

# ROLAND PARK

Quarterly from the Roland Park Community Foundation • Volume Ninety-Eight • Fall 2025

## **New Urban Educator at Hillside Park**

**Fall Recipes  
Celebrate the  
Season**

**Shananigans  
Toy Shop  
Continues**





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## Editor's Note

By Martha Marani

**H**illside Park is open and the response so far has been amazing! Here are just a few of the messages that have come in through the park's website ([hillsideparkmd.org](http://hillsideparkmd.org)):

"I'm very excited that we finally have a park in Roland Park!!"

"Thank you so much for creating this wonderful opportunity for Baltimore City. The park will be used for many generations. I can only imagine the amount of work it took to make this dream possible. Thank you!"

"Very excited for this space to come together and interested in getting involved. Thanks!"

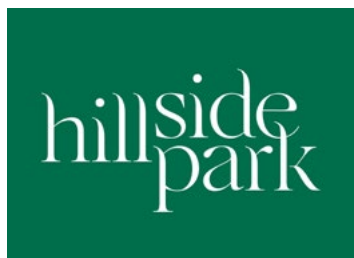
"So excited and delighted to watch this Park build. Excited to bring my friends there to hang and walk my dog every day."

People have also made suggestions for what they'd like to see in the new park:

"Please make sure programming is designed to attract individuals of multiple socioeconomic groups, including through community input."

"Between Poly, Western, Roland Park Elementary Middle School and Medfield Heights Elementary School, there are over 4,000 city school students that can walk to this park. I think the park should consider their needs and what facilities/opportunities the park could offer them. Poly, Western and RPEMS have students from all across Baltimore and this can be a way the park serves the greater community and not just Roland Park."

"Would love to see a playground for kids that is covered (at least partially), with some interesting apparatus that kids can climb, perhaps some bridges and tunnels,



a gated toddler area, swings, seesaws and other rides. Would be wonderful to have an area where kids can ride their scooters."

"Would love to see a section of the park designated to native plants to attract pollinators."

Some suggest leaving the park pretty much as it is, once the dead trees and invasives are removed. Others would like to see a shaded pergola, duck pond, snack kiosk, walking, hiking and biking trails, and pickleball or tennis courts.

The consensus on a dog park is pretty evenly divided, with as many people advocating for a fenced area for off-leash dogs as against. Please remember that the park is subject to Baltimore City rules and regulations, meaning that dogs must always be under the control of their owners and leashed. Please pick up after your dog and "leave only footprints" behind when you go.

As for programming, the ideas include everything from music and arts festivals, to bird and plant identification classes, foraging tours, outdoor movie nights and yoga classes. You can learn more about Hillside Park Urban Educator Brandon Wilson Radcliffe's plans for student enrichment in the cover story that starts on the next page.

Hillside Park is a place for everyone in Baltimore, and your feedback is essential to making it a space that reflects our diverse community. Please let us know what you'd like to see in the park at [hillsideparkmd.org/community-input](http://hillsideparkmd.org/community-input).

All of the input is being noted and shared with Hillside Park's landscape designer, who will also conduct a series of collaborative planning sessions—charrettes—with people from all over to determine how the park can best serve the city.

See you all in the park! ❖

**Special Thanks** The Hillside Park Team would like to express our most sincere gratitude to Jim Fanzone and Briana McPherson of DesignConcept ([designconcept.com](http://designconcept.com)) and Jill Anderson of Jill Lynn Design ([jillynnndesign.com](http://jillynnndesign.com)) for creating our beautiful website.



Cover: Urban Educator Brandon Wilson Radcliffe points out features of Hillside Park to a group from Baltimore Polytechnic Institute. Pictured left to right: Eloise Crew (11th grade), Israel Grace (10th), Alison Vanegas (10th), Danielle Cole (11th, partially blocked), Fay Karampas (12th), Victoria Mathew (biology teacher/Green Leader), and Raven Proctor (12th). Photo: Martha Marani

# Born for This: Brandon Wilson Radcliffe

By Martha Marani

// I realized recently that this project has been in the works since before I was born,” says Brandon Wilson Radcliffe, Hillside Park’s newest team member. Radcliffe has been serving as the park’s urban forester and environmental educator since January 2025.

Radcliffe was born in the Bronx in 1998. Efforts to purchase the property from the Baltimore Country Club (BCC) have been ongoing since the late 1990s. Radcliffe, who is 27, was a baby when the Friends School of Baltimore offered \$5.1 million for 18.5 acres.

“My interest in plants started with my mom and grandmother,” he explains. “My mom’s biggest love is orchids, so our apartment is filled with orchids and other plants.”

His grandparents, who lived nearby on Long Island, had a vegetable garden, which is where Radcliffe first learned to weed and take care of plants.

His education at the Lawrenceville School in New Jersey, one of the oldest preparatory schools in the country, was another step on what now seems like his inevitable path to Hillside. The Lawrenceville campus was commissioned by none other than Frederick Law Olmsted (FLO) and the architecture firm, Peabody & Stearns, that together designed the school’s Circle, which is now recognized as a National Landmark.

Because the Lawrenceville campus is an arboretum, Radcliffe got hands-on experience there weeding, planting cover crops and harvesting.

“I learned from my Latin teacher, Jacob Morrow, who also ran the school’s farm.”

After graduating from Lawrenceville, Radcliffe went to Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, NY. He started as a pre-veterinary student but soon decided to major in environmental science.

“I found mental and emotional peace in the work,” he explains.

That peace was disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic, which sent him home to the Bronx for the remainder of his senior year in college. He was grateful for the proximity of Pelham Bay Park, the largest public park in New York City, which is walking distance from his childhood home.

“I graduated from the couch,” he says with something between a grin and a grimace.

In 2021, when the Roland Park Community Foundation signed a contract to purchase a 20-acre parcel of BCC land for \$9 million, Radcliffe was working remotely as a science teacher for Success Academy Charter Schools in the Bronx.



Even before the park opened, Radcliffe got permission to take students onto the property. Photo: Victoria Mathew

“It was mentally and emotionally very taxing, because I was interacting with a lot of students who were also experiencing the pandemic in New York City,” he explains.

After he left his job as a science teacher, he spent a summer working as a forest project crew leader for Wave Hill, a 28-acre public garden in the Bronx overlooking the Hudson River.

Wave Hill’s mission includes the goal of “explor[ing] human connections to the natural world through programs in horticulture, education and the arts,” one that could have been written by FLO, who said, “Parks are not just places to escape from the stress of everyday life; they are places to reconnect with our true selves and find inner peace.”

In addition to restoring trails at Wave Hill, Radcliffe spent the summer of 2021 teaching high school students basic forest ecology in an urban setting.

In part due to the encouragement of Dr. Kristofer Covey, a Skidmore professor who received his PhD from the Yale School of the Environment, Radcliffe applied and was accepted to the graduate program for urban forestry. His advisor was silviculturist Dr. Mark Ashton, who is also involved with the Urban Resources Initiative (URI), a non-profit that provides graduate students field experience and learning opportunities in urban and community forestry. URI got its start as a collaboration between the Baltimore Department of Parks and Recreation and the Yale School of the Environment, but it is now located in New Haven, CT.

Radcliffe worked at URI on the weekends, while taking classes at the Yale School of the Environment. Among those was Morgan Grove’s urban ecology class. Grove recommended that he apply for the Hixon Fellowship at Yale’s Hixon Center for Urban Sustainability, which “bridges scientific knowledge with practice to create vibrant, healthy, and equitable cities,” according to the center’s website ([hixon.yale.edu](https://hixon.yale.edu)). In 2023, Radcliffe was named a Hixon Fellow and worked with Grove on an urban forestry management training program at Stillmeadow PeacePark.



# BRANDON WILSON RADCLIFFE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

([stillmeadowpeacepark.com](http://stillmeadowpeacepark.com)) in southwest Baltimore, a 10-acre, once-neglected forest now owned and cared for by Stillmeadow Community Fellowship.

Radcliffe describes the work he first did there. “I got hands-on experience, coordinating with partners throughout the city [including Tree Baltimore, Baltimore Tree Trust, Blue Water Baltimore].” He was also involved in efforts to remove dead and dangerously brittle ash trees killed by the invasive emerald ash borer and replace them with poplar and willow saplings.

## Summer in the City: A Q&A with Maggie Proctor

By Martha Marani

Like Brandon Wilson Radcliffe, Maggie Proctor took Morgan Grove’s urban ecology class at the Yale School of the Environment, where she is currently pursuing a master’s degree in environmental management and urban sustainability. As Radcliffe did in the summer of 2023, she worked as a summer fellow at Stillmeadow PeacePark through the Hixon Center for Urban Sustainability. She also worked at Hillside Park. In August, we asked Proctor to tell us about her summer in the city.

**RPN:** What are your roles and responsibilities at Stillmeadow and Hillside?

**MP:** My assignment for the summer is to develop a strategic plan for a partnership between Hillside and Stillmeadow. The bulk of the work has been assessing and mapping what’s already going on with Baltimore parks—what programs are already happening, where there are gaps or needs, what

lessons we can learn from others. I’ve been speaking to people from universities, non-profits, city and state government, and more to get their perspectives on green space in Baltimore. Right now, I’m compiling everything I heard and writing up the strategy document for Stillmeadow and Hillside, as well as a set of recommendations for Hillside as it gets started up.

**RPN:** With degrees in near and middle eastern studies, what drew you to the Yale School of the Environment?

MP: I am making a career pivot! After getting degrees [BA from Wellesley College and MA from Princeton University] in Middle Eastern Studies, I worked for many years in international development, managing USAID-funded projects focused on good governance and peacebuilding. While there was a lot about the work that I found meaningful, I came to realize it wasn’t what I really wanted to dedicate my life to. Instead, I wanted to work in my own community to improve environmental sustainability, strengthen climate resilience and help others find joy in the natural world. To make that dream happen, I decided to go back to school and was lucky enough to be accepted at Yale School of the Environment.

**RPN:** What are you most excited about accomplishing this summer?

There’s a lot I’m excited about, but one of my favorite things is introducing people to Hillside and its partnership with Stillmeadow. These two parks share an inspiring vision for how green space can transform their communities through education, stewardship, community-building and connectivity, and whenever I interview someone I get to share that vision. I hope that my project is helping to build awareness of and support for Hillside and Stillmeadow across the city, and get everyone else as excited as I am.

**RPN:** What, in your opinion, is the role that Hillside Park can play in the city?

I’ve been asking this very question to everyone I interview, and the answer that has stuck with me is that Hillside can help the city reimagine itself. A number of the people I’ve spoken to hear the name “Roland Park” and assume that they won’t be welcome here—the exclusive history of the neighborhood looms large in the public imagination, and there’s still a lot of discomfort and fear in crossing those old boundaries. But as a public park, Hillside has a chance to create a space that demonstrates it truly is home for everyone, whether to play, rest, learn or heal. By opening this door, Hillside can help create a more inclusive future. ❖



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While Radcliffe was working at Stillmeadow, Grove introduced him to Mary Page Michel, chair of the Community Foundation and of the Hillside committee. In true “Smalltimore” fashion, Grove and Michel had met years before when he lived at her parents’ home in Baltimore during his internship with Mayor Kurt Schmoke.

“I asked [Grove] if he could help with Hillside, and he said he thought it was a debt he owed to my mom,” Michel explains.

“Only in Baltimore would you be paying off multi-generational debt after someone had passed on.”

It was Grove’s idea to have Stillmeadow and Hillside jointly hire Radcliffe and essentially create sister parks. Grove believed that Radcliffe would be the perfect person to foster the relationship between the two parks.

“Brandon brings a number of qualities, one of which is that he likes working in cities.” Grove continues, “We really needed someone who understands the ecological and the social science of how to bring management to both locations and co-management between the locations.”

Moreover, he explains, Radcliffe’s background as a teacher is vital. “It’s particularly important to Hillside because of the proximity and the need to engage [Western and Baltimore Polytechnic high schools].” Grove likens the impact of that engagement with public high school students from across the city to “dropping a stone in a pond, with the first ripples hitting

those schools and then spreading out throughout the city.”

“Roland Park has, as a neighborhood, historical legacies that are not positive,” he says. Through the kind of work Radcliffe will do at Hillside Park, the neighborhood has an opportunity to create new narratives.

“Brandon is the perfect person to help write those new narratives...he is good at building collaborative, collective capacity that benefits the city as a whole.”

