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# THE BALTIMORE TIMES

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*UniverSOUL Circus brings diverse culture to the BIG TOP in Baltimore*



*UniverSOUL circus started in 1994 in a parking lot in Fulton County, Georgia. Now it is a national phenomenon, and tours in more than 28 cities nationwide. UniverSOUL Circus will be a Security Square mall through Sunday June 18, 2017. Above: Lucky Malatsi, ringmaster for UniverSOUL has been with the Circus for 17 years and is the “entertainer in chief” keeping circus audiences laughing and engaged. (See article on page 11)*

Photo: Deborah Bailey



# Ben Jealous' parents renew vows on Supreme Court anniversary

By Stacy M. Brown

For Fred and Ann Jealous, there is a strong belief that love has the ability to move mountains. And, in their case, love also has helped them overcome terrible odds and obstacles, none the least was the unpopular for its time, interracial marriage.

Ann, a black woman, and Fred, a white man, met in Baltimore in America's mid-20th century Jim Crow and Civil Rights era.

This week, the pair, parents of Maryland gubernatorial candidate Ben Jealous, renewed their wedding vows at the St. James Episcopal Church Lafayette Square, where it was illegal for them to get married in 1966—such a union would have resulted in a prison sentence.

The vow renewal ceremony was timed to be commensurate with the 50th anniversary of the June 12, 1967 Loving v. Virginia Supreme Court decision, which legalized interracial marriages.

Like Mildred and Richard Loving, the couple whose case for marriage was taken all the way to the Supreme Court, Fred and Ann were married in Washington, D.C., as it would have been illegal in their home state of Maryland.

In 1966, the couple said they were afraid to hold hands in public.

At the movies, they entered separately and met in the middle of a darkened row. Because of the existing anti-misce-



*Ann and Fred Jealous, parents of Maryland gubernatorial candidate Ben Jealous, renewed their wedding vows at the St. James Episcopal Church Lafayette Square on June 12, 2017, where it was illegal for them to get married in 1966.*

Courtesy Photo

genation laws, Ann didn't consider Fred as a potential husband. They wed, however, one year before the Supreme Court deemed anti-miscegenation laws illegal in 1967.

"We would identify two empty seats when we'd go in a movie theater on a date," Ann Jealous said. "He would walk down one aisle, I would walk down the other, and we'd meet together but we would not look like we were sitting together," she said.

Fred Jealous, a native of Maine who had served a teaching assignment in Turkey,

said he was smitten with Ann, who at the time served in the Peace Corps.

"I proposed three times," Fred Jealous said, noting that they were married in August 1966—51 years ago.

Ann Jealous said she initially thought Fred's proposals were "crazy."

"I thought, 'this is against the law,'" she said.

Each said they didn't suspect the problems that would confront them as an interracial couple.

"I grew up in segregation," said Ann Jealous, who is counted among the first African-American students to attend

Western High School in Baltimore. "So, it didn't occur to me to think of Fred as a potential mate."

After their wedding, they drove back to West Baltimore, from Washington D.C., in a Cadillac followed by a row of cars with their lights on.

Rather than receive the usual celebration enjoyed by so many newly married couples, people on the road pulled aside and removed their hats because they thought it was a funeral procession.

Fred's family disowned him, and he relinquished a hefty inheritance, knowing that "no amount of money would ever be equal to the love [he] had for Ann," he said.

The passion of his parents led Ben Jealous's drive to become the youngest president in the history of the NACCP, at just 35 years of age, he said.

It was there that he helped abolish the death penalty in Maryland, played an instrumental role in passing the DREAM Act, and in homage to his parents he helped see marriage equality for all people become a reality in Maryland.

Still, while Fred and Ann have overcome segregation and other obstacles, and have raised a son who is now running for governor, they credit the couple whose Supreme Court case opened the door to interracial marriages in the United States.

"If that law had not been changed, we would not be anywhere near where we are now," Ann said.

## Men's Day Celebration

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## Correction

An article in the June 9, 2017, issue of The Baltimore Times and The Annapolis Times about Dr. Ashlee Thomas stated that she is the reigning Miss Black Maryland USA. In fact, she held the title in 2016. We regret any inconvenience this error may have caused.

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# Guest Editorials/Commentary

## Making the case for investing in HBCUs

By *Rushern Baker, County Executive, Prince George's County, Md.*  
Special for NNPA Newswire

The United Negro College Fund's (UNCFs) iconic, "A Mind is a Terrible Thing to Waste," advertising campaign remains the gold-standard for shining light on the urgency of investing in black colleges and universities.

No nation, the stories in the campaign reminded us, can be great if it leaves behind a large portion of its residents. More than 40 years later, the need for sustained investment in historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs), remains as great as ever.

With the change in presidential administrations, HBCUs have once again returned to the national conversation, with some openly questioning the need for such institutions, particularly in the face of advances over the past several decades. The conversation is not new and the answer has not changed.

We need HBCU's to continue to exist and they need all of us helping to support their coffers and make the case to decision-makers about the continued value they provide.

HBCUs represent only three percent of all two and four-year U.S. colleges and universities, but they enroll 10 percent of all African American undergraduates. They produce 17 percent of all African American college graduates and generate 24 percent of all bachelor's degrees in STEM fields earned by African Americans annually, according to UNCF's Patterson Research Institute.

Part of the reason is that black graduates of HBCUs are significantly more likely to have felt supported while in college, according to 2015 data from an ongoing Gallup-Purdue University study.

But statistics are only part of the story. HBCUs have produced influential Americans including Pulitzer Prize-winning author Alice Walker; filmmaker Spike Lee; Oprah Winfrey; and many other business, civic leaders and entrepreneurs.

On campuses around the nation, parents beamed last month as newly minted graduates of HBCUs set out to make names for themselves and to fulfill their dreams.

At Howard University, my alma mater, I witnessed U.S. Senator Kamala Harris remind graduates that the world will not always be welcoming and that they have a duty to serve.

"That is your duty—the duty of your degree," Harris said. "That is the charge of a Howard graduate. So whatever you plan to do next—whether you want to design the latest app or cure cancer or run a business. Whether you're going to be a dentist, a lawyer, a teacher, or an accountant—let your guiding principle be truth and service. At a time when there are Americans—disproportionately black and brown men—trapped in a broken system of mass incarceration... peak truth—and serve."

