

THE BALTIMORE BULLETIN

APRIL 2025



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Support the BDRC in 2025

As a volunteer run 501 (c) 3 non-profit, the BDRC depends on revenue from donations, memberships, sponsorships, and events to operate. This is what makes all our programming and the ongoing restoration of the Victoria Opera House possible!

We hope you will consider renewing your membership, or joining for the first time. Members are always welcome at our Board meetings (7 PM on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Victoria). Memberships are available at different levels, and all new and renewing members score great custom swag.

This year's swag will celebrate Baltimore's bicentennial! You can't buy it in stores. In addition, anyone who contributes \$500 or more per year has an annual recognition plaque hung in the Victoria Opera House.

Finally, annual sponsorships for the following programs and more are available.

- Victoria Players Children's Theater
- Victoria Opera House
- Holiday Market
- Flag Fund (flags on Main & Market St.)
- Holiday Decorations



Victoria Players Children's Theater - Auditions Done

The second production for VPCT's season 8 will be Beetlejuice Jr. (a musical).

Get ready for "A Hauntingly Great Season 8"



Auditions were held in early April, and the cast & crew will be hard at work this summer preparing for late July shows Congratulations to everyone selected to be part of the show!



Lydia - Heidi Chabot
Beetlejuice - Nicholas Henwood
Delia - Bailey Shy
Charles - Branden Giesecke
Adam - Tarrin Clark
Barbara - Allison Freeland

Sky - Isla King
Maxie - Jack Westhoven
Maxine - Sonnie Hysell
Otho - Lexie Dickison
Miss Argentina - Gwen Dilts
Juno - Anna Weber

Ensemble: Kiah Baer, Anna Bartos, Evan Bartos, Amelie Baum, Brianna Bigler, Reese Brunner, Ben Chabot, Carsyn Cox, Julia Damirov, Wren Dawson, Caysha DeBaltzo, Lia DeCarlo, Cora Dickison, Dalton Dille, Elaina Dunfee, Emma Dunfee, Gabby George, Jocelyn Gribben, Leigha Hawkins, Heidi Hendershot, Lili Holland, Sara Joos, Emery Kandawalla, Dani Kuck, Shaylee McManus, Drew Morris, Nova Moyer, Brielle Schrader, Jai Shamblyn, Paige Smith, Calen Vargas, Calia Vargas, Luke Widener, Franco Williamson, Kamryn Wilson

Direction by: Max DeBaltzo

Beetlejuice Jr. is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.



Need a Venue? Rent the Opera House For Your Event

No need to wait two years for your venue to be available! Make magical memories in this historic space. Contact the BDRC for wedding package options and rates. The VOH is also available for assorted parties, meetings, and rental events, offering flexible theater and ballroom spaces.



Thank You to our Opera House Sponsors for 2024

The restoration of Baltimore's historic Opera House is ongoing, and would not be happening without local support. The BDRC would like to thank

- [Park National Bank](#)
- [Sherry Looney and the Loon Crew/Howard Hanna Realty](#)
- [Schaffner's Drive In](#)
- [Keller Family Chiropractic](#)
- [Landis Hometown Team/Key Realty](#)
- [VFW Post 3761](#)

Their ongoing support of the Victoria helps fund operations, repairs and additional improvements. To sponsor for 2025, please contact us for more information.

The Nostalgics Are Back

The Nostalgics Big Band will hit the stage at the Victoria Opera House again Sunday June 8, at 2 PM. Our thanks to the band for gracing the Opera House stage again.

We never know what they have in store, but we know it will swing. And this show will celebrate Baltimore's bicentennial – a event that will never be repeated.



Admission is free, with donations accepted. And the swag shop will be open. This is your chance to grab bicentennial merchandise to celebrate the Village's 200th year.



Bicentennial cow bells, Christmas ornaments, note cards, and more are now available for a limited time: these gems are not sold in stores!

Baltimore Bicentennial Fun

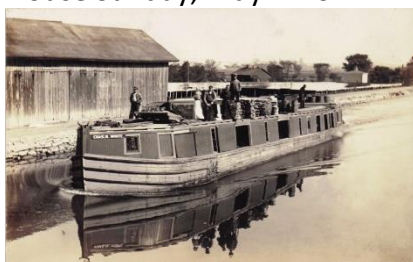
Join your friends and neighbors at the Victoria Opera House Sunday, May 4 from 1 – 3 PM to

celebrate
Baltimore's
200th

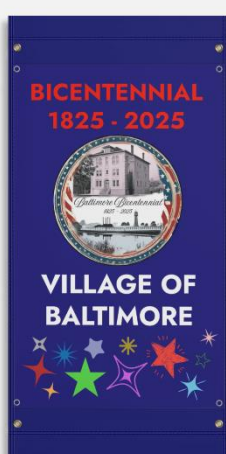
birthday!