Radcliffe divides his time between the two properties, working as an urban forester and environmental educator. Although Hillside has only been open since early July, he has already made an impact. During the 2024/25 school year,

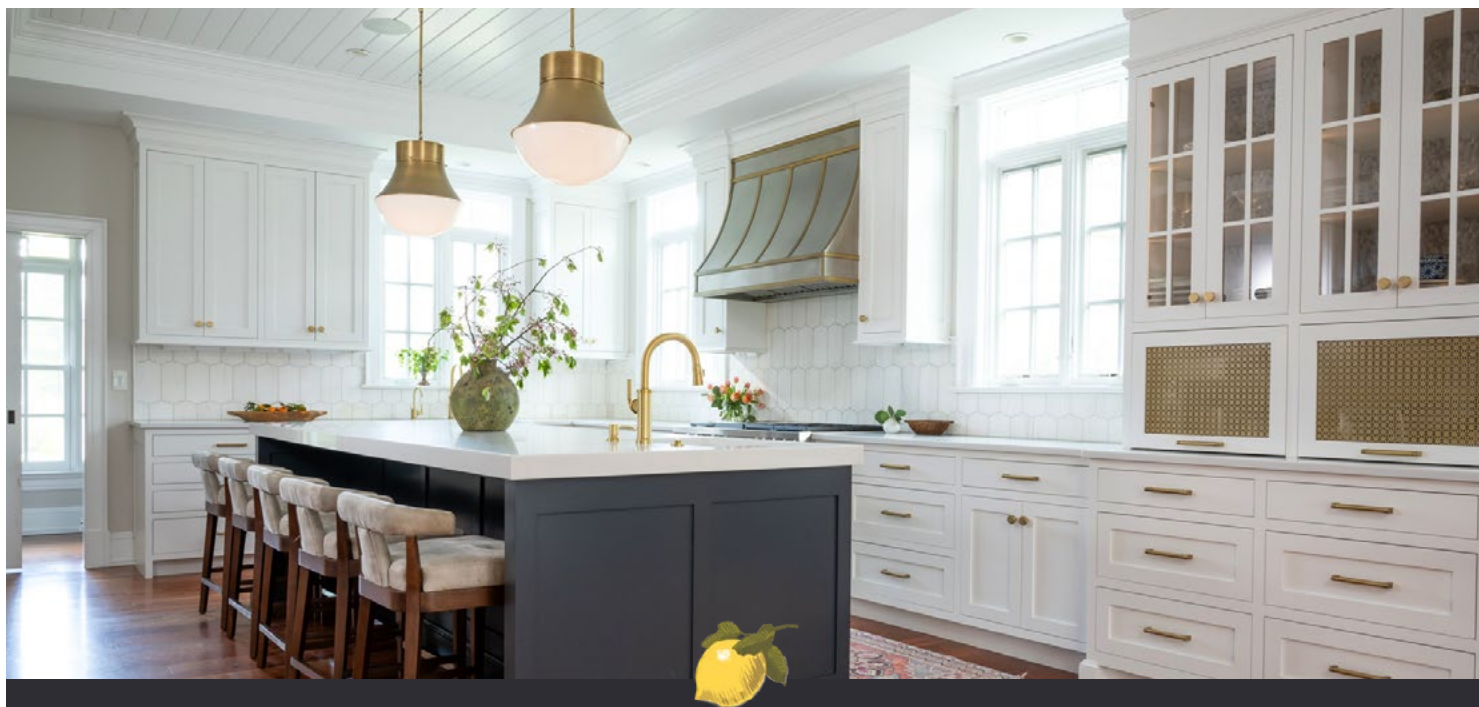
he led groups of high school students from Baltimore Polytechnic Institute (Poly) and Western High School through what was then still BCC land.

“We could not be more excited about Brandon leading our educational programming at Hillside,” says Michel. “His background in education, forestry and the environment, combined with his calm, positive demeanor, is a great fit.”

She tells the story of visiting Poly with him in the spring of 2025. “I spoke briefly before he took over. As soon as he began, the students sat up, fully engaged. It was clear he had their attention—and their respect. With Brandon leading the way,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

*“[Brandon] is good at building collaborative, collective capacity that benefits the city as a whole.”*



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## BRANDON WILSON RADCLIFFE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

we're excited about the strong partnerships ahead with our local schools."

Longtime Poly science educator Victoria Mathew describes her experience working with Radcliffe, "As the Environmental Educator for Hillside Park, Brandon has been an invaluable partner to Baltimore Polytechnic Institute, supporting hands-on environmental science learning both in the classroom and in the field. From guest judging our annual 'Mushroom Top Chef' to teaching students about invasive species and lending tools for ecological investigations in the park, Brandon brings expertise, enthusiasm and a spirit of collaboration that makes environmental education come alive."

What does the future hold for Radcliffe at Hillside?

"I'm looking forward to seeing how we can get students on the property," he says. "And I want to foster the idea of Hillside and Stillmeadow being sister parks so that we can share resources."

Other initiatives he has in mind include programs focusing on the environmental riches found at Hillside. For example, he's been talking with the staff at Camp Small about taking down the dead

trees at the park and using some of them to create exploration zones—nature-based sensory play areas—for children that visit the park. The streams that run through the property offer plentiful opportunities for students of all ages to learn about the kinds of organisms living in and around these bodies of water. The removal of invasive trees and vines opens up conversations about sustainable ecological practices.

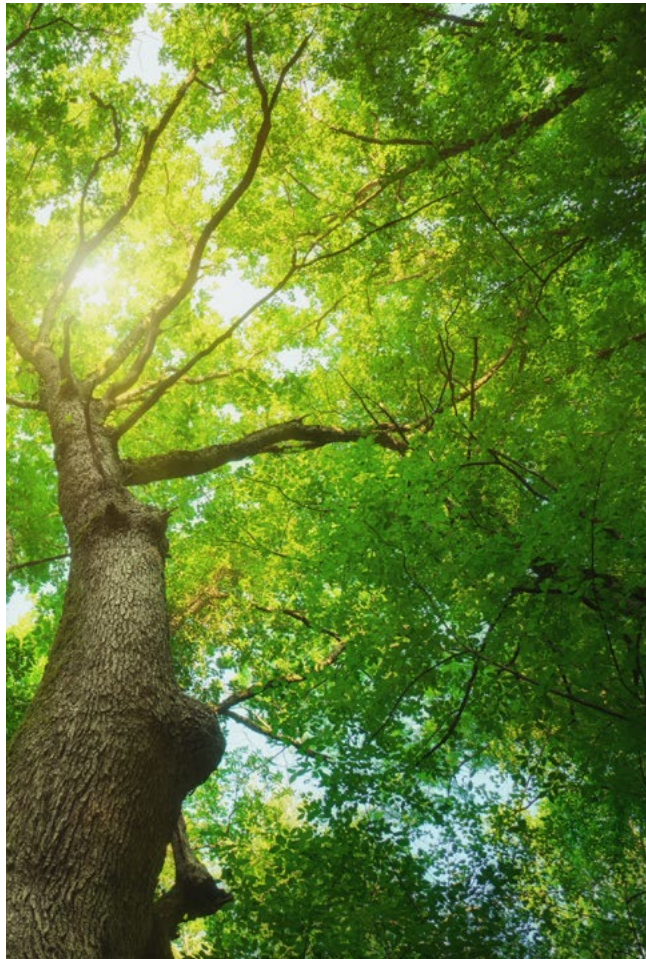
Radcliffe is clear about the impact the park can have on the city.

*"This is an area that has functionally been off limits to the city and its residents since the 60s, so it's about time we do everything we can to make up for lost time and make the land open to the public."*

"The most important role that Hillside Park will play going forward is that of a community hub for not only Roland Park, but for the wider community that we hope will feel comfortable and safe within the park." He continues, "With so many schools in the area, representing every part of the city, I think it's crucial that youth feel like they are welcome in the park, to grow and learn about nature and themselves in the process. This is an area that has functionally been off limits to the city and its residents since the 60s, so it's

about time we do everything we can to make up for lost time and make the land open to the public."

From early on, the tapestry of Radcliffe's life has been woven with gardens and parks, large and small. Now he is part of the 20-acre Hillside Park, a project that has been in the works since before he was born. It's not hard to believe that he was meant to be here. ❖



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# Hillside Park Update: Another Way Into the Park

By Mary Page Michel, Roland Park Community Foundation Chair

Hillside Park—a new park for Baltimore—is now open...”

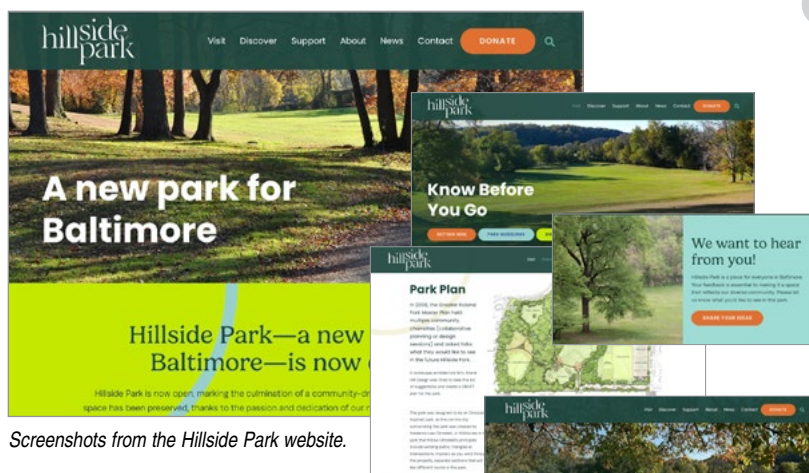
Those are the first words you’ll see when you visit the newly launched Hillside Park website ([hillsideparkmd.org](http://hillsideparkmd.org)). Designed to provide you with all the information you need to know about the park, and to showcase its beauty, accessibility and promise for more to come.

The structure is simple, with sections that allow users to:

**VISIT**, which includes information on getting to the park by bus, light rail, car and on foot. This section outlines the park guidelines, which are best summarized by the message, “leave only footprints.” It emphasizes the rules regarding dogs in the park (keep them leashed, please).

**DISCOVER** outlines the history of the land dating back to the early 1800s. For birders and other wildlife enthusiasts, this section lists all the known bird species (there are 75!) that have been seen in the park. Other Hillside Park residents include deer, fox, rabbits and groundhogs. A 2008 tree inventory identified 169 specimen trees, including silver maples, American beeches, black cherries and black oaks.

**SUPPORT** includes ways to “pitch in for the park” (remember



Screenshots from the Hillside Park website.

that slogan?). Donations of time and money are always welcome!

We’d also like to know what you’d like to see in the park.

A playground? Athletic fields?

Benches and picnic tables? A community garden? What about programming? Do you belong to a club that would like to hold gatherings in the park? Would you attend a concert or play in Hillside Park? What about festivals?

As is the case with the park itself, this website is only the start. We anticipate having a lively events calendar and regular newsletters. Please feel free to reach out to us at [info@hillsideparkmd.org](mailto:info@hillsideparkmd.org) with your suggestions and ideas for improvements to the website, or if you would like to get involved in Hillside Park. ❖

## Greater Roland Park Home Sales

(MAY — JUL 2025)

	LIST PRICE	CLOSING PRICE
201 Deepdene Rd.	\$ 529,900	\$ 505,000
6 Upland Rd. No. F-3	\$ 524,900	\$ 525,000
4410 Wickford Rd.	\$ 469,900	\$ 530,000
4308 Roland Ave.	\$ 518,500	\$ 530,000
203 Deepdene Rd.	\$ 650,000	\$ 559,000
520 Woodlawn Rd.	\$ 585,000	\$ 600,000
6 Upland Rd., No. S5	\$ 625,000	\$ 625,000
112 Elmhurst Rd.	\$ 649,900	\$ 650,000
4316 Roland Ave.	\$ 673,000	\$ 670,000
423 Hawthorne Rd.	\$ 775,000	\$ 735,000
111 Deepdene Rd.	\$ 699,000	\$ 815,000
109 Deepdene Rd.	\$ 780,000	\$ 890,000
600 Somerset Rd.	\$ 950,000	\$ 940,000
21 Merrymount Rd.	\$ 949,500	\$ 955,967
4711 Roland Ave.	\$1,250,000	\$1,175,000
209 Ridgewood Rd.	\$1,528,000	\$1,530,000

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# New Master Plan to Guide Future Growth at Cylburn Arboretum

By Brooke Fritz, Executive Director, Cylburn Arboretum Friends

It's been two decades since Cylburn Arboretum Friends (CAF) released its last Master Plan, with a vision that led to the creation of both the Vollmer Visitor Center and the Nature Education Center. Now, with support from the Goldseker Foundation and in partnership with Baltimore City Recreation & Parks (BCRP), CAF has completed a new Master Plan to shape the next chapter of this beloved public garden.

Master Plans serve as roadmaps for growth, articulating shared goals and identifying practical steps toward a stronger future. Since 2005, much has changed in Baltimore and beyond. The new plan reflects today's priorities: expanding public access, improving wayfinding, enhancing environmental education and ensuring thoughtful stewardship of Cylburn Arboretum's more than 200 acres of gardens and woodlands.

Cylburn has been part of Baltimore's public park system since 1954. Over the years, it has grown into a vital hub for nature lovers, school groups and community members. Today, the city and CAF share responsibility for the site's care. With the renewed vision reflected in the new Master Plan, the two entities are ready to move forward—step by step—to continue to enhance this remarkable place.

Launched in early 2025, the new Master Plan is the result of a collaborative effort led by BCRP and CAF, with Jonathan Ceci Landscape Architects serving as the lead consultant. Community input played a central role in shaping the plan, which is grounded in sustainability, education and accessibility.

The plan outlines four strategic priorities:

- Enhancing arrival and wayfinding
- Distilling new visitor experiences
- Modernizing garden operations infrastructure
- Drawing visitors out from the core

These priorities have led to a thoughtful, phased approach that honors Cylburn's historic character while opening the door to new experiences for generations to come.

Among the plan's key proposals is the creation of a new, more welcoming entry sequence. A reconfigured West Lawn, marked by planted pergolas, trellises and architectural gateways, will better orient visitors and improve circulation throughout the site. Parking and drop-off areas will be expanded and relocated to improve accessibility, and better support school field trips, group tours and growing attendance at events.

