



Notes from the Director

It has been an eventful and exciting first year for me, and even though it is summer, the BSA is as busy as ever. This week, the students at BSA are a little bit older, amateur adult musicians brushing up on their skills at the **BSO Academy**, which is using BSA as a summer campus. And next week, the students will be a little bit younger, 2nd-4th graders participating in **Parks & People's Superkids** camp. Our own Anoa Green will be supervising a month of fun-filled activities for this group of energetic kids from across the city.



The First Lady greets BSA musicians after their performance in DC

We're proud to collaborate with so many institutions in Baltimore. One of the new things happening next year is another collaboration, one with the **BSO**, **MICA**, and **The Lyric** where we'll be presenting our yearly production of **The Nutcracker** to live music and with new backdrops. This is an unprecedented partnership of four cultural institutions and we're thrilled that BSA's dancers, both high school and TWIGS, will be front and center!

There are many other great programs in the works for 2012-13 and as the year progresses, there are sure to be unplanned-for opportunities as well. An incredible highlight this year was an invitation to our students from Senator Ben Cardin's wife, Myrna Cardin, to play at the **Spouses of the Senate Luncheon** in honor of **First Lady Michelle Obama**. What an honor! Our students were fantastic and I was really proud to be there with them. I'm looking forward to what next year has in store for BSA and to welcoming new and returning high school and TWIGS students, more than a 1,000, beginning in August. Meanwhile, have a great summer!

—Chris Ford

Featured Fall Events — Please Join Us!

- ♦ September 21 — **Ruth Shaw's** annual **Art of Giving Fashion Show** at **Renaissance Art Gallery**. Proceeds help to support BSA's Nutcracker and Kennedy Krieger. For tickets www.kennedykrieger.org/ArtofGiving
- ♦ September 26-October 6 — BSA welcomes **Baltimore Open Theatre** featuring Bulgarian Artist Venelin Shurelov's fascinating object-performances. Free!
- ♦ October 25 — BSA's **Stage One/FANS** invites you to **Gotta Dance!**, an evening to see friends, support the school, and strap on your dancin' shoes for lessons and fun with BSA faculty, students and special guest star dancers. Stay tuned for details!
- ♦ Come support **BSA's musicians** — November 1, BSA's **Wind Ensemble**; November 5, **Opera Scenes Workshop**; and/or November 7, **Orchestra Concert**. All concerts 5pm.

Dates to Note:

- AUGUST 23, NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION
- AUGUST 27, 1ST DAY OF SCHOOL
- SEPTEMBER 3, LABOR DAY
- SEPTEMBER 8, LABOR OF LOVE/CLEAN UP BSA
- OCTOBER 4, OPEN SCHOOL DAY & GENERAL PARENT MEETING
- OCTOBER 9 & 10, PARENT DIALOGUES
- OCTOBER 13, FIRST DAY OF TWIGS

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BSA Highlights & Previews 2012

Theatre Students “Working” in the UK



British students visited BSA for a week in the fall to begin work on the co-production — A new group will visit this year

In the most ambitious undertaking in the seven year history of BSA's annual co-productions in the UK, the Senior Acting Ensemble and their British counterparts at Showdown Theatre Arts mounted a fully staged version of Studs Terkel's *Working* with two casts in just six days! With the guidance of five mentor-actors, three British and two American (BSA alum Becky Mossing '88 and Shayna Small '06) as well as a musical director and chore-

ographer, the students worked very effectively together for 12-hour days to rehearse 29 roles, 15 monologues and 17 songs. It was an intense and inspiring experience. The students were exhilarated by the process and showed no sign of fatigue as the performances, given at The Nomad Theatre in East Horsley in Surrey in June, approached. The audience response was very enthusiastic and the students felt proud of what they had accomplished in such a

short time. For BSA theatre department head Donald Hicken, “It was gratifying to see that the BSA students were able to apply the acting, vocal and movement techniques they have been developing over their four years in the actor-training program and that they were able to do this effectively in such a condensed rehearsal period.” BSA and Showdown Theatre Arts will continue this wonderful collaboration in 2012-13. Stay tuned for details!

In Stratford, BSA students had the opportunity to experience one of the largest theatre production operations in the world, employing over 1000 people.