It is advice that we should also—no matter our age—aspire to. And, one truth is surely that the nation's HBCUs are as relevant and necessary now as when some of them were founded over 150 years ago. These institutions were an antidote to the racist policies that, in some cases, banned educating black students.

At a time when college costs are going up, and attacks on black students on predominantly white campuses are on the rise, the need for black colleges is greater than ever. As a government, we have to continue to ensure that funding is made available to keep this pipeline going and as private citizens, we have to open our wallets to ensure the long-term viability of the institutions that are working for us and our communities.

*Rushern Baker, a graduate of Howard University, is the county executive in Prince George's County, Maryland.*



## Community Affairs

### Never leave a child unattended in a car

Columbia, Md.— Summer and warmer temperatures have arrived and with the hot weather comes the reminder not to leave children unattended in a vehicle under any circumstances.

Each year an average of 37 children die from becoming over-heated (hyperthermia) in a hot car according to the Department of Meteorology and Climate Science at San Jose State University. Temperatures inside a vehicle can rise as much as 20 degrees in as little as 10 minutes and 40 degrees in an hour.

For a person left in a vehicle, heatstroke will set in as the body's temperature reaches 104 degrees and fails to cool down properly. Children's body temperatures warm at a rate three to five times faster than an adult's, since their systems are not yet as efficient as an adult's, according to NoHeatStoke.org. At 107 degrees, the body will begin to shut down organs and brain cells may become damaged. Leaving a child in a vehicle under these conditions can be deadly.

In order to prevent a tragedy from happening, Howard County Health Officer, Dr. Maura J. Rossman recommends

adopting a plan to use each time you exit your vehicle:

- Start a "Look before you leave routine," be sure that all occupants leave the vehicle. Check for sleeping babies.
- Place your purse, wallet or cellphone on the back seat as a reminder you have a child in the car.
- Set a computer calendar program to ask if a child was taken to daycare.
- Have a plan that your childcare provider will call you if your child does not arrive for daycare.
- Look into new child reminder technologies that connect wireless car seat alarms to key rings. When you walk too far away from the car, the alarm rings; reminding you the harness is still connected.
- Do not allow children to play in cars.

Children are not the only ones in danger when left in a hot car. The elderly are also susceptible to the same dangers as youngsters, as their bodies are often unable to regulate temperature as efficiently as other adults. Seat belts, door handles and other mobility issues may pose challenges to those who need assistance to get out of the car.

Finally, do not leave pets in a vehicle unattended. They too, are unable to regulate their body temperature and can perish quickly. For more information visit: [www.hchealth.org](http://www.hchealth.org).



## *Bill Maher, the n-word and how he betrayed black intellectuals*

*By Armstrong Williams  
NNPA Newswire Columnist*

When considering the implications of Bill Maher's latest antics, it is important to level set. Maher has, over the years, become the trusted media host for black left-wing intellectuals. His roster of guests includes a Who's Who of the black intelligentsia; luminaries from old stalwart Cornel West to MSNBC host Joy Reid and others have been regular guests over the years. So, given this history it would seem surprising that Maher would so readily toss his friends under the bus by his casual on-air use of the n-word.

But if one really considers Bill Maher and his history, a more complicated story emerges. Maher is a liberal prognosticator who exhibits a pretense of tolerance and open-mindedness—thereby giving him comedic license to offend.

Maher's latest missive – responding to Senator Ben Sasses' exhortation to engage in grass roots 'field' political organizing in Nebraska with the dismissive remark, 'Senator, I'm a house n\*\*\*er,'—is not surprising. But the

remark was so out of context that it could not have been anything other than a strategically timed joke—one that unfortunately missed the mark.

Read in the context of Maher's irreverent stance on many issues—it seems that the use of the n-word was meant to remind black liberal intellectuals that they are the wholly-owned property of the liberal elite. It was an open admission of something conservatives have

didn't ask any Black person for such license of course, yet he assumed it, in the storied tradition of liberal arrogance and privilege of which he is a proud descendant.

It goes without saying that the n-word is a vulgar, disgusting term, with a history fraught with pain. As someone who grew up in the deep South at a time when many parents and relatives were openly and customarily called the

Can you imagine the reaction if a conservative host on Fox News or any conservative media channel was caught using the n-word? The black community would be in total uproar, on the warpath, seeking blood, guts and retribution. And yet we've heard barely a peep from the black intellectual elite that polices conservatives' speech like a mall cop on steroids.

The reason black intellectuals won't challenge Maher—and the reason he still has a show after the 'n-word' incident—is because they can't. Maher is smart. He calculates that he can get away with a lot more offense now that Trump is in the White House. With a guy like Trump on the other side of the street, he reasons, where are black folks going to go? They have no choice but to stay on the liberal plantation, no matter how much abuse the liberal elite heaps on them. Sadly, Maher's cynical calculus seems to be correct.

Now that he has gotten away with it, Maher's behavior, despite his tepid apology, is likely to get worse, not better. In the meantime, black intellectuals will undoubtedly accept these betrayals as the so-called 'price of progress.' They will lie to themselves and justify such open racism, because, at the end of the day, they think it preferable to be kept on at the Democratic plantation than to leave and have to face big, bad Donald Trump on their own.

*Armstrong Williams is the manager/sole owner of Howard Stirk Holdings I & II Broadcast Television Stations and Executive Editor of American CurrentSee online Magazine. Watch our "Right Side Forum" every Saturday Live Newschannel 8 TV 28 in DC, 10:30 am - 11:00 am and repeats 6:30 pm EST. Follow Armstrong Williams on Twitter @arightside.*

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***"It goes without saying that the n-word is a vulgar, disgusting term, with a history fraught with pain. As someone who grew up in the deep South at a time when many parents and relatives were openly and customarily called the 'n-word' by whites, I know first-hand how hurtful it is."***

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noted all along—black intellectuals do not have an actual ownership stake of the liberal establishment, but in fact serve at the pleasure and whim of the liberal wing of the Democratic Party.

Whether Maher, a 61 year-old white guy who has been employed by HBO for the past 14 years, actually considers himself a 'house negro' is not what's significant here. He, in fact, may identify his job with that of a well-kept slave on the media plantation.