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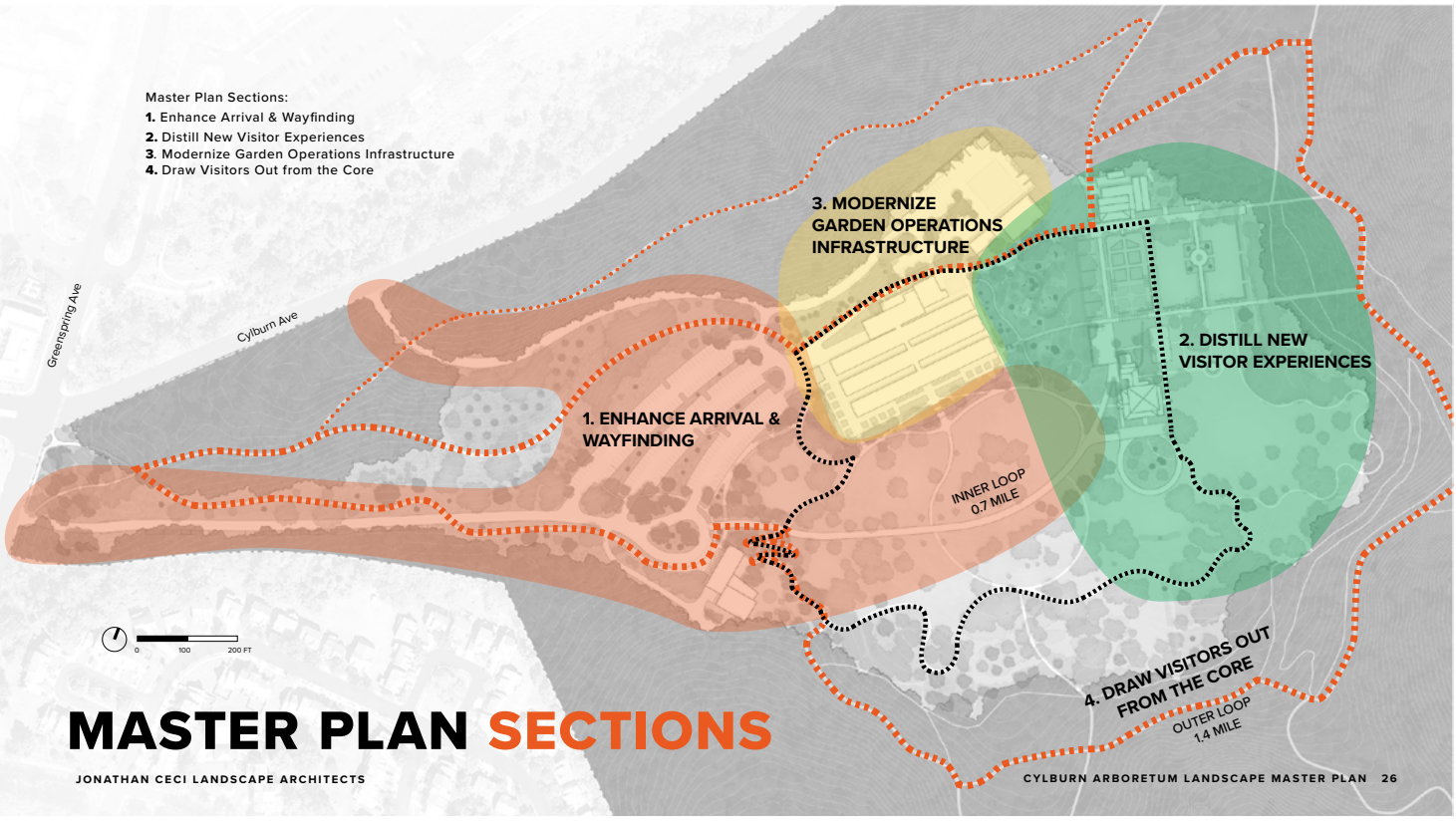
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The new Master Plan outlines new priorities for Cylburn. Image courtesy of CAF

Wayfinding will be greatly improved with clearer signage and recreational loops that provide direct access to the mansion, greenhouses and wooded trails.

Two areas in particular are set to receive focused attention: the Display Garden and Moudry Woods. These adjacent spaces offer unique and complementary experiences, and will be transformed into dynamic destinations for learning and exploration.

The Display Garden, located near the Nature Education Center, is currently only used seasonally to showcase dahlias. Under the Master Plan, it will be reimagined as a working garden filled with rotating themes, including edible landscapes, pollinator habitats and trial plots. The space will offer hands-on educational opportunities for visitors and will serve as a vibrant complement to the neighboring formal gardens.

Moudry Woods, in contrast, celebrates the wilder side of Cylburn. This forested area will be enhanced with raised boardwalks, interpretive features and natural play areas designed to immerse visitors in Baltimore’s urban forest. Conceived as a series of woodland “rooms”, Moudry Woods will combine adventure, education and ecological care in a way that is both engaging and sustainable.

Both areas sit directly adjacent to the Nature Education Center, and will support field trips, summer camps and outdoor learning programs for Baltimore’s youth.

The full Master Plan will be released later this year, but its vision is already clear: Cylburn will continue to evolve as a place where nature, history and community come together. ❖

Cylburn Arboretum Friends ([cylburn.org](http://cylburn.org)) is the non-profit organization that has been partnering with the City of Baltimore since 1954 to maintain the grounds and gardens at Cylburn. As a 501 (c)(3), nonprofit organization, it provides support

and stewardship for Baltimore City’s Cylburn Arboretum as a place of natural beauty, tranquility, culture and learning, open to all.



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# Boys' Latin is Leading the Way in All-Boys Education

By Stephanie McLoughlin

**T**he Boys' Latin School of Maryland captured national media attention for doing what we've always done best—leading the way in all-boys education. At a time when boys across the country are falling behind girls on nearly every academic and developmental measure, our bold, research-driven innovations stand out. From kindergarten through 12th grade, we introduced school-wide changes to help boys be more present, engaged and connected. We redesigned schedules, launched an “Away for the Day” phone policy and renewed our focus on unstructured play—reshaping how boys learn, play and grow.

In September 2024, Education Week ([edweek.org](https://www.edweek.org)) visited the campus to learn more about recent changes and our approach to



National and local news teams recently featured Boys' Latin for its innovative methods of teaching boys. Photo courtesy of Boys' Latin

all-boys education. The result was a feature story, “What ‘Boy-Friendly’ Changes Look Like at Every Grade Level,” highlighting our research-driven strategies to help boys thrive.

That article caught the attention of NBC’s “Today Show”, which aired a national segment titled “How a New School Program Aims to Help Boys Thrive Academically.” Reporter Morgan Radford showcased what makes Boys' Latin distinctive: classrooms filled with energy and purpose, students engaged in meaningful learning, and a culture grounded in relationships and respect. Students shared how recent changes helped them focus in the classroom and connect with teachers and classmates, while Headmaster Chris Post spoke to the national conversation around boys falling behind—and how Boys' Latin is rising to meet that challenge by doing what we've always done: putting boys at the center of every decision.

Closer to home, Fox45's “Project Baltimore” featured Boys' Latin in a segment titled “Baltimore School Tackles Academic Gender Gap with Targeted Strategies for Boys.” The report highlighted state data showing boys lagging behind girls in reading, graduation rates and academic achievement. It spotlighted two of our most effective, no-cost strategies: morning recess in the lower school and our phone-free policy, both designed to help boys reset, focus and connect.

Spending the day on campus, the Fox 45 news crew was struck by more than just our innovations. They found a vibrant community where students were happy, engaged and eager to learn, and where faculty proudly spoke of their students' character and care for one another.

To view these segments and learn more about our approach to all-boys education, scan the QR code. ❖



Boys' Latin School of Maryland ([boyslatinmd.com](https://boyslatinmd.com)) is an all-boys, university-preparatory school. Founded in 1844, it is the oldest independent, nonsectarian secondary school in Maryland.

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Sunday, September 28



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# RPEMS' Centennial Year: "Rooted in Legacy, Ready for Tomorrow"

By Karen Tong

**R**oland Park Elementary Middle School (RPEMS) started the new school year on a high note, with major achievements, fresh faces and a lineup of celebrations of its 100th anniversary. The theme for 2025/26 is "Rooted in Legacy, Ready for Tomorrow." As part of an ongoing commitment to excellence, the school is proud to maintain its status as both a Baltimore City Public School Middle School Choice School and a Loyola University Professional Development School.



It's back-to-school time at RPEMS! Photo courtesy of RPEMS

## School Updates

Congratulations are due to the chess team, which competed in the Baltimore Kids Chess League citywide championship on May 31. The team's hard work and dedication paid off as they secured first place in both the middle and elementary school divisions.

Families will notice some new faces in the halls, with four new staff members joining the RPEMS team, bringing fresh energy and expertise to the community. This year's school uniforms feature navy polos for Pre-K through 5th grade, royal blue for 6th grade, gray for 7th grade and gold for 8th grade scholars.

## Fall Events You Won't Want to Miss

RPEMS has a busy fall schedule that is full of exciting events for scholars, parents, alumni and neighbors.

On September 9, elementary school families are invited to meet the teachers and learn about the year ahead at back-to-school night. Middle school families are invited to their back-to-school night on September 11.

On October 18, join the RPEMS charity team at the Baltimore Running Festival. Community members of all ages and abilities are welcome to walk, run or wheelchair ride. Registration includes access to the team charity tent at Rash Field on race day, pre-race snacks and beverages, bag check, training support, a custom RPEMS team t-shirt (in addition to the Baltimore Running Festival t-shirt), and more. Sign up today at [eventbrite.com/e/rpems-race-for-the-future-part-ii-tickets-1355550801939](https://eventbrite.com/e/rpems-race-for-the-future-part-ii-tickets-1355550801939)

During the morning of a half-day on October 31, Pre-K through 5th grade scholars will show off their fall spirit during the Fall Festival Parade down Roland Avenue from the school to Eddie's of Roland Park. Neighbors and community members are welcome to cheer from the sidelines.

The RPEMS centennial year celebration will culminate on November 22 at the Centennial Homecoming for alumni and friends. This full day of school spirit and community connection will end with the Centennial Gala from 6 to 10 pm at RPEMS.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 23



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# Game Changers: Bryn Mawr Inducts First Athletics Hall of Fame Class

As part of its 140th anniversary celebrations, The Bryn Mawr School made history by inducting eight trailblazing athletes, coaches and pioneers into the inaugural of its Athletics Hall of Fame. The event brought together alumni, former players, coaches, parents, faculty and students to honor generations of excellence in girls' sports at Bryn Mawr.

The night was festive and powerful, with guests swinging custom Bryn Mawr rally towels in the air as they cheered for each inductee. Emmy-winning TV host Ellen Meny (2011) emceed the program. The honorees represented a remarkable range of sports achievements—from the Wimbledon courts and WNBA hardwoods to lacrosse fields and badminton world championships. Together, they embodied the school's



*Bryn Mawr recently celebrated its Athletics Hall of Fame inductees. Photo courtesy of Bryn Mawr*

long-standing commitment to athletics as an essential part of a whole-girl education.

The inaugural Athletics Hall of Fame class includes:

- **Jeanette Budzik**, beloved field hockey coach, mentor and leader
- **Carey Fetting-Smith** (2001), standout field hockey player and Bryn Mawr's only retired-jersey athlete
- **Judy Devlin Hashman\*** (1953), world-class badminton champion
- **Andrea Leand** (1981), Olympian and professional tennis standout
- **Susan Devlin Peard** (1949), decorated badminton star
- **Theresa Sherry** (2000), lacrosse advocate and top-ranked athlete
- **Rosabelle Sinclair\***, lacrosse pioneer and legendary coach
- **Kisha Ford-Torres** (1993), WNBA player and basketball trailblazer

*\*Inducted posthumously*

"This was my training ground," explained Sherry. "In the classroom, in the Camerata and Dayseye halls, on the courts and on the fields. After leaving here, the messages I got, as we all get as women in society—about being too smart, too strong, too good—the volume turned up when I left here, making me more grateful as years passed to have the Bryn Mawr whole-person education at my core."

That spirit echoed throughout the evening. Fetting-Smith fired up the crowd with a coach-style pep talk: "We got 'em—it's not just a cheer, it's a mindset, she said. "That's what sports gives you. We got this. I love Bryn Mawr, and I feel so lucky to have gone here. Now my three daughters get to benefit from this incredible education—it means the world to me."



## Bold. Bright. Bryn Mawr.

THE BRYN MAWR SCHOOL • [brynmawrschool.org](http://brynmawrschool.org)

CONTINUED ON PAGE 24



# RPCS Girls Tap into Bloomberg Terminal

This past school year, Roland Park Country School (RPCS) announced the implementation of a Bloomberg Terminal on campus—the first of its kind at an all-girls school in the Mid-Atlantic region. A Bloomberg Terminal is a computer software system that provides access to economic, financial, healthcare and government data, and exposure to real-time news and analytical tools. Most large financial firms and various news organizations have subscriptions to use a Bloomberg Terminal and now RPCS students across all three divisions have access to it as well.



*The Bloomberg Terminal empowering RPCS students to develop their data literacy. Photo courtesy of RPCS*

By integrating use of the Bloomberg Terminal into its math, finance and investing, science, library, social studies, humanities and specific STEM curricula, RPCS is providing students with real-world experiences and access to the same tools used by leading decision makers in the business, finance and political fields.