Stage Production Crew Travels to Canada

In addition to seeing five shows in a variety of theatre spaces, BSA's stage production and design students were treated to special access tours behind the scenes at the Stratford Shakespeare Festival in June. Top theatre professionals including the Design Coordinator of the Festival made time to answer questions and tour the work-

shops with the group, and students were able to talk directly to artists who made the productions. At the Archives, the curator allowed the students to see and handle items from past productions not generally made available to the public. Students were also able to observe a change-over from one set to another in the largest space, the Festi-

val Theatre, with the expert guidance of the Technical Director. Stratford retains a commitment to creating as much of the productions as possible within their own shops. According to Nora Worthington, BSA's resident costumer, “The contact with professionals working at the top of their fields was inspiring for our students.”

Music with the Masters and a Trip on the Horizon



Jonathan Carney has conducted and performed with students in special concerts

Music students enjoyed a busy year with many exciting trips, master classes and opportunities to meet “celebrities” including: At a dress rehearsal at the Washington National Opera, students toured backstage and met **Placido Domingo**. They also attended a CD release concert by BSA alum **Warren**

Wolf '97 and **Tim Green** '00; concerts at Peabody; and *Fiddler on the Roof* at The Lyric. They enjoyed master classes with the Apple Hill String Quartet, violinist **Tai Murray**, members of the Navy Band, guitarist **Ronald Pearl**, and performers from the 2nd Annual Washington Women in Jazz among others. BSA's

Chamber Choir performed with Morgan State and City College's Choirs at the BSO's gala which also featured **Hilary Hahn**. They also sang on TV at the holidays and of course, for the **First Lady** in May! In the works for next year, a trip to England with **Jonathan Carney**, Concertmaster of the BSO!

Alumni Connections — BSA Past & Present

Alumni play a vital role in keeping the BSA community thriving, in Baltimore and beyond. Alumni initiatives this year included the addition of a “featured alumni” page on the website and a holiday luncheon. Plans for next year include class reunions and a Zumbathon fundraiser led by Kearsha Saxon '02 (Oct 20)!

Of course, our favorite thing is when alumni come to visit to work with our current students. Just a few highlights:

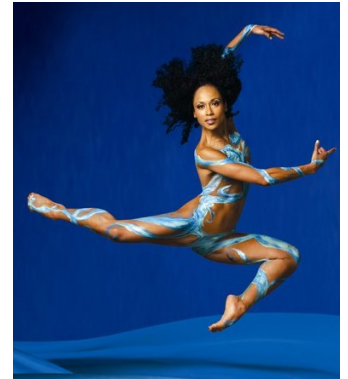
In April, the Alvin Ailey Dance Theatre came to the to Baltimore for their first visit in 10+ years. Two BSA alums with the company—dancer **Jacqueline Green** '07 and wardrobe and graphic artist **Donte Baylor** '03—were able to visit BSA to conduct and attend classes!

Earlier in the year, visual arts students toured the Candida Hofer exhibit at the BMA with **Sara Vanderbeek** '94 who has had shows at both the

MOMA and Guggenheim.

In February, a group from BSA got to attend **Christian Siriano**'s '04 show at Fashion Week in New York and meet Christian. And in June, musicians had the opportunity to work with **Richard White** '92, Principal Tubist with the New Mexico Philharmonic and one of BSA's earliest graduates!

Visit www.bsfa.org for more info on our alumni and stay tuned for 2012-13!



Costumes created by Donte Baylor, a wardrobe artist with Alvin Ailey, are featured on posters and billboards in NYC

BSA's *Nutcracker* Moves to The Lyric

In an unprecedented partnership of four Baltimore cultural organizations, BSA, the BSO, Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA) and The Modell Performing Arts Center at the Lyric will come together this December to present Tchaikovsky's full-length holiday classic *The Nutcracker*. The production will showcase the BSO conducted by

Cristian Macelaru, 120 students from BSA's high school and TWIGS, and newly created backdrops designed by MICA students—to be completed throughout this summer—all in a unique holiday spectacle at the Lyric. Boston Ballet Executive Director, Barry Hughson, who has choreographed BSA's much-loved production for

several years, will freshly stage *The Nutcracker* for the Lyric. Four performances will include two matinees on December 21 & 22 at 2 pm, and two evening shows on December 21 & 22 at 7:30 pm. Attendance at an open dress will also be offered to BSA students and Baltimore City children. Tickets are available now at www.ticketmaster.com.

