

BALTIMORE SCHOOL *for the* ARTS

For immediate release

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BALTIMORE SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS STARTS 31st SCHOOL YEAR WITH DEBUT OF FAMILY ARTREACH SERIES

(Baltimore) – Though the Baltimore School for the Arts (BSA) just opened its doors to begin its 31st school year, the faculty has been preparing for months to debut a new **Family ArtReach Series** and announce the fall performances and exhibitions.

The new **Family ArtReach Series** is designed to provide increased access to the arts for families and children, through four family-friendly performances.

“The Family ArtReach Series is a new initiative that we started behind the idea of making the arts accessible and exposing the community to all the possibilities and benefits of arts education,” said Leslie Shepard, director of the Baltimore School for the Arts. “The Baltimore School for the Arts is more than just a nationally recognized arts high school and this is an effort to expand our reach in to the community.”

The Family ArtReach Series includes a variety of performances that will take place throughout the year to include:

Everything Art Family Day, a day of arts workshops, demonstrations and performance showcases for families with elementary and middle school children.

The Nutcracker ballet, the BSA's annual holiday production of the timeless classic with sugar plum fairies, dancing snowflakes, and mouse kings.

Spring performance, a multi-departmental collaboration featuring the talents of music, theatre and dance students.

Expressions, a four-day fundraising event honoring the school's many successes that includes an hour-long show by students from the BSA's theatre, dance and music departments.

The Family ArtReach Series is sponsored by Constellation Energy Group, Covergirl, Mary Kay and Charles Nabit, PNC Bank, The Shattuck Family, The Whiting-Turner Contracting Company and WYPR.

Founded in 1980, the Baltimore School for the Arts provides students with intensive pre-professional training in the arts in the context of a rigorous college preparatory curriculum. Its graduates go on to the most selective arts and university programs nationwide and achieve prominence in theater, film, music, dance and visual arts. Additionally, the Baltimore School for the Arts is a catalyst for young people to explore and discover their interest for the arts through TWIGS, its highly acclaimed program that provides after-school arts classes to more than 750 elementary and middle school students; special dance and theatre recitals for Baltimore City Public School students; family performance series; partnerships with other arts organizations; and art exhibitions.

The Baltimore School for the Arts, where the arts change kid's lives.

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