“Traditional classroom learning emphasizes theoretical knowledge, but it’s essential for students to have the opportunity to apply technical and practical skills through experiential learning,” says Sarah Morehead Pope, 2006,

director of the Gore Leadership Institute, a comprehensive K-12 leadership program that equips RPCS students with the tools to innovate and create positive change in the world. “Having a Bloomberg Terminal at RPCS brings the real world into our classrooms, enhancing our rigorous academic offerings with access to real-time market data, news and analytics. RPCS students will be prepared for leadership roles and careers in male-dominated industries thanks to the learning and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 22



## Find your path at RPCS.

At Roland Park Country School, the paths our girls take are as unique and diverse as they are. Students are empowered to follow their curiosities, pursue their passions, challenge themselves to excel in an academically rigorous environment, and commit enthusiastically to the entire process.

Scholarships and Tuition Assistance Available

Come see us  
at our Open  
House on  
Sept. 27!



Visit [rpcs.org/visit](https://rpcs.org/visit) to schedule a visit!



# 100 Years on Charles Street: A Century of Quaker Education in Homeland

**F**ounded in 1784, Friends School of Baltimore holds the distinction of being the first school in Baltimore. Classes were first held in the Aisquith Street Meetinghouse in the East Baltimore community of Old Town. Throughout the 19th century, the school transitioned through several locations, moving to the Lombard Street Meetinghouse in the 1840s and then to the Park Avenue Meetinghouse in 1899.

In 1925, the school purchased the Homeland campus on North Charles Street, originally for athletic fields. A few years later, it made a permanent move from its downtown location. This move and subsequent expansions established Friends as a modern campus, well-equipped to support the school's commitment to providing a holistic approach to education that allowed students to excel across a broad range of activities in academics, athletics and the arts.



By 1928, the cornerstone was laid for the first new building on the Homeland campus—a primary school structure (now the lower school) that would anchor Friends' new future. Four years later, the Intermediate School building (now the upper school building) followed. By 1936, with Baltimore families increasingly settling in the northern parts of the city, Friends moved its high school to the Homeland campus, officially consolidating all divisions on North Charles Street.

Throughout the following decades, Friends expanded not just physically but in spirit. The 1937 gymnasium, the formation of *The Quaker Quill* student newspaper in 1938 and the construction of the Stony Run Meetinghouse in 1949 all reflected a growing institution deeply rooted in Quaker values.

With each generation, Friends adapted to meet the needs of its students and the city around it. Under the leadership of long-serving headmaster W. Byron Forbush II (1947), the campus was transformed, with new science buildings, expanded athletic facilities, and the founding of essential programs like financial aid and community service graduation requirements. The 1973 incorporation of the school as a distinct entity from the Baltimore Monthly Meeting ensured its ability to grow while maintaining its Quaker identity.

As the decades continued, the Homeland campus became a laboratory for innovation and inclusivity, from the construction of a new Math & Science Building in 1982, to the rise of student-driven publications and performing arts programs, to the creation of the Little Friends Early Learning Center in 2004. The campus master plans in the early 2000s brought LEED-certified buildings, expanded athletic amenities, and bold investments in the arts and technology.

In 2024, the school unveiled its transformative renovation of the lower school complex, aligning every classroom, color scheme and furnishing with the latest research in childhood learning. This project is both a culmination and a beginning—an investment in the next century of education at Friends.

For 100 years, the Homeland campus has not only provided a physical space for learning, it has become a beloved community for generations of students, faculty and families. As Friends celebrates this centennial milestone, the enduring values of simplicity, peace, integrity, community, equality and stewardship continue to guide the school's path forward—on North Charles Street and beyond. ❖

Friends School of Baltimore ([friendsbalt.org](https://www.friendsbalt.org)) is a private coeducational Quaker school founded in 1784 and serving students in Pre-K through 12th grade.



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**Friends School**  
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# Get to Know Park School

The Park School of Baltimore is a progressive school that educates students from Pre-K (age 4) through 12th grade on a 100-acre wooded campus two miles north of the city line. A gender-inclusive school founded more than 110 years ago, Park School is a leading progressive institution in Baltimore, serving as a model for other schools, and emphasizing child-centered, individualized education that encourages a high degree of engagement with academics, the community and the natural world.

To get to know Park School, talk to a student, engage a faculty member, follow the paths of its alumni and consider the school's mission statement:

*Devoted to intellectual inquiry, a collaborative spirit of learning, and an appreciation for the diversity of human experience, The Park School of Baltimore is a community founded on positive expectations of our students and respect for individual differences. We cultivate children's innate curiosity by nurturing their interests and engaging them as active participants in their own education. We support young people in becoming confident questioners and responsible citizens of the world.*



Park School hosts admission events for parents and children. Photo courtesy of Park

Please join Park School faculty at one or more of our admission events to learn about the school philosophy, curriculum, co-curricular programming and community. Some events are designed specifically for parents, some are geared towards children and others are designed for the entire family. Please visit the school's website at [parkschool.net](http://parkschool.net) for the most up-to-date information on ways to experience Park School. ❖

Founded in 1912, The Park School of Baltimore ([parkschool.net](http://parkschool.net)) is an independent, gender-inclusive, non-sectarian, progressive Pre-K through 12th grade school located on a 100-acre campus minutes from the city.

## GET TO KNOW THE PARK SCHOOL

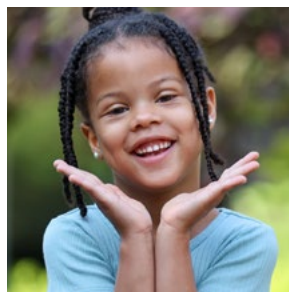
PRE-K — GRADE 12 PROGRESSIVE EDUCATION



The Park School of Baltimore is a Pre-K through Grade 12 community with the mission of supporting young people in becoming confident questioners and responsible citizens of the world. [www.parkschool.net](http://www.parkschool.net)

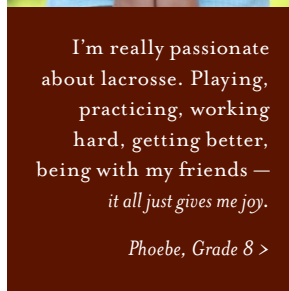


PLAN A VISIT:



When something is really hard to do, you can say, "Can I have some help, please?"... or you could take a deep breath and try again.

< Dallas, Kindergarten



I'm really passionate about lacrosse. Playing, practicing, working hard, getting better, being with my friends — it all just gives me joy.

Phoebe, Grade 8 >



My favorite class right now? Probably Psychology and Literature. I love the integration of social science with our reading and analysis.

< Kyle, Grade 11

**FALL EVENTS: [WWW.PARKSCHOOL.NET/VISIT](http://WWW.PARKSCHOOL.NET/VISIT)**



# Gilman Student Scales New Heights at the Juilliard Pre-College Program

Since 2nd grade, Ben Feng's instrument of choice has been the cello. He says he didn't love practicing at first, which is hard to believe considering how far he's come since then. In the fall of 2024, as a rising junior at Gilman, he not only joined the very prestigious pre-college program at The Juilliard School, he was also given the distinction of principal cellist.

The highly competitive application process included a pre-screening video followed by an invitation-only, in-person audition at the school in New York City. The number of applicants who make the final cut is quite low, and Feng, as humble as he is talented, says that he didn't expect to be one of them. Gilman's Director of Music and Feng's teacher Ariel Dechosa joined the Feng family for the live audition and recalls a conversation with the rising junior during their time together. "Ben realized that taking risks is part of trying to get to your goal."

This risk paid off. When he learned that he was accepted, Feng says, "I was really excited to be in an environment where I would be surrounded by others with such intense passion for something that I'm also really into." He gets to be surrounded



*Feng (2026) plays the cello at Gilman's Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Convocation in early 2025.*  
Photo courtesy of Gilman

by these passionate peers every Saturday at Juilliard. His day starts before dawn so that he can arrive in the city before 9 am. Sometimes his parents drive him; other weekends, they drop him off at the train station and he makes the journey alone. A typical day in the program consists of an individual lesson, ear training, orchestra, two chamber groups and music theory class. At 6 pm, he heads back to Baltimore.

Of course, this isn't the first time Feng has been part of an esteemed musical ensemble. From 5th through 10th grade, he was a member of the Baltimore Symphony Youth Orchestra. Dechosa says that Feng "probably doesn't know how incredible

CONTINUED ON PAGE 24

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# Reclaiming Childhood, Together: How Waldorf Supports Screen-Free Parenting

As the school year begins, many families are taking a fresh look at the rhythms, routines and values they want to center at home. In conversations with parents, a common theme emerges: a desire for more connection, creativity and time outdoors, and fewer battles over screens.

The concerns are real. We've all seen the research about screen time and its impact on young children. And we've all felt the tug-of-war between the conveniences of digital life and the longing for a slower, more grounded childhood. Who doesn't want children to spend more time outside, engaged in play that's self-directed, cooperative and full of imagination?

At the Waldorf School of Baltimore, we understand that children learn best through imitation, movement, play and direct human connection. Our approach to media and technology is rooted in a deep understanding of child development, and in our commitment to partnering with parents in navigating these modern challenges.

For children under seven, we recommend eliminating or significantly limiting screen exposure, especially as a source of entertainment, distraction or reward. Instead, we guide families toward storytelling, song, nature exploration, handwork and open-ended play as meaningful alternatives.

Anchoring your day with predictable, screen-free routines—like a calm, connected morning and an evening filled with warmth, story and rest—helps children enter the world with confidence and ease. These rhythms support emotional regulation and healthy sleep, offering benefits far beyond the moment.

Throughout the school day, children are immersed in real-world, sensory-rich experiences—hours spent outdoors in all weather, imaginative play, practical work, and deep, relationship-based learning. At home, parents are encouraged to embrace the same.

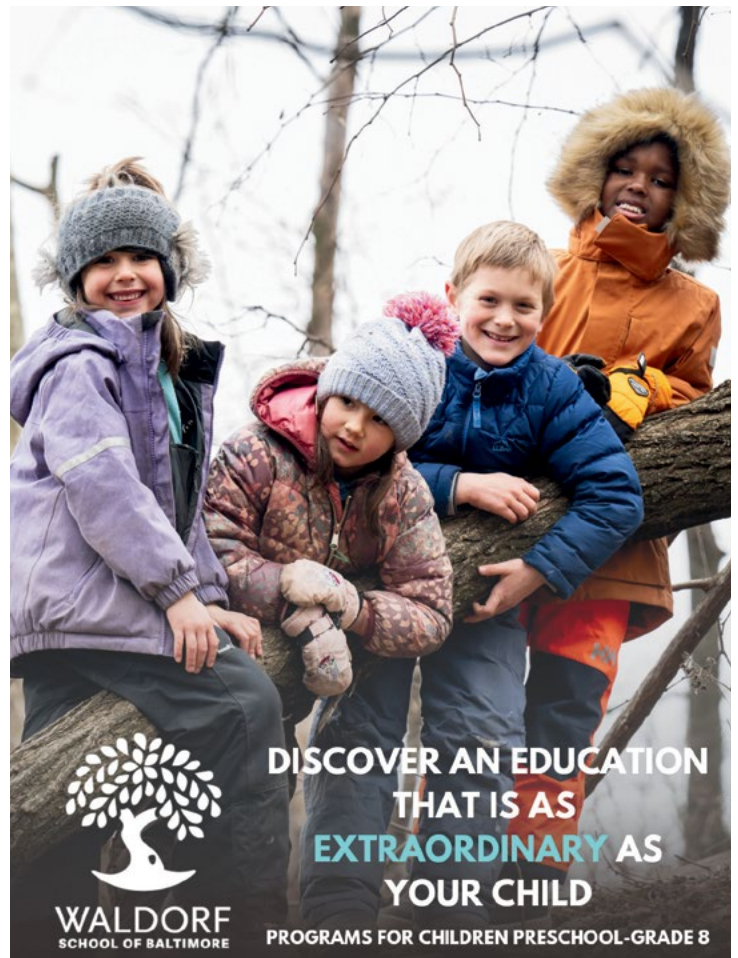
Our community events and festivals are intentionally screen-free, offering a welcome pause from the digital pull that finds its way into so many gatherings. These shared moments—of music, food, storytelling and connection—help children experience joy without devices, and give adults a chance to unplug, too.

Above all, Waldorf education recognizes that children learn through imitation. That's why our faculty and staff are deeply mindful of modeling full presence and attention. You can be confident that your child's experience at school will be free from adult phone use and rich in meaningful, human connection.

Importantly, there is no judgment, only partnership. We know every family's journey is different, and we approach the topic of



*Waldorf students are immersed in sensory-rich experiences. Photo courtesy of Waldorf*







## Photo Essay: We Kept the Park



Photos: Lynn Nichols (rainbow), Anne Stuzin (lower left and lower right) and others.



In 2008, Roland Park opposed the sale of Baltimore Country Club Land to a continuing care retirement center, citing the loss of green space and negative infrastructure impacts. The neighborhood organized protests, collected hundreds of signatures and held a door-to-door information campaign. Our local representatives backed us in the rezoning battle. Folks made signs, many of which were focused on a very specific message: "Keep the Park in Roland Park." Nearly two decades later, on July 7, the vision became a reality. ❖

Please send pictures of yourself enjoying Hillside Park to [info@hillsideparkmd.org](mailto:info@hillsideparkmd.org) or post them on the park's [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#) pages with [#HillsideParkMD](#).