That Maher chose to use the n-word on his 'scripted' talk show (deceptively named 'Real Time') was undoubtedly a calculated act. This was probably not the first time Maher has used the 'n-word' in the presence of African Americans—he probably believes that since he allows many of them to come on to his show and debate, and that he sticks up for them against the various conservative 'straw boogeymen' whom he constructs for dramatic effect, he therefore has earned license to use the term. Maher

'n-word' by whites, I know first-hand how hurtful it is. The word is an obscene smear created for the specific purpose of putting black people in their place—relegating them to second-class citizenship, and alerting the intended victim that he is less than human. I have personally never used the term (nor any form of obscenity), and regard it as one of the most abhorrent terms in the English language. I don't like it when black entertainers use it, and I certainly don't like it when whites use it either—no matter what their so-called liberal bona fides. I believe the word has no place in public discourse, much less in the enlightened sphere of intellectual debate.

Curiously, the reaction among black intellectuals to Bill Maher's verbal attack has been typically passive. They seem to have taken it on the chin and let him off the hook. No one has seriously demanded Maher's resignation from HBO, and there has been no organized boycott of his sponsors at the network.

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# HBCU Students “Discover The Unexpected” with the Black Press

By *Noni Marshall*  
and *Alexa Imani Spencer*  
*NNPA/DTU Journalism Fellows*

The National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) kicked off the second year of the “Discover The Unexpected” (DTU) Journalism Fellowship program with an “Immersion” event in Detroit, Mich. Chevrolet, the sponsor of the program, hosted the student scholars and a handful of NNPA publishers and editors for an interactive experience designed to prepare the fellows for a summer of working with the Black Press.

The 2017 DTU journalism fellows are: Alexa Imani Spencer and Noni Marshall from Howard University; Kelsey Jones and Taylor Burris from Spelman College; Jordan Fisher and Tiana Hunt from Clark Atlanta University; and Ayrton Lewallen and Darrell Williams from Morehouse College.

The trip commenced with a welcome ceremony at a repurposed firehouse that serves as the commercial studio of Ed Welburn, the former vice president of Global Design at General Motors (GM). Representatives from GM and the NNPA greeted the fellows. The all-new 2018 Chevrolet Equinox was parked at the entrance.

Chevrolet sent an all-new Equinox to each of the participating NNPA member publications for the DTU fellows to use for a month during the program.

After a joyous welcome from the program’s team, Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr., the president and CEO of the NNPA and Michelle Alexander, the diversity marketing manager for Chevrolet, delivered remarks. Serving as this year’s Road Trip Navigator, Jamilah Lemieux, the vice president of News and Men’s Programming for Interactive One’s, expressed the importance of Black media.

“I am firm believer in the urgency of protecting the future of Black media, of making sure that we have ample opportunity to not just tell our stories well, because we’ve always been able to tell our stories well, but to amplify them,” Lemieux said.

After Lemieux’s poignant remarks, the scholars were led outside of the firehouse where one bright red and three

splasy orange Chevrolet Equinoxes awaited them. The DTU fellows in teams of two, accompanied by Chevrolet staffers and coordinators from the program, piled into the four SUVs ready to explore Detroit. Scavenger hunt clues rang clearly through the speakers of the Equinox and they were off to navigate the city. The clues led the teams to four, distinct locations: Dilla’s Delights, Detroit vs. Everybody, N’Namdi Center for Contemporary Art, and the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History.

At each stop, the students interviewed the shop owners, clerks, curators, and museum guides, documenting their visits for their first assignments as DTU fellows. Burris said that speaking to the clerk at Detroit vs. Everybody, a boutique clothing store, was her favorite part of the scavenger hunt.

“It was obvious that Sade, the clerk, was very knowledgeable about what their brand means and how it is continuously uplifting the community and defying the odds,” said Burris, who will partner with Ayrton Lewallen at The Carolinian this summer.

The scavenger hunt ended with a tour of the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History. Ken Barrett, the chief diversity officer for GM, gave brief remarks about the importance of the program and the role of journalists in society.

The final day of the Detroit immersion event included an inspirational speech from Dr. Chavis at GM headquarters. The DTU fellows sat quietly around a conference room table, focused closely on his words, as he reminded them that they represented an emerging generation of journalists.

Chavis also noted that this year marks the 190th anniversary of the Black Press in America.

“This is an opportunity not just to reaffirm [our] 190 year legacy, but to represent that legacy in new and more profound ways that match the challenges and opportunities we face in our communities,” Chavis said.

The DTU fellows were given the opportunity to meet with representatives from the NNPA member newspapers, where they will work this summer; Shalon



*The 2017 NNPA “Discover The Unexpected Journalism Fellows (left-right) Noni Marshall, Alexa Spencer, Darrell Williams, Tiana Hunt, Ayrton Lewallen, Taylor Burris, Jordan Fisher and Kelsey Jones. Photo Credit: Freddie Allen/NNPA*

Bell from The Atlanta Voice; Adria Jervay of The Carolinian, based in Raleigh, N.C.; David Baker of The Louisiana Weekly, based in New Orleans; and Kevin McNeir from The Washington Informer, based in Washington, D.C.

In these breakout sessions, the senior newspaper staffers shared their expectations with their new writers. Anxious to get started, the fellows asked questions and marveled at the history of the newspapers they were soon to join. There was a fresh excitement in the air after the student scholars connected with the editors and representatives from the NNPA member publications.

Next on the schedule, was a trip to the Content Studio, an organization within GM, that develops communications resources for the brand and improves how the company operates efficiently, strategically, and consistently within the public social web. There, the fellows were able to see how the marketing side of Chevrolet has expanded, technologically, by partnering with many different agencies in order to have a worldwide impact.

According to Alexander, the NNPA/DTU journalism program is an extension of the partnerships that Chevrolet holds in high esteem.

“As a brand, [Discover The Unexpected], ties into our philosophy of find-

ing new roads and ingenuity,” Alexander said. “We, as a brand, feel like this is something important that we are committed to.”

As the trip came to an end, the DTU fellows shared final hugs and goodbyes. For some of them, the Detroit Immersion event was a life-changing experience; most of them had never been exposed to the Motor City’s rich history.

For all of them, one thing was true: “Discover The Unexpected” was far more than just a program. It’s a family.