Speakers will

include local educator and historian Jim Reed, speaking about the history of the Ohio & Erie Canal in our area. Jim is a widely recognized expert on the topic, so this is not to be missed!



Other bicentennial events coming up include the history of the Baltimore Branch Library on May 13 (at the library) and a third history lecture at the Victoria on Nov. 16. In



addition, a walking tour of the Village will be held Sept. 28 at 4 PM.

Papito's Kitchen, Trinity United Church of Christ, and others will join forces to present the 2nd Community Festival on June 22. They'll be celebrating the bicentennial

with a car show, ice cream social, food, and much more.



Finally, the Village's newest park will be dedicated during the June 22 Festival. Bicentennial Park is at the corner of W. Market and High Streets. It features the historic Basil Firehouse/Bandstand building, and will soon have a new gazebo and furnishings. The space was a park years ago, but the historic structure has been modified since this vintage photo was taken. Thanks to all who purchased commemorative bricks



donated furnishings to the new park, and to Eagle Scout candidate William McCreery, who will be building the brick flagpole patio. What a community effort! Sponsors of the Bicentennial and Park include:

- Greif Inc.
- DR Horton
- Edward N. Sands Fund for Baltimore
- Park National Bank
- VFW Post #3761
- Mayor Rick Ellas & Family
- Peoples Bank
- Local Waste Services
- Eastern Cottontail Solar Project
- Rumpke
- McCoy Gutter
- Donald Law Offices
- Ron & Ruth Bibler
- Zeyer Lumber
- Coca-Cola
- Kids Zone Educational Child Care
- Schaffner's Drive In
- Cristy's Pizza
- Johnson Smith Funeral Home
- Kendra Landis/Key Realty
- Christa Grover/Lew Griffin Insurance
- George Daft
- Margaret Chatlain
- Roastin' Toastin'
- Melissa Pickens





BALTIMORE BICENTENNIAL 1825 - 2025

Sponsored by **GREIF**

Bicentennial Witness Trees Found

Taking a suggestion from the Village Council, members of the Baltimore Tree Commission recently led a search for living witnesses to the founding of the Village. No 200 year old people were found (alive), but they found several venerable old trees that were already growing here in 1825! Look for signs like the one above that mark these remarkable old trees around town. Here's the list if you'd like to visit them.

- 216 W. Mulberry St. – Sycamore (216 years)
- 721 N. Romulus St. – N. catalpa (204 years)
- Johnson Park – Bur oak (210 years)
- Alt Park – Bur oak (340 years)
- 2480 Leonard Rd. at the end of the Village's canal tow path – Sycamore (264 years)

Tree age was calculated using a formula – no trees were harmed in the process!

Farmers Market Update

With regret, the BDRC will not be sponsoring a Farmers Market in Baltimore in 2025. Ace Hardware has been a wonderful partner and host, and we will miss our awesome vendors and customers. However, the BDRC Board has decided to take a year off



to work on insurance challenges regarding the market. Fortunately, the plan is to move forward with the Holiday Market in December. Please stay tuned for updates during the year and let us know what you think.

Celebrate Arbor Day April 27



Join the Baltimore Tree Commission for a tree planting celebration at 3 PM on April 27 at the soon to be dedicated Bicentennial Park (1304 W. Market St.). Scouts will be planting an Ohio



Buckeye tree donated by Melodie & Duane Rezac. Learn more about the Village's bicentennial witness trees,

Tree City USA award, and pending tree planting work around town that is funded by an ODNr grant. Free seedlings will be available while they last.



Free Buddhaddhamma Talk

Join Triple Wisdom Preservation at the Victoria Opera House on Tuesday April 22 for a free talk: Giving Out of Generosity: Cultivating Dāna. The program begins at 6 PM. Triple Wisdom is a non-profit organization committed to preserving the studies and practice of wisdom and compassion. All are welcome to attend.



Kroger Rewards Support the BDRC

Do you shop at Kroger? It's super easy to support the BDRC, VPCT, Farmers' Market, and Opera House by signing up for Kroger Community Rewards. Just go to Krogercommunityrewards.com, sign in with your Kroger Plus card, click enroll, and designate the BDRC (#KU440) as the organization you wish to support. Then



Kroger sends us a quarterly check as a reward for your purchases.

Keep Up with Us on Social Media

The BDRC and its many programs are on Facebook at:



- Baltimore Downtown Restoration
- Victoria Opera House
- Victoria Players Children's Theater – VPCT
- Baltimore Farmers Market

And of course, our website is up to speed with current events and programs.

Questions? Email us at:

- baltimoredowntownrestoration@gmail.com
- vpctheater@gmail.com
- baltimoreohiofarmersmarket@gmail.com

The Baltimore Bulletin is a periodic publication of the Baltimore Downtown Restoration Committee, a volunteer run 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization. Contacts:

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