# Rooted in Roland Park: Lubna Nabulsi Brings Speech Therapy Home

**S**ince moving to Roland Park in 2016, Lubna Nabulsi has felt a deep connection to the neighborhood—a connection strong enough to inspire her next big step: opening her own private practice right here in the community she loves.

Nabulsi is a licensed speech-language pathologist with more than 25 years of clinical experience. Her career has spanned hospitals, nursing homes and outpatient clinics, where she's worked with patients facing challenges in speech, language, cognition, swallowing and voice disorders. She's also an adjunct professor at Towson University, where she helps train the next generation of clinicians in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders.

For Nabulsi, speech-language pathology is more than a profession—it's a calling. "It's one of the few fields that blends science and art," she says. "Language, identity and the basic



*Beacon offers treatment for speech, swallowing, cognitive and voice disorders. Image: Adobe Stock*

human need to communicate—these are at the heart of what we do." She reminds us that something as routine as sharing a meal or expressing a thought can become an overwhelming challenge for someone struggling with a speech or swallowing disorder. "Without a voice, many people feel like they've lost part of themselves," she says.

In early 2025, driven by a desire to offer more personalized, hands-on care, Lubna launched The Beacon Clinic ([thebeaconclinic.org](http://thebeaconclinic.org))—a private practice dedicated to serving clients of all ages in Roland Park and beyond. Leaving behind the constraints of large healthcare systems and overburdened school caseloads, she designed her practice around one core idea: care that cuts through red tape and truly meets people where they are.

At The Beacon Clinic, patients can expect individualized therapy in a welcoming setting. The clinic offers treatment for speech, swallowing, cognitive and voice disorders—supporting a wide range of needs across all generations and backgrounds. "This work is deeply human," Lubna says. "It demands compassion, creativity and a commitment to equity."

For Roland Park residents, having Nabulsi's expertise right in the neighborhood is a gift. For her, it's a full-circle moment—a chance to give back to a community that has given her so much. ❖

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## WALDORF

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

screen use with compassion and openness. Our goal is to walk alongside parents in giving children the gift of a joyful, play-filled childhood and the kind of learning that can only arise from the wonder of everyday life. ❖

The Waldorf School of Baltimore ([waldorfschoolofbaltimore.org](http://waldorfschoolofbaltimore.org)) is tucked behind Cylburn Arboretum at 4801 Tamarind Road. Their Children's Garden serves children 2.5 to 5 years of age. A Parent and Child Program is available for families of children 10 months through 3 years. The school also has elementary and middle school grades 1 through 8.



# Giving the Gift of Community: Katie Schroeder, St. David's New Director

By Kathy Hudson

On a sizzling summer morning at St. David's Day School, children play at shaded water tables outside of Katie Schroeder's window. Water squirts onto the pane closest to Schroeder's desk. A small boy's face appears. "That's my youngest," she says of the three-year-old who has joined her at the school where she is the new director. "The first time I brought him, he said, 'I love this place!'"

Schroeder does too. "St. David's has an intimate environment," she says. "Its location in northern Baltimore City, in the beautiful Roland Park neighborhood and with the historic beauty of the building itself create such a scenic and caring atmosphere."

The 41-year-old Baltimore native and mother of three came to St. David's in June, after 17 years at the Church of the Redeemer Parish Day School. Her husband Mark is director of facilities at Redeemer. I sat down with her to ask some questions:

**KH:** What drew you to early childhood education?

**KS:** I always knew that I wanted to be a teacher. I have always found joy with younger children. I started out with a major in [early childhood education] and then tried out some business

Schroeder and her son Andy enjoy the school's new playground, the funds for which were raised by the community after the old playground was destroyed by a fallen tree.

Photo courtesy of St. David's



classes before finding Early Childhood Leadership at Stevenson University. The program aligned with what I wanted most out of my career:

working with young children and creating a fun and nurturing environment, so that they can love school and feel successful and competent in their learning.

**KH:** Before coming to St. David's, did you always teach at Redeemer?

**KS:** Early in my career I taught swim lessons, lifeguarded and worked at the front desk at Meadowbrook Swim Club. I also worked at Brown Memorial camp for a few summers. I coached

CONTINUED ON PAGE 20

A large advertisement for Gold Seal Services. It features a white service van with the company logo and name on the side, parked on a driveway. In the background, a man is mowing a green lawn in front of a two-story blue house with white trim. The Gold Seal Services logo is prominently displayed in the center of the image.

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A QR code located in the bottom right corner of the advertisement.



# KATIE SCHROEDER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19

badminton at Oldfields then at St. Paul's School for Girls (my alma mater) before working with their varsity and JV teams.

**KH:** And at Redeemer, what did you do?

**KS:** I began my professional career at Redeemer. I was hired as a part-time assistant, so I found additional work at the newly established Little Bear Child Care at Roland Park Country School [RPCS]. I worked primarily with the toddlers but also spent some time with the infants.

Eventually, I was offered the position of Lunch Bunch Director at Redeemer, so I left RPCS to work at Redeemer full time. I taught at the Summer Fun Days Camp before taking it over and beginning Play & Grow Camp. For 12 years, I was co-director of that camp, where we had two- to six-year-olds. We eventually added Camp-123 to our summer program for children entering Pre1st through 3rd grade.

I also taught enrichment programs, including a Harry Potter-themed class and a class based on backyard games and sportsmanship.

**KH:** After all of these experiences, what do you think is unique about St. David's?

**KS:** Besides the intimate atmosphere in a beautiful and historic neighborhood, St. David's focuses on nurturing the whole child. The church's mission includes caring for your neighbor and creating a community. This is a gift for children and families.

**KH:** If you could tell the parents of preschool-aged children just one thing, what would that be?

**KS:** To try and enjoy the time. It can be hard having small children, but they are so full of wonder and learning at this age. It all goes by so quickly.

**KH:** What today are the greatest challenges of young families?

**KS:** I find that the pressure on parents continues to increase. There is currently a surgeon general advisory relating to parental stress. With so many parents today both working, plus social media telling us all the things we should be doing, it can be overwhelming. Parents love their children and want the best for their family, but with all of the hustle and bustle of raising children, it can feel overwhelming. The "village" that was previously around for many parents is less prevalent. Parents have so much going on in their lives, then there's replacement of some face-to-face interaction with technology.

**KH:** How can a preschool help?

**KS:** St. David's can be your community and your village. It can be a place to find friends, socialize and get support from other parents, as well as from the teachers and church. Having a place to come home to and forming these deep relationships and connectedness really helps to build community.

**KH:** Anything else that you'd like to say?

**KS:** I am honored to begin at St. David's. It has a long-standing reputation as a wonderful school with educators who care deeply for the development of the whole child. The community at St. David's has been so welcoming and kind, and I am overjoyed to begin my journey here. ❖



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# Where Work is Play: Shananigans Toy Shop Continues

By Kathy Hudson

“Yes, we wrap for free, and we’re still using the same paper,” says Beth Foxwell, showing a yellow sheet of paper to a longtime customer at Shananigans Toy Shop in Wyndhurst Station.

In 2024, Foxwell, 41, and her good friend Anne Bev Fuller, 42, wrote to Flora and Barry Stelzer, the beloved store’s second owners. If the store were ever for sale, they said, they’d be interested. Flora Stelzer replied the next day.

On March 11, Foxwell and Fuller became the third owners of Shananigans, which was founded in 1992 by the late Sharon Tufaro and her longtime friend Nancy Cusack. Sharon was the Sha in the name, Nancy, the Nan.

“It’s crazy that I live a few doors down from the Tufaros,” says Fuller, who grew up in Richmond, VA, and now lives in Roland Park. She met Foxwell, of North Roland Park, three years ago when her son, now eight, started kindergarten at Gilman School. “Beth and her husband Allen were our host family. We instantly discovered how already connected we were.” Their husbands attended the same school in Richmond and Fuller went to school with Allen’s sister.

Although friends, this is the first time the pair has worked together. Foxwell was formerly a cardiac nurse and medical case manager while Fuller worked in creative services and human resources at a marketing and advertising firm. “We bring different strengths to the business,” Fuller says.

“We each were looking to go back to work. And all over the U.S. towns are losing small businesses as their owners retire,” explains Foxwell. “We wanted something established, not too big, and in an industry we could understand. We both have kids [for a total of seven under the age of nine] and know how to shop!” she laughs.

A big challenge is learning everything at once: inventory systems, vendor relationships and seasonal trends. “It’s been a steep and constant learning curve,” says Fuller. “But we’re lucky to have had the support from all previous owners, our families and a very encouraging community.”

“We appreciate the grace and dedication of our customers,” adds Foxwell.

Longtime customers can see some small differences in the new Shananigans. The layout and shelves have moved around in the 1,895-square-foot space. New toys have appeared: Magnatiles, Warmammer (a strategy game that involves painting mini-figures) and Citadel paints to go along with it, as well as with model-making kits.

*The newest dynamic duo at the helm of our neighborhood toy store pick up where their predecessors left off. Photo: Martha Marani*



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CONTINUED ON PAGE 22



# SHANANIGANS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21

"We recently introduced Sam and Julia," says Fuller, "a plush family of mice from The Netherlands that stars in books and has a mouse diorama you build, paint and accessorize."

Well-positioned shelves display Tiny Easel art kits. These are a national line created by Baltimore's Jennifer Tufaro Nolley, daughter of the late Sharon Tufaro. "We love being able to support local talent with such a meaningful connection to the store's roots," says Fuller.

Any issues with tariffs or supply chain problems? "It started right away," says Fuller. "So it's our norm in a way."

Foxwell explains how they deal with it. "We're ordering a lot from what is currently available stateside...In our first year we don't have the capacity to stockpile. The store is very, very full, and we have more coming."

This fall, the two hope to add game nights for children and adults, author readings and book events, a gift registry and birthday services, as well as shipping and packing services for out-of-town family and friends.

The two young women are having fun in a vibrant business that involves their families. Foxwell's mother Mary helps out at the store. All seven children advise on toys, letting them know what works and what doesn't. The youngest is the unofficial Chief Lollipop Officer,

making sure the store is fully stocked. The five-year-old greets customers, telling them he works there. The oldest girl works the scanner and cash register.

On a sunny afternoon, two boys find the Arthurian swords. A little girl selects a furry purse for a friend. An older woman discovers the Sam and Julia mice. "People are so happy when they're in the store," says Foxwell. "Families that have moved away visit when they're back in town and college kids come in on break. It's a joy and also a slice of life." ❖

## RPCS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

enrichment that comes with having access to the Bloomberg Terminal."

"My favorite part of the Bloomberg Terminal is the abundance of information it has," says recent graduate Sashi K. "You can find developing stories around the world, foot traffic graphs and supply chain graphs, which makes it useful for more than just finance, because you can use it to research anything. For example, in the Smith Philanthropic Literacy Board, we use the Bloomberg Terminal to conduct background checks on the nonprofits we are evaluating."

By using the Bloomberg Terminal in math, science, STEM, humanities and library classes, RPCS students:

- Deepen their research and enrich their classroom experiences
- Develop and sharpen their analytical skills
- Make decisions based on current events and accurate data
- Gain valuable hands-on experience using Bloomberg technology
- Prepare for internships, fellowships and future careers in a challenging global marketplace

Upper school students who participate in a finance, networking and entrepreneurship program called Power Lunch also use the Bloomberg Terminal to help make investment decisions as they manage a portion of the school's endowment in the stock market. Additionally, many upper school students have earned one of two available Bloomberg certifications through the Bloomberg Market Concepts program.

By bringing a Bloomberg Terminal to campus, RPCS is not only enhancing classroom learning with real-world tools, but also empowering young women to develop data literacy, gain a competitive edge and step confidently into leadership roles in a rapidly evolving, global marketplace. ❖

Roland Park Country School ([rpcs.org](http://rpcs.org)) is an independent school for girls in grades K-12, with a coed preschool for children 6 weeks through 5 years. RPCS is a place of profound and hands-on learning with a rich history of dedication to the intellectual and moral development of its students.



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# Fall Butternut Squash Salad with Maple Vinaigrette

Eddie's of Roland Park

Prep time: 20 minutes. Cook time: 20 minutes. Serves four.

## Ingredients

2 cup butternut squash, cubed	1 cup red cabbage, shredded
1 T. olive oil	1/3 cup red onion, sliced in half, then vertically
2 tsp. maple syrup	1/3 cup gorgonzola cheese, crumbled
1/4 tsp. cinnamon	1/4 cup pomegranate arils (the fleshy, outer covering of the seed)
1/4 tsp. allspice	1/4 cup candied pecan pieces
1/4 tsp. cayenne pepper	
1/2 tsp. coarse kosher salt	
1 6-oz. bag butter lettuce blend (or any mixed greens)	

## Vinaigrette

2 tsp. Dijon mustard, coarse grain	1 T. maple syrup
1/3 cup apple cider vinegar	1/2 cup extra virgin olive oil
1 T. lemon juice	Coarse kosher salt and freshly ground pepper to taste

Heat oven to 400 degrees. Toss the cubed butternut squash in a bowl with 1 tablespoon of olive oil, and the maple syrup, cinnamon, allspice, cayenne pepper and coarse kosher salt. Spread the squash out in a single layer on a parchment paper-lined sheet pan. Roast for 20 minutes until the squash is evenly



Photo courtesy of Eddie's of Roland Park

browned and tender. Set it aside to cool. The squash can be prepared a day or a few hours ahead and refrigerated.