“I was impressed by the immense love we have received from the whole General Motors staff, NNPA, and the fellows,” said Jordan Fisher, who will join Kelsey Jones at The Atlanta Voice. “I don’t take that for granted. It’s refreshing to see that and feel it.”

To learn more about NNPA “Discover The Unexpected” Journalism Fellowship program, visit [www.nnpa.org/dtu](http://www.nnpa.org/dtu).

*Alexa Spencer and Noni Marshall are 2017 DTU Journalism Fellows and Howard University students, who are creating content for The Washington Informer this summer. Follow Alexa on Twitter @alexaimani. Follow Noni on Twitter @noni\_nnpadtu.*



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**Discover the Unexpected** is back! This year's DTU journalism fellowship presented by the all-new 2018 Chevrolet Equinox in partnership with the National Newspaper Publishers Association has expanded beyond Howard University to include students from Spelman College, Morehouse College and Clark Atlanta University. Our 8 DTU Fellows will share stories from Atlanta, Washington D.C., Raleigh and New Orleans. Our young journalists will explore and share stories from these rich strongholds of African American history and culture. Join them as they embark on this exciting journey of inspiration, education and discovery.

#discovertheunexpected

**DISCOVER MORE OF THEIR STORY AT [NNPA.ORG/DTU](http://NNPA.ORG/DTU)**



# Ravens offense gets boost by signing veteran wide receiver Jeremy Maclin

By Turron Davenport

The loss of Steve Smith Sr. to retirement and Kamar Aiken via free agency left the Baltimore Ravens with a void at wide receiver. Throw in the departure of Kyle Juszczyk along with an injury to Dennis Pitta, and now four of Joe Flacco's top targets will not be there this season.

Mike Wallace and Breshad Perriman are the top returning receivers. Ozzie Newsome took action recently by signing free agent receiver Jeremy Maclin to a two-year, \$11 million contract.

Signing Maclin is a typical Ravens move. Newsome likes to acquire veteran receivers with something to prove. Past veterans such as Anquan Boldin, Derek Mason, and Smith Sr. provided a boost to the Ravens passing game.

Head coach John Harbaugh believes Maclin can do the same this year.

"He can have a big impact. He is a proven player; he knows how to play," Harbaugh said during his press conference at minicamp on Tuesday, June 13, 2017. "He knows how to be effective in this specific passing game, which is a big plus. I expect him to be a great player."

Entering his ninth NFL season, Maclin has posted 474 receptions for 6,395 yards and 46 touchdowns in 102 career



Jeremy Maclin walks back to the huddle after a play during a game from the 2016 Kansas City Chiefs season. The veteran wide receiver was recently signed by the Baltimore Ravens. Courtesy Photo/chiefs.com

games. Maclin was a 2009 first-round draft pick (No. 19 overall) by the Philadelphia Eagles.

He played six seasons (2009-14) for the Eagles and then two years (2015-16) with the Kansas City Chiefs.

Maclin's best season came in 2014 when he posted 85 receptions for 1,388 yards and 10 touchdowns.

Maclin signed with the Chiefs before the 2015 season and produced another solid season after being reunited with

Andy Reid, who drafted him. In 2015, Maclin registered 87 receptions, 1,088 yards, and eight touchdowns.

Coming to Baltimore will provide another reunion for Maclin. Current

Ravens offensive coordinator Marty Mornhinweg served in the same role with Philadelphia for the first four years of Maclin's career.

Now Mornhinweg will get to find ways to showcase Maclin once again. Quarterback Joe Flacco is from the Philadelphia area and already has a relationship with Maclin as a result. Flacco made sure he reached out to Maclin when he started his free agent tour.

"I made sure I texted him when he was up in Buffalo to come on down here and see what Baltimore is like," Flacco said after minicamp on Tuesday. "But I've run into Jeremy before in South Jersey when he was playing for Philly. He's a great kid, and I think he's going to like it around here."

A fresh environment is just what Maclin needs. He is coming off his least productive NFL season (44 rec, 536 yds, 2 TDs). Maclin missed two games last season, which undoubtedly contributed to the decline in production. He also had to deal with the death of one of his close friends in September.



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# Mulberry Madness Festival promotes goodness of mulberries

By Stacy M. Brown

The Baltimore Orchard Project is hosting its third annual Mulberry Madness Festival this month by hosting mulberry harvests around the city to promote the goodness of mulberries, and the awareness of something organizers deem even more important: the need to re-imagine a 21st century food system that must gear up to feed 9 billion people world-wide.

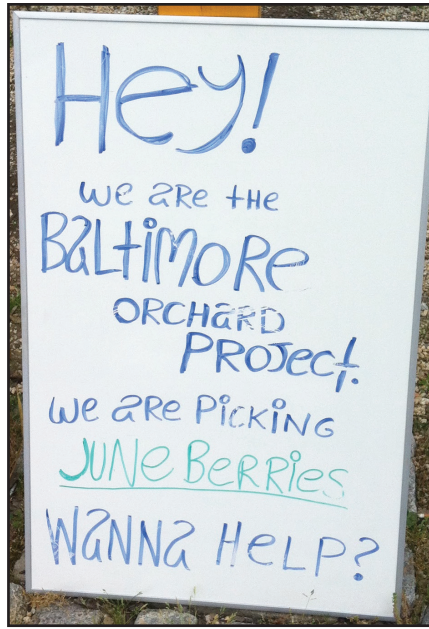
Though mulberries are small, they have tremendous health benefits, which include being a great source of antioxidants. Mulberries also provide immune system support, promote healthy blood sugar levels and are a good source of protein, Vitamin C, Vitamin K, fiber, and iron. Amazingly, the fruit can be found free for the picking throughout our city.

“Mulberry Madness was designed to connect Baltimore City residents to the fruits in the city that ripen each June, reduce food waste, and expand the choices that make up our dietary palette,” said Eric Sargent, planting coordinator at Civic Works’ Baltimore Orchard Project. “We invite Baltimore residents to take part in our many harvest events happening in parks across the city. We also encourage Baltimoreans to take this knowledge back to their friends, family and community to find the mulberry trees in their neighborhoods and harvest the berries themselves.”

Officials noted that Mulberry Madness has also been designed to help expand the choices that make up the dietary palette of residents; enable everyone’s ability to eat locally; reduce food waste and help imagine a renewed food system that is good for people, the planet and prosperity.

