



BSA Students Bring History Alive and Celebrate the Bicentennial of the Star Spangled Banner

Students are in the midst of this year's historical theatre collaboration with the [Maryland Historical Society](#) and [National Park Service](#). The project, called *Citizen Stand: The Battle for Baltimore 1814*, features three short plays about the Battle of Baltimore. The original plays, researched and written by students and faculty mentors, explore the role of women behind the front lines; Jewish and Quaker citizens reconciling their religious convictions to defend their homeland; and the diverse experience of free and enslaved African Americans during the war. "It's a history trifecta, and that's what you can experience," says Fort

McHenry's Ranger Vince Vaise. The students performed over the weekend at Fort McHenry and there's a final free production on **Friday, May 2** at 6 pm at the MDHS followed by a reception. The project's been profiled on Fox, WBAL (click [here](#)), and the Marc Steiner Show (click [here](#)). It will also be reprised at the [Star Spangled Spectacular](#) this September (Visit

Baltimore's CEO Tom Noonan expects the September festival to be the biggest tourism event in Baltimore history. Click [here](#) for the story)! This program is just one of our community partnerships. To learn more, visit www.bsfa.org!



A Russian Serenade Caps Yearlong Exploration of Russian History and Art

Plans Are Underway for 2015 Festival

In BSA's 2nd annual collaborative festival, students displayed an array of projects on Russian history and art and performed in a Russian-themed concert centered on Balanchine's beautiful *Serenade*. Dancers worked with award-winning choreographer

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In this Issue

- [Star Spangled History](#)
- [Russian Serenade a Success](#)
- [BSA Students Excel](#)
- [Students Serve Over Break](#)
- [Faculty Bits](#)
- [Summer Programs](#)

Celebrate & Support BSA in May !

Begin the month this **Thursday, May 1** at BSA's **Annual All-star Alumni Cabaret** at Germano's in lovely Little Italy featuring [Tracie Thoms](#), [Brian Michael Hoffman](#), Becky Mousing, and a host of other talented singers and musicians. Due to popular demand there will be two seatings for this event: 5:30 & 8:30 pm. Tickets at \$25 benefit BSA! Click [here](#)



to purchase.

On **Friday, May 2**, join the **BSA Choir and Orchestra** for their Spring Concert at 5 pm in the Schaefer Ballroom. Tickets at the door are \$5 & \$10.

Dancers will showcase their work at the **Spring Dance Concerts** on **Thursday, May 8** at 5 pm; **Friday, May 9** at 7

Deborah Wingert of the Balanchine Trust and musicians prepared with BSO Concertmaster Jonathan Carney and Maestro Andrew Grams (BSA '95). After working with our students, Ms. Wingert observed, "They're very highly skilled." Students brought the work of Rachmaninoff, Tchaikovsky, Chekhov, Shostakovich and others to life for a wide audience, created original artwork, as well as an in-depth academic exhibit. For a video recap of the project by City Schools Channel 77, click [here](#).

**"It's one of the best arts magnet schools in the country and I've been a lot of places."
~Deborah Wingert on BSA**

In April 2015, as BSA celebrates its 35th Anniversary, the multi-disciplinary festival will center on an original work commissioned by the school -- Stay tuned for details about what promises to be an exciting project!



Painting by BSA Visual Arts student, Danielle Caulk.
Based on research of contemporary Russian illustrators.

**U.S. News & World Report
has designated BSA
as one of the Best High
Schools in America.**

BSA is awarded a Silver Badge and ranked in the Top 5% of high schools nationwide. To read the full report, click [here](#).

Congratulations to all of our students who continue to excel in the arts and academics, and special kudos to students recently inducted to the [National Honor Society](#). To see the inductees and current members of the NHS selected for excellence in the areas of scholarship, leadership, service, and character, click [here](#).



pm; and **Saturday, May 10** at 2 & 6 pm. Dancers will reprise Balanchine's *Serenade* as well as other works, including the Beatles piece from



Expressions. Tickets are \$5 & \$10.

On **Monday, May 12** at 4:30 & 7 pm see the work of our future film makers in the **Video Showcase**. For a sample of the thought-provoking work they're doing, click [here](#). Free.

On **Tuesday, May 13**, the popular **Wine Market** restaurant is offering a special opportunity for BSA "family" -- a delicious three-course dinner for only \$45! Proceeds benefit BSA. Make your reservations by calling 410-244-6166 or visit [here](#).

BSA junior actors star in **Musical Theatre Night** on **Thursday & Friday, May 15 & 16** at 4:30 & 7 pm. This year's theme is "Friend or foe or lover...or no." The fun-filled performance includes the work of Sondheim, Brown, and even some ABBA! Tickets are \$5 & \$10.

BSA students will be one of many acts featured at **Arts Outside** on **Sunday, May 18**. Join art-minded friends for a fun day of free activities at Druid Hill Park. Click [here](#) for details!

May also features a



BSA Students Lend Helping Hands in North Carolina with Service Break Connect

A group of BSA students "donated" their spring break, traveling to Durham, NC to help build a house for [Habitat for Humanity](#), and to learn a little about how to live on a very modest budget. Faculty mentor Nick Esposito spearheaded the project, as well as the organization [Service Break Connect](#). BSA students have made two trips to NC and other Baltimore schools have also joined the program. Trips to Florida, Georgia and Canada are in the works. Esposito was named to *The Daily Record's* [20 in Their Twenties](#) list for his work in founding the organization.

Faculty Bits & Pieces

Mr. Esposito isn't the only faculty member making headlines. Photography teacher (and BSA alum) **Kyle Tata** is one of six semifinalists for Baltimore's prestigious [Sondheim Artscape Prize](#). Harp Teacher **Jackie Pollauf** has received an Individual Artist Award from the [MD State Arts Council](#). And it isn't just about art every minute here: Physics Teacher **Phyllis Friello** just won 4th place in the [U.S. Adult Figure Skating Championships](#). And in case you didn't know -- our own **Professor Solomon** is an expert on finding lost things. He was just featured on the *Today Show*. "Find" the link [here](#). Kudos to all!

Have you made a gift to support BSA this year? Your donation will really make a difference for our kids! Just click [here](#).

We hope to see you at BSA in May!

Thank you!



Senior Recital (**Tuesday, May 6** at 7 pm) and Chamber Music Recitals (**Friday, May 9** at 5 pm) as well as the **Armstrong Honors Recital** on **Thursday, May 22** at 7 pm. Free.

On **May 19**, our Senior Acting Ensemble literally "takes off" for London where they'll perform **Our House** with their British counterparts at [Showdown Theatre Arts](#). Break a leg!

The **Senior Visual Arts Exhibition** opens on **Friday, May 23** at 4 pm. Come to the reception to meet the artists and be ready to buy -- This is only exhibition where artwork is for sale! Free.

BSA Hosts Summer Programs

Are you looking for great programs in music or dance this summer for your children? We may have just the opportunity for you! We're happy to announce some new camps taking place right here at BSA:

MUSIC

The music department is offering intensive programs to students who will enter grades 3 through 8 in the Fall of 2014. Click [here](#) for more information.

DANCE

The dance department is offering a 4-week intensive. (June 23-July 18) with daily pre-professional classes in Ballet, Pointe and Modern taught by BSA faculty. Click [here](#) for more information.