In a large serving bowl, combine the lettuce, cabbage, onion, cheese, pomegranate and pecans. Add the roasted squash. Whisk the vinaigrette ingredients together, adjusting the seasoning if needed. Toss the salad with the vinaigrette.

\*Pair with La Chevaliere Pinot Noir 2023. ♦

Eddie's Tip: Feel free to substitute the butternut with acorn or delicata squash, or to change the gorgonzola to a milder cheese like Chèvre or feta.

## RPEMS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

Tickets are available at [zeffy.com/ticketing/centennial-gala-4](https://zeffy.com/ticketing/centennial-gala-4). Follow the school on Instagram (@rpems100) to keep up to date with all the latest news about the centennial happenings and ways you can get involved.


Families, alumni and local businesses can leave a lasting mark on RPEMS by participating in the Centennial Brick Campaign. Personalized, engraved bricks, some even featuring your child's artwork, will be set in the school's entrance walkway, with proceeds supporting the Centennial Fund. Purchase your brick at [donate.brickmarkers.com/rpems](https://donate.brickmarkers.com/rpems).

With a chess championship win, exciting events and a century of excellence behind it, RPEMS is truly "Rooted in Legacy, Ready for Tomorrow." The entire school community looks forward to a year of celebration, learning and success. Go Rams!


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## BRYN MAWR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

Ford-Torres reflected on how sports shaped her leadership and confidence, which helped her succeed as a major in the Army National Guard and for 19 years in law enforcement. She also recalled why she initially decided to come to Bryn Mawr. “I did my tour here and Coach Becker emphasized you’re going to be a student first. You’re going to have academic excellence first...and there’s going to be a sisterhood here that you’ll never forget.”

Through remarks prepared by her niece Nikki Bogan Kron (2001), Coach Budzik thanked the many players, colleagues, fans and supporters who stood with her no matter what—sweltering heat, bumpy fields, and the occasional blood, sweat and tears. Leand reminded the crowd that Bryn Mawr teaches girls to “just go for it” in all they do.

The ceremony didn’t just honor athletic milestone, it highlighted the values of leadership, resilience and excellence that Bryn Mawr instills in all young women. ❖

The Bryn Mawr School ([brynmawrschool.org](http://brynmawrschool.org)), founded in 1885 as the first college-preparatory school for girls in the U.S., is an independent, nonsectarian all-girls school for grades K-12, with a coed preschool. (2001), Coach Budzik thanked the many players, colleagues, fans and supporters who stood with her no matter what—sweltering heat, bumpy fields, and the occasional blood, sweat and tears. Leand reminded the crowd that Bryn Mawr teaches girls to “just go for it” in all they do.

## GILMAN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

his natural ability is,” but that he has “always been super motivated to excel” and “takes initiative to improve.”

Feng’s efforts to improve go beyond his formal training at Juilliard, and even beyond his contributions to Gilman’s upper school string ensemble, the String Hounds. As a freshman, he would show up with his cello to rehearsals for Gilman’s bell choir and jazz band to collaborate with the unlikely bandmates just for fun.

It’s not surprising, since Feng especially takes pleasure in making music with others. “I’m not that big of a talker and I like being able to communicate in something that’s as natural as playing music together. A lot of things go unsaid. It’s almost a deeper connection that you can make with your fellow chamber mates, with your conductor, with your fellow orchestra players, but also with the audience,” he says. “That’s one of the main reasons I play music. Without that, music is nothing.”

A student from The Bryn Mawr School is also part of the Juilliard pre-college program. Read the article that appears here as well as one about Bryn Mawr’s Maggie Schneider at [gilman.edu/scalenewheights](http://gilman.edu/scalenewheights). ❖

Gilman School ([gilman.edu](http://gilman.edu)) is a pre-kindergarten through 12th grade independent school in Baltimore, Maryland, with an enrollment of approximately 1,000 boys. A diverse community dedicated to educating boys in mind, body, and spirit, Gilman seeks to produce men of character and integrity who have the skills and ability to make a positive contribution to the communities in which they live and work.

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# Grandpa's Cornbread

Miss Shirley's Café

*Yields: 1 loaf or 8-10 muffins. Serve with House-Made Peppadew-Jalapeño Butter and dust with Cajun Spice.*

## Ingredients

2 large eggs	1/2 cup (4 oz.)
1.5 cups buttermilk	chopped
4 oz. unsalted butter, melted	Peppadews (sweet,
2 T. brown sugar	spicy and tangy
2 T. granulated sugar	pickled Juanita
1/2 tsp. baking soda	piquanté peppers)
1 1/2 tsp. baking powder	1 T. fresh chives,
1 tsp. kosher salt	finely chopped
1 cup flour	2 ears fresh white
1 cup cornmeal	corn

Shuck the corn, removing any corn silks. Rub each ear of corn with a tiny bit of olive oil and place them on an oven-safe sheet tray, sprinkling them lightly with salt and pepper. Bake the corn in a 350-degree oven for 15 to 20 minutes, removing them when they are fully cooked and slightly browned. Let the corn cool and then carefully cut the kernels off the cob.

In a large bowl, place the cornmeal, flour, baking soda, baking powder and salt, stirring to combine. Add the eggs, buttermilk, sugar and melted butter, mixing the ingredients until the batter just comes together and scraping the sides of the bowl well. Add the chives, Peppadews and roasted corn. Stir to incorporate the ingredients evenly. Do not overmix.

Heat the oven to 350 degrees. If you are using a bread loaf pan, spray it with pan spray and scrape the mixture into the pan. Bake for 40 to 45 minutes, rotating the pan halfway about through. The loaf is done when a toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean.

If you are using a muffin pan, spray the muffin pan or use muffin cups and fill each hold about halfway. Bake for 18 to 20 minutes, rotating the pan about halfway through. The muffins are done when a toothpick inserted into their centers comes out clean.

Allow the cornbread to cool and serve. Covered, it will keep for 3 days at room temperature or refrigerated for 4 to 5 days. You can also freeze it for up to 2 months in a resealable plastic bag.

## Jalapeño Peppadew Butter

*Yields 1.5 cups.*

## Ingredients

8 oz. unsalted butter
1/3 cup Peppadews
1/3 cup pickled jalapeños
1 T. honey

Wash the watermelon and cut the rind off the rind. Cut it into Soften the butter to room temperature. Drain the jalapeños and Peppadews and, either with a food processor or by hand, finely chop them. With a stand mixer with a whisk attachment, whip



Photo courtesy of Miss Shirley's Café

the mixture for 1 to 2 minutes until it lightens in color and gets fluffy. Add the chopped jalapeños and Peppadews and mix to incorporate. Add the honey and blend for another 1 to 2 minutes until the mixture is well blended. Place in a container and use immediately while soft or refrigerate to store. The butter will keep refrigerated for up to 10 days. Remove it from the refrigerator and soften for 15 to 20 minutes before using. ❖

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# The Book Nook

By Greg Fromme, Branch Manager, Roland Park Branch, Enoch Pratt Free Library

Welcome to the Book Nook! Please read on for a list of programs coming up at the Roland Park branch, as well as reading recommendations from the library staff.

All Pratt libraries will be closed September 1 for Labor Day, October 13 for Indigenous People's Day, November 11 for Veterans Day, November 27 for Thanksgiving and December 25 for Christmas.

## Programming at the Pratt

(details at [calendar.pratt.library.org](http://calendar.pratt.library.org))

### For Kids

- Wednesdays at 10:30 am. **Baby and Toddler Storytime.** Stories, movement, play and songs for little ones under 2 with a favorite adult. Playtime follows. All abilities welcome. Groups of five or more must call 410-396-6099 to register.
- Thursdays at 10:30 am. **Family Storytime.** Stories, movement, songs and our most fun activities. Come ready to move, laugh and learn together. For families with children ages 2 to 5. All abilities welcome.
- Sep. 13, 3 pm. **Library Card Celebration.** September is National Library Card Month. Use stickers, ribbons and more

to keep your library card in a very special holder.

- Sep. 22, 3 pm. **Fall into Dot Art Fun.** Fall into fun make scenes using dot art markers and more! Use your imagination and celebrate the arrival of autumn.
- October 9, 11 am. **Bottle Cap Fish Craft.** Read to Reef is here! Have an ocean's worth of fun after storytime by making fish out of bottle caps and designing your own underwater fun.
- Oct. 25, 2 pm. **Spooky Fun Crafternoon.** Enjoy some spooky arts and crafts! Make all kinds of festive favorites in a spooktacularly fun crafternoon.

### For Teens

- Sep. 11, 3 pm. **Pack a Pencil Case.** Start the school year off on the right foot. Visit the Roland Park library to create a custom pencil and pack it with school supplies
- Sep. 25, 3 pm. **Learn to Code with Sphero.** Interested in coding? Join Ms. Jackie to learn how to code Sphero bolts using block coding and complete a fun activity.
- Oct. 27, 3 pm. **Color Changing Crystal Ball.** Are you a fan of magic and fantasy? Join Ms. Jackie in making a DIY crystal ball that magically changes colors.
- Oct. 30, 3 pm. **Cemetarium.** Spooky Season is here! Stop by the library to create a cemetery-inspired Terrarium (Cemetarium).

### For Adults

- Sep. 13, 2 pm. **Film Series: Mickey 17.** Mickey Barnes, an unlikely hero, has found himself in the extraordinary circumstance of working for an employer who demands the ultimate commitment to the job... to die, for a living. Rated R.
- Sep. 22, 6 pm. **Book Discussion: Banal Nightmare by Halle Butler.** *Banal Nightmare* is filled with complicated characters who will dazzle you in their rendering just as often as they will infuriate you with their decisions. Butler singularly captures the volatile, angry, aggrieved, surreal and entirely disorienting atmosphere of the modern era.
- Oct. 11, 2 pm. **Film Series: The Woman in the Yard.** A lone, spectral woman shrouded entirely in black appears on a family's front lawn without explanation and warns them "today's the day." Rated PG-13.
- Oct. 13, 6 pm. **Peabody in the Library.** Enjoy an informal classical music performance presented by student musicians from Peabody Conservatory. All ages welcome!
- Oct. 27, 6 pm **One Maryland, One Book Discussion.** Join in the discussion of the 2025 "One Maryland, One Book" *Kin: Rooted in Hope* by Carole Boston Weatherford and Jeffrey Boston Weatherford. Released in 2024, the book is a work of art, history and personal genealogy—the authors' search into their family tree that led them to ancestors who were among the founders of Maryland. Through Carole's poetry and Jeffery's art, Maryland Humanities will stage programming for readers to explore histories of African Americans, Marylanders and their own families.

The following reading recommendations have been submitted by members of the Roland Park branch staff.



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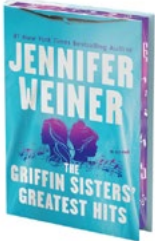
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**The Griffin Sisters' Greatest Hits** by Jennifer Weiner (recommended by Abby Lyon, children's librarian). Weiner's latest is a strong, moving novel of familial ties. *The Griffin Sisters' Greatest Hits* is the story of Cassie and Zoe Grossberg, a pop music duo whose talent takes them all the way to early 2000s stardom. Eventually, secrets and strife threaten their personal and professional

relationships and end up leaving them estranged for years to come. Decades later, Zoe has left the rock-and-roll world and become a suburban wife and mother, while Cassie is unreachable (and prefers to keep it that way). Zoe's daughter Cherry attempts to follow in her mother's footsteps, but she uncovers the truth behind the duo's rise to fame and their very public breakup, as she works to reestablish their bonds of sisterhood. Weiner's skill for developing interesting and believable multi-generational characters has never been better, and the dual timelines and diverse points of view enrich her storytelling. For anyone who lived vicariously through 2000s pop culture (I know I did!), and is intrigued with behind-the-scenes musical and family drama, *The Griffin Sisters' Greatest Hits* provides a heartwarming story of sisterly second chances.



**Creation Lake** by Rachel Kushner (recommended by Gregory Fromme, branch manager). *Creation Lake* is a wonderfully entertaining and informative novel that weaves espionage, anthropology, European history and social commentary into one fast-paced and fascinating narrative. The story is told from the point of view of a cynical American expatriate known as Sadie Smith, who is employed by an

unnamed European agricultural company to infiltrate a French environmental activist group called Le Moulin in rural southern France. The environmentalists are guided ideologically by a mysterious figure named Bruno LaCombe, who was orphaned as a boy living in German-occupied France during World War II. Bruno lives a reclusive life inhabiting a cave in the region. His beliefs and observations are communicated through his email messages that have been accessed/hacked by the narrator. *Creation Lake* is a compelling story on many levels, and well worth your investment of time and imagination.