“Mulberries are often seen as a nuisance because they drop on people’s cars, sidewalks, and throughout the city,” Sargent said. “It’s incredible to watch people’s perception of mulberries change when they learn they’re an edible and delicious fruit that can be enjoyed raw or in a variety of dishes ranging from pastries to barbecues sauce.”

The upcoming schedule for the Mul-



berry Madness Festival includes harvest events on Saturday, June 17 at Druid Hill Park; Tuesday, June 20 at Patterson Park; and Wednesday June 21 at Wyman Park.

Restaurant tasting events are planned at Atwaters from June 21 to June 27; Harmony Bakery from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on June 21; Dovecote Café from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. on June 22; Bird in Hand and Artifact Coffee from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. on June 23; Black Sauce and Michele’s Granola at the Waverly Farmers Market from 7 a.m. to noon on June 24; and Café Jovial from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on June 25.

Civic Works’ Baltimore Orchard Project, which strengthens communities through planting and cultivating orchards and teaching citizens to be long-



**Mulberry Madness Month is part of Civic Works’ Baltimore Orchard Project’s #FunkyFruit Campaign designed to promote the expansion and diversification of the food we eat and how we eat it, as a way to improve human health, increase food accessibility, reduce waste and promote sustainability. Photos from last year’s mulberry harvest throughout Baltimore City.**

**Courtesy Photos/Baltimore Orchard Project**

term stewards, has also launched a “Funky Fruit Initiative, which is designed to publicize the problem of food waste and to show how “un-lovely and unusual foods can be delicious,” the organization said in a release.

Each year, the group harvests thousands of pounds of funky fruit and uses it to increase food access and awareness— ranging from selling apples at a discounted price to housing cooking demonstrations.

“This initiative doesn’t end with Mulberry Madness,” Sargent said. “Baltimore Orchard Project helps provide access to free and healthy food year round by educating residents on what’s available in their own backyard and by activating Orchard Stewards to care for the city’s many fruit trees.”

For more information, visit <http://baltimoreorchardproject.civicworks.com/mulberrymadness/>



# Celebrate Juneteenth in Reservoir Hill

BALTIMORE—This year, Baltimore will hold its first Juneteenth Celebration honoring the contributions and significance of the city's rich black history. Juneteenth is one of the largest black holidays in the country and the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the ending of slavery in the United States.

The free festivities will take place on Saturday, June 17 and Sunday, June 18 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Juneteenth Celebrations, include: Historic Reservoir Hill Garden & Home Tour. The tours are self-guided, but there will also be history tours twice daily on Saturday, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., and once on Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets for the tours are \$15 and can be purchased in advance at Dovecote Cafe, 2501 Madison Avenue in West Baltimore.

Few neighborhoods boast the stunning architecture and rich storied history of Reservoir Hill, Baltimore. This year for the 23rd Annual Garden and Home Tour, Reservoir Hill comes together for an expansive and inclusive community celebration of not just the beautiful homes, but of Juneteenth, celebrating the rich history of the people in the neighborhood and surrounding areas.

"It is our pleasure to continue this long standing tradition in Reservoir Hill and to introduce what is sure to be jubilant Juneteenth activities to this year's event. Juneteenth weekend is an opportunity for all of us in Baltimore to spend dollars and invest in Black leadership," said Cole, founder of Brioxo.

Juneteenth, also known as Juneteenth Independence Day or Freedom Day, is a holiday that commemorates the June 19, 1865 announcement of the abolition of slavery in Texas, and more generally the emancipation of African-American slaves throughout the Confederate South.

Hosted by The Friends of Reservoir Hill and produced by Brioxo, both days will include tours of stunning homes and gardens in the area in addition to a bevy of events happening in and around Dovecote Cafe.

To celebrate this momentous occasion we will have the following activities:



*Juneteenth Celebrations and Reservoir Hill Home and Garden Tours*

Photos: Keith Gilmore

- Live DJ
- Local produce stands and farming demonstrations
- 1K (run & walk) hosted by Brown & Healthy
- Jewish story telling by Beth Am Synagogue
- Lemonade Stands sponsored by Belle Hardware
- "Say It Loud" a black pop culture trivia game competition
- BBQ provided by Dovecote Cafe

The website to purchase tickets is:  
<http://reshilltour.eventbrite.com> website:  
<http://bmorejuneteenth.org>





# UniverSOUL Circus brings diverse culture to the BIG TOP in Baltimore

By Deborah Bailey

If you are ready for a lot of laughter, some mystery, a little history and lots of fun for the whole family, then you won't want to miss the UniverSOUL Circus Maryland tour.

The secret sauce that makes UniverSOUL a unique family-centered entertainment setting is its mixture of cultural and historic elements and the interaction between performers and audience, said Cedric Walker, founder and president of UniverSOUL Circus.

"The audience is definitely part of the show," said Walker, who got his start in the entertainment business as a production and stage manager and promoter for groups like the Commodores and The Jackson Five.

Walker continued in the entertainment business through the 1990s underwriting and producing stage plays, but yearned to find a home for a family friendly form of entertainment beyond the venue of the theatre.

Lucky Malatsi, ringmaster for UniverSOUL has been with the Circus for 17 years and is the "entertainer in chief" keeping circus audiences laughing and engaged.

"I love what I do. Just to see the smiles on people's faces; bringing families together; that's what's important," Malatsi said.

The diversity of the UniverSOUL experience, the interaction with the audience and the multi-generational gatherings that flock to the "Big Tent" make the UniverSOUL experience unique, according to Malatsi.

"Seeing all these different generations of families under the big top having a good time being able to enjoy themselves and agree on being together is the heart of what we do. UniverSOUL Circus - first the name sets it apart. Not only do we have soul but we're very diverse with acts from all over the world - Trinidad and Tobago, Cuba, South Africa, Asia, and the United States of America. You're not going to just sit back and watch the show, you're the main element of the show," he said.

Baltimore resident Rodney Lindsey, and his son Stephen, age 6, enjoyed the diversity of the UniverSOUL experience. "I wanted to bring the kids out to have a good time. I wanted to make sure my kids were a part of UniverSOUL. This circus is more about the culture of black people and urban people. They bring all different kinds of races together," Lindsey said. "This is something that is good for Baltimore and an experience that can bring everybody together and have fun," he said.

