined, without charge, at the Dept. of Rec & Parks at 2600 Madison Ave, Baltimore, Md. 21217 by appointment only on Mondays - Fridays, 8:30am – 4:00pm by emailing benitaj.randolph@baltimorecity.gov as of **May 17, 2024** and copies may be purchased for a non-refundable cost of **\$100.00**. A SharePoint link to a PDF of the Construction Drawings will be provided to all prospective bidders. **Conditions and requirements of the Bid are found in the**

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bid package. All contractors bidding on this Contract must first be prequalified by the City of Baltimore Contractors Qualification Committee. Interested parties should call (410) 396-6883 or contact the Committee at 4 South Frederick Street, 4th Floor, Baltimore, Maryland 21202. **If a bid is submitted by a joint venture (“JV”), then in that event, the document that established the JV shall be submitted with the bid for verification purposes.** The Pre-qualification Category required for bidding on this project is **G90013 – Dredging or G90132 – Park Rehabilitation**. Cost Qualification Range for this work shall be **\$500,000.00 to \$650,000.00**. A “MANDATORY Pre-Bidding Information” session will be conducted in person at 10:30 A.M. on **May 28, 2024**, and will be held at the BCRP Capital Development Office at 2600 Madison Avenue. Principal Items of work for this project are Partial dewatering of the “Boat Lake” pond, removal of debris, demolition, earthwork, removal and replacement of existing boardwalk, Storm water facilities, Landscaping including emergent and wetland plantings, Hardscaping and Paving as necessary to return site to original condition. The MBE goal is **27%** and WBE goal is **10%**.

APPROVED: M. Celeste Amato,
Clerk, Board of Estimates

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CITY OF BALTIMORE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS NOTICE OF LETTING

Sealed Bids or Proposals, in duplicate addressed to the Board of Estimates of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore and marked for **BALTIMORE CITY NO. RP23885 Federal Hill East Slope Repairs** will be received at the Office of the Comptroller, Room 204 City Hall, Baltimore, Maryland until 11:00 A.M. **June 26, 2024**. Positively no bids will be received after 11:00 A.M. Bids will be publicly opened by the Board of Estimates in Room 215, City Hall at Noon. The proposed Contract Documents may be examined, without charge, at the Dept. of Rec & Parks at 2600 Madison Ave, Baltimore, Md. 21217 by appointment only on Mondays - Fridays, 8:30am – 4:00pm by emailing benitaj.randolph@baltimorecity.gov as of **May 17, 2024** and copies may be purchased for a non-refundable cost of **\$100.00**. A SharePoint link to a PDF of the Construction Drawings will be

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provided to all prospective bidders. **Conditions and requirements of the Bid are found in the bid package**. All contractors bidding on this Contract must first be pre-qualified by the City of Baltimore Contractors Qualification Committee. Interested parties should call (410) 396-6883 or contact the Committee at 4 South Frederick Street, 4th Floor, Baltimore, Maryland 21202. **If a bid is submitted by a joint venture (“JV”), then in that event, the document that established the JV shall be submitted with the bid for verification purposes.** The Prequalification Category required for bidding on this project is **F02200 Earthwork and Site Preparation**. Cost Qualification Range for this work shall be **\$280,000.00 to \$330,000.00**. A “Pre-Bidding Information” session will be conducted **via Microsoft Teams at 1:00pm EST on June 5, 2024**. Email your contact information to joseph.bateky@baltimorecity.gov to receive an invite to the Microsoft Team (video conference meeting) no later than **4:00pm EST, June 4, 2024**. Principal Items of work for this project are Slope stabilization at the East side of Federal Hill, with some pavement and sidewalk removal, pavement and sidewalk installation, fencing, erosion and sediment control, water utilities repair and landscaping. The MBE goal is **16.69%** and WBE goal is **5.78%**.
APPROVED: M. Celeste Amato,
Clerk, Board of Estimates

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CITY OF BALTIMORE DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES NOTICE OF LETTING

Sealed Bids or Proposals, in duplicate, addressed to the Board of Estimates of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore and marked for **GS23808 – Eastern Police District Roof Replacement & Partial Interior Renovations**, will be received at the Office of the Comptroller, Room 204, City Hall, Baltimore, Maryland until 11:00 A.M. on **WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26, 2024**. Board of Estimates employees will be stationed at the Security Unit Counter just inside the Holliday Street entrance to City Hall from 10:45 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. every Wednesday to receive Bids. Positively no bids will be received after 11:00 A.M. The bids will be publicly opened by the Board of Estimates in

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Room 215, City Hall at Noon. Bid opening proceedings can be also viewed live at <https://www.charmtvbaltimore.com/live-stream> at 12:00 noon. Bid tabulation sheets detailing the bids received will be publicly posted to the Comptroller’s website by COB on the date of bid opening.

The Contract Documents may be purchased for a non-refundable cost of **\$50.00**, by contacting Lauren Hoover at lauren.hoover@baltimorecity.gov as of **FRIDAY, MAY 17, 2024**.

Conditions and requirements of the Bid are found in the bid package.

All contractors bidding on this Contract must first be pre-qualified by the City of Baltimore Boards and Commissions. Interested contractors should call 410 396-6883 or contact the Office of Boards and Commissions at 4 South Frederick Street, 4th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202. **If a bid is submitted by a Joint Venture (“JV”), then in that event, the documents that establish the JV shall be submitted with the bid for verification purposes.** The Prequalification Category required for bidding on this project is **E13004 – REHABILITATION OF STRUCTURES**

The Cost Qualification Range for this work shall be **\$2,000,000.01 to \$3,000,000.00**

A “Pre-Bidding information” session will be conducted at **the site: 1620 Edison Hwy, Baltimore, MD 21213 on TUESDAY, May 28, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.**

Principal Items of work for this project are:

**Existing Conditions
Roofing
Plumbing
Finishes**

The MBE goal is **20%**
The WBE goal is **10%**

CONTRACT NO. GS 23808

APPROVED:
[M. Celeste Amato](mailto:M.Celeste.Amato)
Clerk, Board of Estimates

APPROVED:
[Berke Attila](mailto:Berke.Attila)
Director, Department of
General Services



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