**The Optimist's Daughter** by Eudora Welty (recommended by Gregory Fromme). This slim Pulitzer prize-winning novel from 1972 explores the relationship between its narrator, Laurel Hand, a woman in her 40s, and her father, a prominent judge in the small town of Mount Salus, MI, during the 1960s. When Judge McKelva falls ill and ultimately passes away, Laurel must navigate the fallout from his recent

marriage to a much younger woman who has a contentious and hostile attitude towards Laurel and is now in charge of the McKelva family home. In Welty's deft hands, the story is an astute observation of the social conditions in this small, affluent southern town and the narrator's connection to her family and her upbringing—which she has spent much of her adult life distancing herself from. The “Optimist” of the book's title has lost his vision, both literally and metaphorically (via his choice of a selfish vindictive narcissist for a partner). Welty weaves a brilliant and nuanced character study in this short but precisely rendered novel. ❖



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# KidLit Picks

By Paula Willey, The Ivy Bookshop



## Picture Books to Enjoy Together

*Fall Is for Beginnings: A Picture Book* by Rajani LaRocca, illustrated by Abhi Alwar

*This Year, a Witch!*, written and illustrated by Zoey Abbott

*Giving Thanks with Halmoni: Celebrating Chuseok, the Korean Harvest Festival* by Kathleen Choi and Sook Nyul Choi, illustrated by Il Sung Na

*The Gathering Table* by Antwan Eady, illustrated by London Ladd

*America Gives Thanks* by Bob McKinnon, illustrated by Thai My Phuong

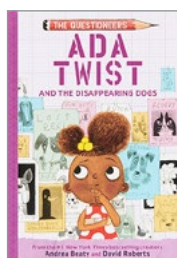
*Home in a Lunchbox (Caldecott Honor)*, written and illustrated by Cherry Mo

*Chooch Helped (Caldecott Medal)* by Andrea L. Rogers, illustrated by Rebecca Lee Kunz

*Cranky, Crabby Crow (Saves the World)* by Corey R. Tabor

*¡Vamos! Let's Celebrate Halloween and Día de los Muertos: A Halloween and Day of the Dead Celebration*, written and illustrated by Raúl the Third

*It's a Mitzvah! Small Deeds with Big Heart*, written and illustrated by Suzy Ultman



## New and Continuing Series Books for Early and Emerging Readers

*Ada Twist and the Disappearing Dogs (The Questioners Book No. 5)* by Andrea Beaty, illustrated by David Roberts

*Box Tales: Grow, Strawberries, Grow!*, written and illustrated by James Burks

*I Am Not Okay*, written and illustrated by David DeGrand

*Celebrate with Yasmin!* by Saadia Faruqi, illustrated by Debby Rahmalia

*Pumpkin and Beetle: Two Vampire Cats*, written and illustrated by Jannie Ho

*Amina Banana and the Formula for Winning* by Shifa Saltagi Safadi, illustrated by Aaliya Jaleel

## Fun and Adventure for Independent Readers

*Wildlife Rescue: How to Save an Owl* by Kate Messner, illustrated by Falynn Koch



*J vs. K* by Kwame Alexander and Jerry Craft, illustrated by Jerry Craft

*The Last Comics on Earth: From the Creators of The Last Kids on Earth* by Max Brallier with Joshua Pruett, illustrated by Jay Cooper and Douglas Holgate

*InvestiGators: Case Files* by John Patrick Green and Steve Behling, illustrated by Chris Fenoglio

*Jax Freeman and the Tournament of Spirits* by Kwame Mbalia

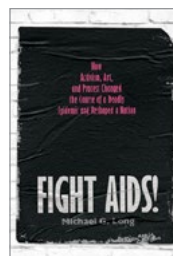
*The House Next Door* by Ellen Oh

*The Island of Forgotten Gods* by Victor Piñeiro

*The Experiment* by Rebecca Stead

*The Cartoonists Club: A Graphic Novel* by Raina Telgemeier and Scott McCloud

*Candle Island* by Lauren Wolk, illustrated by Keith Henry Brown



## True Stories

*Fight AIDS! How Activism, Art, and Protest Changed the Course of a Deadly Epidemic and Reshaped a Nation* by Michael G. Long

*Bones and Berserkers (Nathan Hale's Hazardous Tales No. 13)*, written and illustrated by Nathan Hale

*Creative Writing with Miss Mary Mac: A Handbook for Young and Future Authors* by Mary McInerney, illustrated by Rivkah LaFille

*Ultrawild: An Audacious Plan for Rewilding Every City on Earth* by Steve Mushin

*Sole Survivor* by Norman Ollestad and Brendan Kiely

*Pushing Hope: An Illustrated Memoir of Survival* by Raymond Santana, illustrated by Keith Henry Brown

## Great Books for Teen Readers

*Flip* written and illustrated by Ngozi Ukazu

*Showstopper* by Lily Anderson

*Sisters in the Wind* by Angeline Boulley

*King of the Neuro Verse* by Idris Goodwin

*The Leaving Room* by Amber McBride

*The Story of My Anger* by Jasminne Mendez

*This Place Kills Me: A Graphic Novel* by Mariko Tamaki, illustrated by Nicole Goux



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# Calendar Highlights

## Houses of Worship

Please call or visit the websites of these Roland Park area houses of worship for information about their holiday service dates and times.

HOUSES OF WORSHIP	PHONE	WEBSITE
<b>Bolton Street Synagogue</b> , 212 W. Cold Spring Ln.	410-235-5354	<a href="http://boltonstreet.org">boltonstreet.org</a>
<b>Cathedral of Mary Our Queen</b> , 5200 N. Charles St.	410-464-4000	<a href="http://cathedralofmary.org">cathedralofmary.org</a>
<b>Cathedral of the Incarnation</b> , 4 E. University Pkwy.	410-467-3750	<a href="http://incarnationbmore.org">incarnationbmore.org</a>
<b>Church of the Redeemer</b> , 5603 N. Charles St.	410-435-7333	<a href="http://redeemberbaltimore.org">redeemberbaltimore.org</a>
<b>Congregation Beit Tikvah</b> , 5802 Roland Ave	410-464-9402	<a href="http://beittikvah.org">beittikvah.org</a>
<b>First Christian Church</b> , 5802 Roland Ave.	410-435-1506	<a href="http://rolandparkcc.org">rolandparkcc.org</a>
<b>First Church of Christ, Scientist, Baltimore</b> , 102 W. University Pkwy.	410-467-7974	<a href="http://christiansciencebaltimore.org">christiansciencebaltimore.org</a>
<b>The Gathering of Baltimore</b> , 5802 Roland Ave.	410-252-7816	<a href="http://thegatheringbaltimore.org">thegatheringbaltimore.org</a>
<b>Grace United Methodist Church</b> , 5407 N. Charles St.	410-433-6650	<a href="http://graceunitedmethodist.org">graceunitedmethodist.org</a>
<b>Mt. Olivet Christian Church</b> , 5802 Roland Ave.	410-435-1506	<a href="http://rolandparkcc.org">rolandparkcc.org</a>
<b>North Baltimore Mennonite Church</b> , 4615 Roland Ave.	410-467-8947	<a href="http://bmoremenno.org">bmoremenno.org</a>
<b>Roland Park Presbyterian Church</b> , 4801 Roland Ave.	410-889-2001	<a href="http://rolandparkchurch.org">rolandparkchurch.org</a>
<b>St. Andrew's Christian Community</b> , 5802 Roland Ave.	410-435-9470	<a href="http://rolandparkcc.org">rolandparkcc.org</a>
<b>St. David's Church</b> , 4700 Roland Ave.	410-467-0476	<a href="http://stdavidsbaltimore.org">stdavidsbaltimore.org</a>
<b>Second Presbyterian Church</b> , 4200 St. Paul St.	410-467-4210	<a href="http://secondpresby.org">secondpresby.org</a>
<b>Stony Run Friends</b> , 5116 N. Charles St.	443-703-2590	<a href="http://stonyrunfriends.org">stonyrunfriends.org</a>

**The Baltimore Police Department Northern District Commander's Monthly Crime and Community Meeting** is held on the second Wednesday of the month at the Northern District Headquarters, 2201 W. Cold Spring Lane. All are welcome.

Saturdays from September through June, 10 am-4 pm. **Regular Hours**, Fire Museum of Maryland, 1301 York Rd. [firemuseummd.org](http://firemuseummd.org)

## September

- Through Sep. 28. **The Piano Lesson**, Everyman Theatre, 315 W. Fayette St. This Pulitzer Prize-winning masterpiece from August Wilson, presented as part of Baltimore's August Wilson Celebration, tells the story of a pair of siblings and the fate of their cherished family heirloom: a piano carved with images of their ancestors previously owned by the family's former enslavers. [everymantheatre.org](http://everymantheatre.org)
- Sep. 4, 5 pm. **Vital Perspectives on Healthcare and Science: Randall M. Packard: *Fevered Cities* (with Jeremy Greene)**, Bird in Hand Coffee & Books, 11 East 33rd St. Packard explores the complex and evolving history of dengue fever, the world's most widespread mosquito-borne viral disease, as it comes up against variables caused by climate change, urbanization and social inequities. RSVP for this free event at [theivybookshop.com](http://theivybookshop.com)
- Sep. 6, 10 am. Kiddush and Discussion: **"Don't Blow It—Just Listen,"** Congregation Beit Tikvah, 5802 Roland Ave. Rabbi Douglas Heifetz will lead a discussion about the shofar, or ram's horn, the key symbol of the High Holiday season and the preceding month of Elul. [beittikvah.org](http://beittikvah.org)
- Sep. 9, 10:30 am. **Children's Tree Time**, Cylburn Arboretum, 4915 Greenspring Ave. Join this parent/child class to learn about nature through stories, crafts and exploration. Ages 2-5. Free for Cylburn Arboretum Friends (CAF) members and \$5 suggested donation for non-members. [Cylburn.org](http://Cylburn.org)
- Sep. 9, 7 pm. **Gardening to Create a Homegrown National**

The Civic League meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm at the Roland Park Presbyterian Church at the corner of Roland Avenue and Upland Road (4801 Roland Ave.). The next meeting will be September 4.



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# CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 29

**Park**, Native Species Rewind, Roland Park Community Center, 5802 Roland Ave. Learn how to create a homegrown national park in your yard. Native plant expert and Chesapeake Bay landscape professional Alison Milligan will be the keynote speaker. Free. For more information, email [GreggJ82@gmail.com](mailto:GreggJ82@gmail.com).

- Sep. 11, 2 pm. **Gardeners' Workshop**, Cylburn Arboretum. These adult workshops, taught by the horticulture team, are an opportunity to learn more about gardening concepts and skills. Free to CAF members and \$5 suggested donation for non-members. [Cylburn.org](http://Cylburn.org)
- Sep. 13, 9 am. **Community Yard Sale**, Roland Park Community Center, 5802 Roland Ave. Vendor pre-registration required. \$10 booth rentals. [rolandparkcc.org](http://rolandparkcc.org)
- Sep. 13, 10 am. **Honoring Our Heroes Motor Muster**, Fire Museum of Maryland. The annual salute to fire, police, EMS and military personnel, with antique fire engine demonstrations and rides. [firemuseummd.org](http://firemuseummd.org)
- Sep. 13, 11 am. **Gardenista Creations Pop-Up Plant Sale**, Evergreen Veterinary Care, 410 W. Cold Spring Ln. Check out the expertly curated, one-of-a-kind plantscapes and locally sourced plant-related gifts and treasures! [gardenistacreations.com](http://gardenistacreations.com)
- Sep. 14, 3:30 pm. **Community Concerts at Second: Vocalist Limmie Pulliam and Pianist Mark Markham**. Community Concerts at Second, 4200 St. Paul St. Hot on the heels of Pulliam's spectacular Carnegie Hall debut, he and pianist Markham present a concert of spirituals and opera arias. Free, but donations are welcomed. [cc2nd.org](http://cc2nd.org)
- Sep. 17, 12 pm. **Wednesday Walk**, Cylburn Arboretum. These walks are geared toward an adult audience. Topics range broadly and each walk is led by a different expert. Free for CAF members and \$5 suggested donation for non-members. [Cylburn.org](http://Cylburn.org)
- Sep. 18, 10:30 am. **Fall Lecture: Naughty by Nature with Mike Weilbacher**, Ladew Topiary Gardens, 3535 Jarrettsville Pike, Monkton. Naturalist, environmental educator and author Weilbacher will discuss courtship in the animal kingdom. In-person cost is \$30 (or \$120 for five-lecture series) for members and \$40 (or \$160 for five-lecture series) for non-members. Virtual cost is \$15 (or \$60 for five-lecture series) for members and \$20 (or \$80 for five-lecture series) for non-members. [ladewgardens.com](http://ladewgardens.com)
- Sep. 18, 6 pm. **Book Launch for Deborah Brown English: Time's Breath (with Martha Anne Toll)**, The Ivy Bookshop Back Patio, 5928 Falls Rd. The novel includes the author's own paintings and illustrations in oil and graphite, and this form itself participates in the story, which opens with the discovery of a book within the remains of a small Norwegian boat. RSVP for this free event at [theivybookshop.com](http://theivybookshop.com)