UniverSOUL circus started in 1994 in a parking lot in Fulton County, Georgia. Now it is a national phenomenon, and tours in more than 28 cities nationwide. UniverSOUL Circus will be in Security Square Mall through Sunday June 18, 2017.



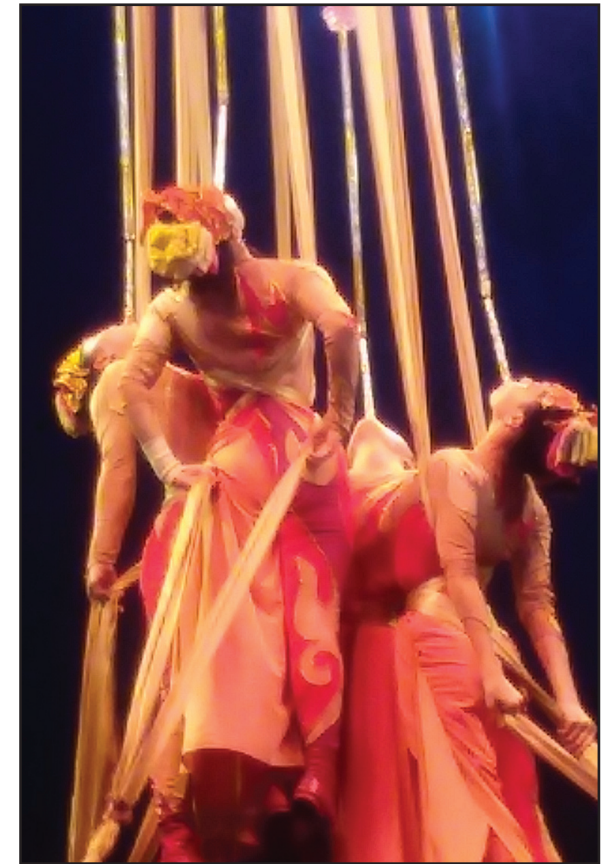
*UniversalSOUL Circus has acts from all over the world.*

Photo: Dena Wane



*Rodney Lindsey and son Stephen, age 6, enjoy UniverSOUL circus experience.*

Photo: Deborah Bailey



*Mid-air acrobatics acrobatic group Shenyang Silks from China.*

Photo: Deborah Bailey



## Life in Baltimore:

# A look at the Crisis in Black Education, Part I

By Brenda Bowe Johnson

*This is Part 1 of three part series about the current crisis in black education*

The 2017 theme for the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) is "The Crisis In Black Education." Guided by a vision to study and acknowledge the significance of the historical and cultural experiences of people of African descent, the founder, Dr. Carter G. Woodson crafted a plan of action that not only remains relevant in today's challenging environment but essential to our successful continuation and growth.

With the current political environment and the tainted vision of the secretary of education, it is imperative that we address the education of our children.

Across the nation school districts are under siege, especially in urban districts with limited resources, high dropout rates and low graduation outcomes. We have the capabilities to ensure that all students succeed.

This discussion is to provide commentary, which should lead to an immediate call to action.

In the coming months, educators will be interviewed for their perspective on the state of black education. At the conclusion of the series, a community panel discussion will take place addressing these issues.

The first educator to address the questions is Mary Chavis Radcliffe, retired administrator, Baltimore City Public School System and president of the Julian Chapter of ASALH.

**BBJ:** Do you think that there is a crisis in black education? If so or if not, why?

**MCR:** Yes, there is a crisis in black education that has its roots in the rationale that was used by Europeans asserting that one's skin color reduced him to a position of being less than a human being. This notion led to the abduction and inhumane treatment of Africans as they were transported across the Atlantic and forced into involuntary servitude. Once in America, the founding father of



*Mary Chavis Radcliffe, retired Baltimore City Public School System administrator, and president of the Julian Chapter of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History addresses the current crisis in black education, which is the organization's theme for 2017. Courtesy Photo*

this nation used every vehicle available to keep Africans in slavery. One such strategy was creating laws making it illegal for slaves to learn to read and write. The denial of literacy to slaves set the groundwork for centuries of inequality in this nation that still exist today.

Even after the end of slavery, the establishment of schools for African Americans, the repealing of Jim Crow Laws via Supreme Court Decisions, and the passage of the Civil Right Legislation of the 60s and 70s, there is [still] a disparity between the education available to the majority of African American children and their caucasian counterparts that must be classified as a "crisis." In this nation, every child has the right to a free, equal education. There is an inequity in the funding of schools across the nation. The monies appropriated for the funding of urban schools are not adequate to meet the needs of the student

populations, while rural and suburban schools have sufficient resources to meet the students needs. The quality of the education provided for children should not be based on the socio-economic background or the zip code in which a family lives.

**BBJ:** What are the main issues facing the education system especially in urban areas?

**MCR:** There is a plethora of issues facing the education system especially in urban areas, and the answers or solutions

are complex. I believe that at the top of the list however are the following: inexperienced teaching staff who lack adequate knowledge of the students' culture; lack of teacher-student relationships with high standards for achievement and behavior; low student achievement; poor data management to identify and monitor student needs and progress; low expectations of student performance; lack of parent/community involvement and partnerships; inadequate physical environments; and decaying communities plagued by a myriad of social and economic adversities.

**BBJ:** What is needed to improve the education of black children? Is it the role of parents, teachers or system?

**MCR:** In order to improve the education of black children, it will require all the stakeholders, parents, students, teachers, community groups and businesses, as well as the school system, work in partnership. Parents must support the teacher and administration by reinforcing the importance of learning at home and [must] be actively involved in the school. Teachers must stay abreast of the newest methodologies in education and build good relationships with their students and parents, undergirded by high expectations of achievement and good behavior. Community groups and businesses must partner with the schools and invest in the communities' greatest asset—the children. Finally, the school systems must appoint competent administrators and provide adequate resources and support services to meet the students' needs. Only with an all-inclusive comprehensive cooperative partnership can our children be afforded the quality of education that is their birthright.