“The BSO is thrilled about this collaboration. Ever since I first saw the BSA's *Nutcracker*, it has been a goal to join forces and produce a top-rate fully-staged home-grown production.”

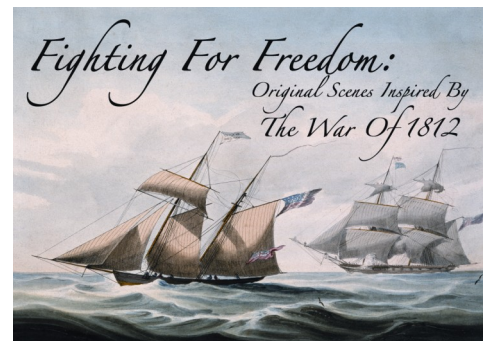
BSO President & CEO Paul Meecham

Fighting for Freedom with the MdHS

As part of Baltimore's celebration of the War of 1812, BSA sophomore theatre and stage production students worked in collaboration with The Maryland Historical Society and Fort McHenry to develop scenes from everyday life at the outbreak of the War of 1812. Production students researched and developed

these scenes using primary documents housed at the Historical Society. They also created all of the marketing materials for the program using these materials. The scenes were performed by sophomore actors at both Fort McHenry and the MdHS. The project was featured in the Baltimore Sun twice, and on

Maryland Morning. BSA's partnership with the MdHS will continue this year. And rumor has it that our students may be invited to perform their scenes at the historic Ford Theatre in Washington, DC!



BALTIMORE SCHOOL *for the* ARTS

Where the Arts Change Kids Lives

The Year in Review & Looking Ahead

Fanmail

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Passing the Torch:

On June 3, 94 students graduated from BSA. We wish the **Class of 2012** the best as 100% head off to colleges that include Princeton, Dartmouth, Brown and Columbia with over \$6.2 million in scholarships and grants! 28 of the seniors were members of the National Honor Society and 31 began training in our TWIGS program, a few starting as early as the 2nd grade. Many also received recognition in national competitions including 14 students in the prestigious National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts Young Arts Competition. Seniors also won awards in the NAACP's ACT-SO achievement competition, the National Achievement Scholarship Program, and the National Merit Scholarship Program.



Now the **Class of 2013** is at the helm! Many of the rising seniors are preparing for their final year at BSA by studying in summer programs across the country and abroad. The BSA Foundation, thanks to the generous support of donors and fans who support the school, has awarded 26 grants to juniors to attend programs at institutions including Joffrey Ballet, MICA in Tuscany, Tanglewood, NYU Shakespeare Program, and Cleveland Institute of Art to name just a few. We'll share all the summer news upon our return to BSA in August!

Springing Forward We're pleased to offer a glimpse to **2013**: a collaboration with John Waters & the BSO on **Hairspray**; the 34th Annual **Expressions** March 2, 3 & 4; and in April, a special multi-disciplinary festival centered on **Appalachian Spring**! Stay tuned for details about these exciting events!

TWIGS, BSA's Youngest Artists

TWIGS ended in April after a busy and productive year. More than 700 children from across Baltimore in grades 2-8 enjoyed classes after-school and on Saturdays in dance, music, visual arts and theatre. At the end of the year, the students participated with great enthusiasm in culminating events including recitals, a vibrant art exhibit, demonstrations, and a fully-staged, costumed, sold-out production of *Hansel & Gretel*!

For the first time this year, students from TWIGS were featured in *Expressions*, to the great delight of our audiences. Throughout the year, they also

worked with high school students in other side-by-side programs in stage production, visual arts, music, and dance, including many young dancers with roles in *The Nutcracker*. Next year, TWIGS dancers will have the opportunity to perform at The Lyric!

Each year, a number of TWIGS 8th graders successfully audition for BSA and we're looking forward to welcoming them to the high school. They'll make up more than a third of the incoming class! In October, we'll also welcome 700+ kids, new and returning, to another year of TWIGS.

Thank You!

Many of the programs at Baltimore School for the Arts are made possible through contributions to the BSA Foundation, including 80% of the funding for TWIGS and all of the funding for college and summer scholarships, master classes and trips, performances and exhibitions, and so much more! We are grateful to our generous community for supporting BSA this year, and every year. You've helped to build an incredible school for our students, more than a thousand each year!



Bluebirds all ready to take the stage in *Hansel & Gretel*.