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- Sep. 19, 1:30 pm. **Horticulture Culture**, Cylburn Arboretum. In-depth classes taught by the horticulture team and designed to include the “why” behind what is seen in the Cylburn landscape. Free for CAF members and \$5 suggested donation for non-members. [Cylburn.org](http://Cylburn.org)
- Sep. 21, 3:30 pm. **Community Concerts at Second: Musicians of the Baltimore Symphony**. Community Concerts at Second. Ivan Stefanovic, Lura Johnson, Marcia McHugh, Karin Brown, Jacqueline Pollauf, Maria Broom, Boram Kang, Dariusz Skoraczewski and Michael Sheppard perform music by Amy Beach, Chen-Yu Huang, Brian Precht and Johannes Brahms. Free, but donations are welcomed. [cc2nd.org](http://cc2nd.org)
- Sep. 25, 10 am. **Opening Day Activities Fair**, The Woman’s Club of Roland Park (TWCPR), 4500 Roland Ave. The fair is open to the community, and will provide information about activities, special interest groups, upcoming trips and programs. It’s a terrific way to find out more about TWCPR. Complimentary light fare with mimosas, coffee and tea will be provided. Please register in advance at [manager@twcrp.org](mailto:manager@twcrp.org). [twcrp.org](http://twcrp.org)
- Sep. 25, 10:30 am. **Fall Lecture: The Ladew Landscape with Paula Reynolds**, Ladew Topiary Gardens. Reynolds, the Ladew 2025 artist-in-residence, will discuss photographing Ladew in all four seasons. In-person cost is \$30 (or \$120 for five-lecture series) for members and \$40 (or \$160 for five-lecture series) for non-members. Virtual cost is \$15 (or \$60 for five-lecture series) for members and \$20 (or \$80 for five-lecture series) for non-members. [ladewgardens.com](http://ladewgardens.com)
- Sep. 30, 6 pm. **Eileen Flanagan: Common Ground: How the Crisis of the Earth is Saving Us from Our Illusion of Separation**, The Ivy Bookshop Back Patio. Common Ground brings together the author’s experiences in Quaker communities, teaching and grassroots environmental organizing to demonstrate the necessity of solidarity. RSVP for this free event at [theivybookshop.com](http://theivybookshop.com)

## October

- Oct. 2, 10:30 am. **Fall Lecture: Falling for Local Flowers with Ellen Frost**, Ladew Topiary Gardens. Frost, a florist, will discuss seasonal design with autumn flowers and foliage. In-person cost is \$30 (or \$120 for five-lecture series) for members and \$40 (or \$160 for five-lecture series) for non-members. Virtual cost is \$15 (or \$60 for five-lecture series) for members and \$20 (or \$80 for five-lecture series) for non-members. [ladewgardens.com](http://ladewgardens.com)
- Oct. 8, 10:30 am. **Children’s Tree Time**, Cylburn Arboretum, 4915 Greenspring Ave. Join this parent/child class to learn about nature through stories, crafts and exploration. Ages 2-5. Free for Cylburn Arboretum Friends (CAF) members and \$5 suggested donation for non-members. [Cylburn.org](http://Cylburn.org)
- Oct. 9, 11 am. **Kate Burgin: The Role of Museums in a Changing World**, TWCPR. Burgin, newly installed executive director and CEO of the Walters Art Museum, will explore the role museums can play in connecting with stakeholders, legislators and their communities in an ever-changing sociopolitical environment. Please register in advance at [manager@twcrp.org](mailto:manager@twcrp.org). [twcrp.org](http://twcrp.org)
- Oct. 9, 10:30 am. **Fall Lecture: Beneficial Bats in Your Belfry with Kerry Wixted**, Ladew Topiary Gardens. Naturalist Wixted

will discuss some of nature’s most misunderstood creatures. In-person cost is \$30 (or \$120 for five-lecture series) for members and \$40 (or \$160 for five-lecture series) for non-members. Virtual cost is \$15 (or \$60 for five-lecture series) for members and \$20 (or \$80 for five-lecture series) for non-members. [ladewgardens.com](http://ladewgardens.com)

- Oct. 9, 2 pm. **Gardeners’ Workshop**, Cylburn Arboretum. These adult workshops, taught by the horticulture team, are an opportunity to learn more about gardening concepts and skills. Free to CAF members and \$5 suggested donation for non-members. [Cylburn.org](http://Cylburn.org)
- Oct. 10, 6 pm. **Elizabeth Evitts Dickinson: Claire McCardell: The Designer Who Set Women Free (with Elisabeth Dahl)**, The Ivy Bookshop Back Patio. Filled with personal drama and industry secrets, this story reveals how Claire McCardell built an empire at a time when women rarely made the upper echelons of business. At its core, hers is a story about our right to choose how we dress—and our right to choose how we live. Attend dressed in a way that makes you feel “set free,” a la McCardell, or in no special way at all, if that’s what feels best to you! RSVP for this free event at [theivybookshop.com](http://theivybookshop.com)
- Oct. 10, 6:30 pm. **Sukkot Pot-Luck**, Congregation Beit Tikvah. Congregant-led service and discussion. [beittikvah.org](http://beittikvah.org)
- Oct. 11 9 am. **Community Yard Sale**, Roland Park Community Center. Vendor pre-registration required. \$10 booth rentals. [rolandparkcc.org](http://rolandparkcc.org)
- Oct. 11, 11 am. **Gardenista Creations Pop-Up Plant Sale**,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 32

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# CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 31

Evergreen Veterinary Care, 410 W. Cold Spring Ln. Check out the expertly curated, one-of-a-kind plantscapes and locally sourced plant-related gifts and treasures! [gardenistacreations.com](http://gardenistacreations.com)

- Oct. 14, 6 pm. **Book Launch for Matthew Norman: *Grace & Henry's Holiday Movie Marathon***, The Ivy Bookshop Back Patio. The author of *Charm City Rocks*, *All Together Now* and more brings us a story about a sentimental advertising creative and a blunt, no-nonsense bar owner who find love while binge-watching iconic holiday movies. RSVP for this free event at [theivybookshop.com](http://theivybookshop.com)
- Oct. 15, 12 pm. **Wednesday Walk**, Cylburn Arboretum. These walks are geared toward an adult audience. Topics range broadly and each walk is led by a different expert. Free for CAF members and \$5 suggested donation for non-members. [Cylburn.org](http://Cylburn.org)
- Oct. 17, 1:30 pm. **Horticulture Culture**, Cylburn Arboretum. In-depth classes taught by the horticulture team and designed to include the “why” behind what is seen in the Cylburn landscape. Free for CAF members and \$5 suggested donation for non-members. [Cylburn.org](http://Cylburn.org)
- Oct. 18, 7:30 am. **Baltimore Running Festival**, 210 Key Hwy. Join the Roland Park Elementary Middle School (RPEMS) team and walk, run or wheelchair ride in the festival. All ages and ability levels are welcome. Advance registration is required and starts at \$50. [eventbrite.com/e/rpems-race-for-the-future-part-ii-tickets-135550801939](http://eventbrite.com/e/rpems-race-for-the-future-part-ii-tickets-135550801939)
- Oct. 19 through Nov. 16. **Art**, Everyman Theatre. A razor-sharp, provocative comedy set in modern-day Paris, Yasmina Reza's *Art* follows three long-time friends whose relationship becomes strained after one of them purchases an exorbitantly expensive and questionable painting. [everymantheatre.org](http://everymantheatre.org)
- Oct. 23, 1:15 pm. **Erica Robuck, *The Last Assignment***, TWCRP. Robuck's book is based on the astonishing true story of combat correspondent and award-winning photojournalist Georgette “Dickey” Chapelle, and takes us on a journey through the seven conflicts in which she served, sharing the harrowing challenges she faced. Like the fictional character Forrest Gump, Chapelle seemed to be everywhere, all the time, as she blazed her own trail as a witness to war from the front lines. Author-signed copies of *The Last Assignment* will be available for sale. Please register in advance at [manager@twcrp.org](mailto:manager@twcrp.org) [twcrp.org](http://twcrp.org)
- Oct. 23 and 24, 5 pm. **ArBOOretum**, Cylburn Arboretum Friends. The annual family-friendly event celebrates the spirit of season in the heart of Cylburn, with a spooky trail and night hikes. Tickets are \$5. [Cylburn.org](http://Cylburn.org)
- Oct. 23, 10:30 am. **Fall Lecture: Garden Lover's Travel with Colston Burrell**, Ladew Topiary Gardens. Burrell, a garden designer, author and photographer, will discuss some of the world's greatest gardens. In-person cost is \$30 (or \$120 for five-lecture series) for members and \$40 (or \$160 for five-lecture series) for non-members. Virtual cost is \$15 (or \$60 for five-lecture series) for members and \$20 (or \$80 for five-lecture series) for non-members. [ladewgardens.com](http://ladewgardens.com)
- Oct. 25, 6 pm. **Lantern Night**, Fire Museum of Maryland. During this family-friendly Halloween celebration, see fire apparatus in a new light, with etched glass signal lamps and kerosene lanterns. Also visit with reenactors in period attire. [firemuseummd.org](http://firemuseummd.org)
- Oct. 26, 3:30 pm. **Community Concerts at Second: Merz Trio: “Alma Mahler Goes West,”** Community Concerts at Second. The award-winning Merz Trio will perform the works of composers ranging from Berg and Webern and Britten to Charles Ives and Thelonious Monk, as well as Mahler herself, concluding with pianist Eduard Steuermann's excellent transcription for piano trio of Arnold Schoenberg's gorgeous “Verklärte Nacht” (“Transfigured Night”). Free, but donations are welcomed. [cc2nd.org](http://cc2nd.org)

## November

- Nov. 1, 10 am. **Kiddush and Discussion: “Breakthrough Power,”** Congregation Beit Tikvah. Douglas Heifetz will lead a discussion about the transformational journey of Abraham. [beittikvah.org](http://beittikvah.org)
- Nov. 2, 2 pm. **Sound Bath**, Baltimore Breathwork, Roland Park Community Center, 5802 Roland Ave. Tickets are \$55. [baltimorebreathwork.com](http://baltimorebreathwork.com)
- Nov. 6, 11 am. **Jeffrey Kent: Life Meets Art, BLIFTD STUDIO'S PROJECT**, TWCRP. A Baltimore artist and mentor, Kent will share details about the BLIFTD STUDIO'S PROJECT, which

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- Nov. 9, 3:30 pm. **Community Concerts at Second: Warren Wolf, Vibraphone**, Community Concerts at Second. Wolf will partner with Grammy-winning pianist Alex Brown and a string quartet to present Chick Corea's "Lyric Suite for Sextet," known for its dynamic and lush sonic landscape. Wolf and Brown round out the concert with a traditional set of standards and original compositions. Free, but donations are welcomed. [cc2nd.org](http://cc2nd.org)
- Nov. 13, 11 am. **Caitlin Broccoli: How Artificial Intelligence (AI) is Transforming Our World**, TWCRP. Broccoli, associate director of life design at the Johns Hopkins University, will explain how emotional intelligence and AI can co-exist to create more human, responsive and curiosity-driven environments for children and adults. AI might generate answers, but it's up to us to keep designing questions. Please register in advance at [manager@twcrp.org](mailto:manager@twcrp.org) [twcrp.org](http://twcrp.org)
- Nov. 18, 6 pm. **Rodger Kamenetz: Seeing Into the Life of Things (with Brian Volck)**, The Ivy Bookshop Back Patio. Building on an extensive body of writing focused on the reevaluation of Judaism in the light of Buddhist thought, this "gem" of a book "takes on a vital but often overlooked subject—the role of the imagination in our healing and opening to a deeper life"—in the words of Henry Shukman, author of *One Blade of Grass* and *Original Love*. RSVP for this free event at [theivybookshop.com](http://theivybookshop.com)
- Nov. 22. **RPEMS Homecoming**, RPEMS, 5207 Roland Ave. Alumni and friends are invited to return to campus for fun activities. Free. [instagram.com/rpems100](https://www.instagram.com/rpems100)
- Nov. 22, 6 pm. **RPEMS Centennial Homecoming Gala**, RPEMS. Alumni and friends are invited to reconnect and celebrate the 100th anniversary. Tickets are required. [zeffy.com/ticketing/centennial-gala-4](http://zeffy.com/ticketing/centennial-gala-4)
- Nov. 29, 11 am. **Holiday Train Garden Opening Day**, Fire Museum of Maryland. Watch as O-scale trains wind through a 20th century town and snap a selfie with Santa [firemuseummd.org](http://firemuseummd.org)
- Nov. 30, 3:30 pm. **Community Concerts at Second: Musicians of the Baltimore Symphony**, Community Concerts at Second. Holly Jenkins, Kevin Smith, Jacob Shack, Jaime An, Vitor Trindade, Melissa Hooper, Christine Murphy, Schuyler Jackson, Boram Kang, Peter Minkler, Halogen Gjoni and Wan-Chi Su will perform the works of Ellen Taaffe Zwilich, Jean Françaix and Johannes Brahms. Free, but donations are welcomed. [cc2nd.org](http://cc2nd.org)
- Nov. 30 through Jan. 4. **Deceived**, Everyman Theatre. In this gripping new adaptation of the famous psychological thriller *Gaslight*, we find a young woman desperately trying to unravel a dangerous mystery while a web of manipulation and lies forces her to doubt the relationships around her—and her own sanity! [everymantheatre.org](http://everymantheatre.org) ♦

Please send calendar announcements to [magazine@rolandpark.org](mailto:magazine@rolandpark.org).



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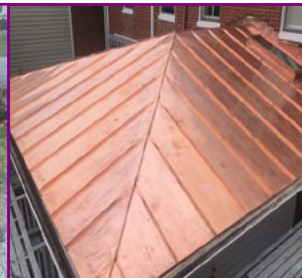
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