### **Hollins Market Second Annual Amateur Chess Tournament**

**Saturday, June 17, 2017 —noon to 5 p.m.**

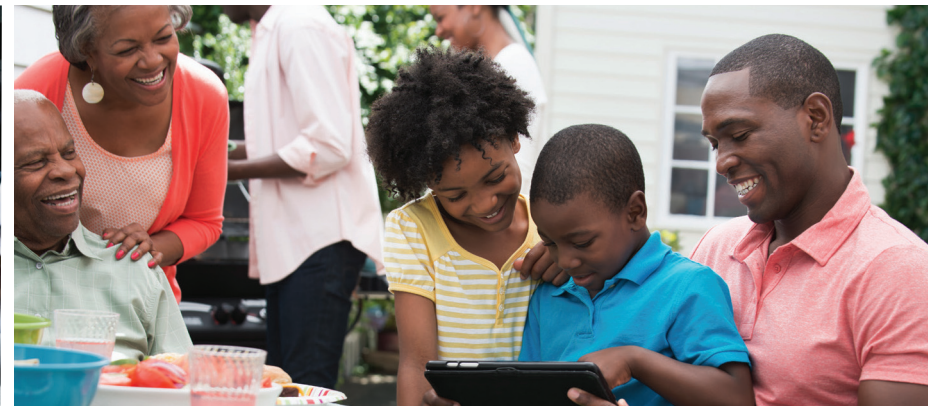
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# Rambling Rose

*Salute to the daddy's  
in the community*



Hello my friends, this week I've shared a picture collage of a few fathers I know who are representing our community from all walks of life and in many different professions. Check out the Father's Day events you can take that special guy in your life to this weekend.

**Saturday June 17, 2017**  
**Baltimore Wine Fest 3rd**  
**Annual Baltimore Wine Fest**  
12-7 p.m.

Canton Waterfront Park  
3001 Boston Street, Baltimore.  
Over 160 wines from around the world, gourmet eats provided by local eateries, live music, chef cooking demonstrations, wine seminars, craft beer & spirits, unique shopping and a family zone.  
Info: 323-547-4391

**Sunday, June 18, 2017**  
**Father's Day Feast**

3-6 p.m.  
Forum Caterers  
4210 Primrose Ave., Baltimore  
Live entertainment featuring the Slagz Band & Open Buffet Menu  
INFO: 410-358-1101

**Father's Day Celebration and Gospel Concert**

4 p.m.  
Dunbar High School

1400 Orleans St., Baltimore  
Featuring the Mighty Clouds of Joy, Willis Pittman & Kenny Davis, Eric Waddell & the Abundant Lift Singers, The Edward Sisters, Heaven Bind Gospel Singers & gospel soloist M's Chambliss and much more.  
INFO: 410-443-610-7583

**Baltimore Blues Society**  
**Father's Day Event**  
7-11 p.m.

Rosedale American Legion  
1331 Seling Avenue, Baltimore  
Featuring Johnny Sansone, Mark Wener and Ronnie Owens at the BYOB.  
Info: 410-866-6280.

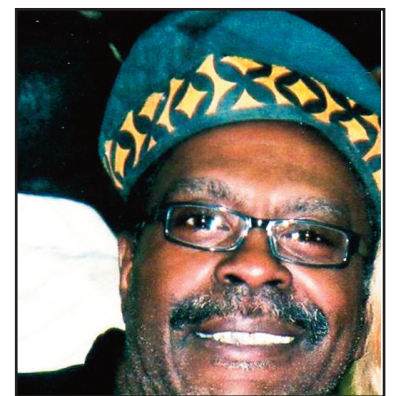
**Father's Day Bull**  
**and Oyster Roast**  
4-8 p.m.

Champagne Ballroom  
2701 Patapsco Ave., Baltimore.  
Open hot & cold buffet.  
Info: 410-644-3434

Well my dear friends and readers, I am out of space, but remember, if you need me, call me at 410-833-9474 or email me at rosapryor@aol.com. Enjoy your weekend. UNTIL THE NEXT TIME, I'M MUSICAL YOURS.



**Rev. Henry Turner**



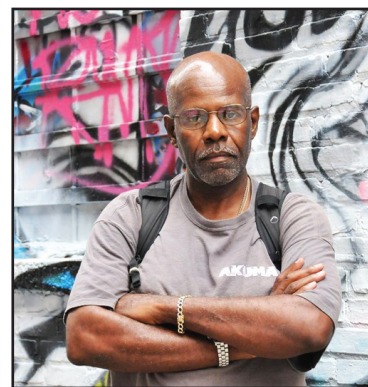
**Carlton Douglass**



**James "Big Jim" Staton**



**Lonnie Parker**



**Anderson Ward**



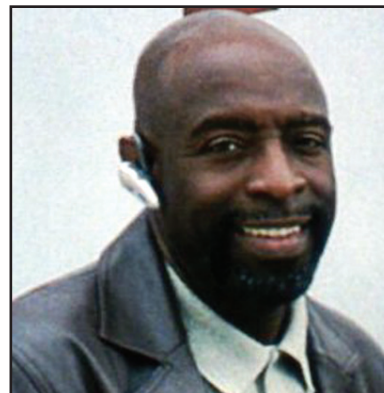
**Brian Hall**



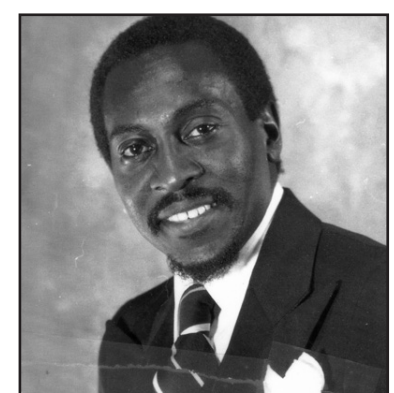
**Kweisi Mfume**



**Carlos Hutchins**



**James Hamlin**



**Rodney Orange**



# Spanish Teacher at Baltimore Design School receives Fulbright Scholarship

Baltimore— When people meet her, the first thing they notice is her wide, warm smile. As you converse with her, they realize how intelligent she is and how strong her faith in God is. These aspects of Allison Hall-Pridgen are the beginning but certainly not the end of her life's beautiful unfolding.

Allison Hall-Pridgen, a Spanish teacher at the Baltimore Design School, has been awarded a grant from the U. S. Department of Education Fulbright-Hays Group Projects Abroad program. Under the grant, Towson University will provide a six-week immersion experience in Peru this summer. This grant was awarded to 15 tenured teachers across the country.

The program has the stated goals of enhancing the educators' Spanish language competence, developing intercultural competence and knowledge of Latin American culture, and helping teachers create curriculum units to use in their classrooms, schools, and communities. The awardees will be working with two faculty members from Towson Univer-



*Allison Hall-Pridgen, a Spanish teacher at the Baltimore Design School, has been awarded a grant from the U. S. Department of Education Fulbright-Hays Group Projects Abroad program. She is also an accomplished artist and a member of the Rev. Joan Coursey Dance and Mime Ministry.* Courtesy Photos

sity's College of Liberal Arts— Dr. Colleen Ebacher and Dr. Ronn Pineo, and

selected teachers from across the nation. Hall-Pridgen is totally excited about this

special opportunity and believes that it will increase her ability to provide her students with greater awareness and understanding of the Latin American culture.

"I am humbled by this opportunity. It has been the desire of my heart, since 1995, when I started teaching for Baltimore City Schools," Allison Hall-Pridgen said.

Teaching Spanish is only one of Allison's passions. She is an accomplished artist and on any given evening, you can find her instructing friends and relatives at one of her painting parties. She also creates a wide variety of glass mosaics ranging from picture frames to vintage furniture. She is a member of the Rev. Joan Coursey Dance and Mime Ministry that was named after her mother by the pastor of St. John AME Church, Rev. Dr. Peggy E. Wall.

Allison is the wife of Andre Pridgen and the mother of Christina and Joshua. Additionally, she is a graduate of Forest Park High School, Baltimore, Md., and Christopher Newport University, Newport News, Virginia.

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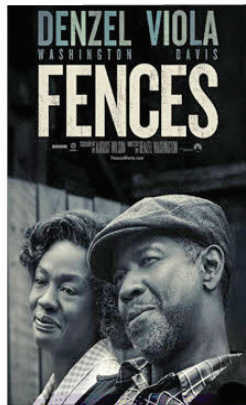
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DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL  
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NOTICE OF LETTING**

Sealed Bids or Proposals, in duplicate, addressed to the Board of Estimates of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore and marked for **GS 15830, Central District Police Station Exterior Waterproofing** will be received at the Office of the Comptroller, Room 204, City Hall, Baltimore, Maryland until 11:00 A.M. on Wednesday, **August 9, 2017**. Positively no bids will be received after 11:00 A.M. The bids will be publicly opened by the Board of Estimates in Room 215, City Hall at Noon. The Contract Documents may be examined, without charge, in Room 6 located on the first floor of the Abel Wolman Municipal Building, 200 Holliday Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202 as of **Friday, June 16, 2017** 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 pre-qualified by the City of Baltimore Contractors Qualification Committee. Interested contractors should call 410 396-6883 or contact the Committee 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 **\$500,000.01 to \$1,000,000.00** A “Pre-Bidding information” session will be conducted at **The Site: 500 E. Baltimore St, Baltimore MD 21202 on Tuesday, June 27, 2017 at 10:00 A.M.**

**Principal Items of work for this project are:**

1. Concrete
2. Thermal and Moisture Proofing

The MBE goal is **27%**

The WBE goal is **9%**

**CONTRACT NO. GS 15830**

APPROVED:  
Bernice H. Taylor  
Clerk, Board of Estimates

APPROVED:  
Steve Sharkey  
Director, Department of General Services

## 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 **Water Contract No. 1359-Urgent Need Water Infrastructure Rehabilitation** will be received at the Office of the Comptroller, Room 204, City Hall, Baltimore, Maryland until 11:00 A.M. on **Wednesday, July 12 2017**. 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 Contract Documents may be examined, without charge, in Room 6 located on the first floor of the Abel Wolman Municipal Building, 200 N. Holliday Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202 as of **Friday, June 16, 2017** 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 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 **B02551-Water Mains**

Cost Qualification Range for this work shall be **\$6,000,000.01 to \$7,000,000.00**

A “Pre-Bidding Information” session will be conducted at the **3rd Floor Large Conference Room of the Office of Engineering & Construction, Abel Wolman Municipal Building on June 23, 2017 at 2:00 P.M.** **Principal Item of work for this project include, but are not limited to:**

Urgent need water main repairs and replacement as necessary, including, but not limited to, replacement/installation of various size new ductile iron pipe, valves, fittings, and appurtenances replacement/installation of fire hydrants, small (residential) meter settings and meter vaults, renew and replacement of existing water services, sidewalk restoration, curb and gutter, and roadway paving as required.

The MBE goal is **9%**  
The WBE goal is **2%**

## Legal Notices

**WATER CONTRACT NO. 1359**

APPROVED:  
Bernice H. Taylor  
Clerk, Board of Estimates

APPROVED:  
Rudolph S. Chow, P.E.  
Director of Public Works

**CITY OF BALTIMORE  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
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 **FAP NO. NHPP-83-1(179)E; SHA NO. BC420006; BALTIMORE CITY NO. TR13301; INSTALLATION OF I-83 MEDIAN GATE NORTH OF COLD SPRING LANE AND BRIDGE JOINT REPAIRS** will be received at the Office of the Comptroller, Room 204 City Hall, Baltimore, Maryland until 11:00 A.M. **August 23, 2017**. 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 Contract Documents may be examined, without charge, at the Department of Public Works Service Center located on the first floor of the Abel Wolman Municipal Building, 200 N. Holliday Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202 as of **June 16, 2017** and copies may be purchased for a non-refundable cost of **\$300.00**. 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. Inter-

## Legal Notice

ested 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 are C03300 (Concrete Construction) and C05100 (Structural Steel Erection). Cost Qualification Range for this work shall be **\$3,000,000.00 to \$6,000,000.00**. A “Pre-Bidding Information” session will be conducted at 10:00 A.M. on June 30, 2017 at 417 E. Fayette Street, Charles L. Benton Building, 724. Principal Items of work for this project are Type II Deck Repair – 10,000 SF, Replace Exist. Joint Extrusions – 1,000 LF, and Reset Exist. Joint Extrusions – 1,000 LF. The DBE goal is **16%**.  
APPROVED: Bernice H. Taylor, Clerk Board of Estimates

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