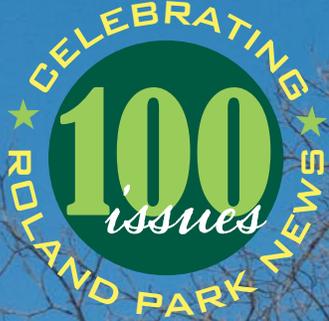


ROLAND PARK

Quarterly from the Roland Park Community Foundation • Volume One Hundred • Spring 2026



Spring Garden Cleanup

Hillside Park Takes Shape

Roland Park Swimming Pool Gears Up



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Editor's Note

By Martha Marani

When my kids were in school, a group of fellow Friends School parents organized a “walkpool.” One or two mornings a month, Will, Kate and I met a group of kids at the intersection of Woodlawn and Upland roads and then we all walked to campus together. Parents shared the duties, rotating through as “line leaders” every few weeks. Even on bitterly cold days, I loved spending this time with the youngsters, who ranged from 2nd to maybe 8th grade (I’m pretty sure no highschooler wanted to be seen with our group). It was a joy to watch the older kids interact with the younger ones, and to see the infectious silliness of the younger ones bring out the goofiness in the older ones. Also, once we started walking, I became practically invisible, therefore privy to conversations I might not otherwise have overheard—about favorite teachers, popular games (i.e., Minecraft), how the Ravens or Orioles (depending on the season) were doing, plans for the weekend.

All the memories came flooding back when Lily Mitchell reached out to me in January about plans for a Roland Park Bike Bus (see below). It’s a great idea that, beyond reducing the terrible snarl of traffic that make Roland Avenue so difficult to navigate during school dropoff and pickup, is sure to bring neighbors together. Students and parents from different school communities will come to know one another, which can only strengthen our shared community. It’s a win-win for Roland Park, and I can’t wait to see the bike bus in action!

Join the Roland Park Bike Bus!

By Lily Mitchell

Are you tired of waiting in traffic on Roland Avenue? Is your child eager to be more active and independent? Do you want to meet other families and neighbors?

The Roland Park Bike Bus is here to help. If you’re interested in avoiding the carpool line, getting your heart pumping, and meeting friends and neighbors, please join us. We’ll be organizing the spring ride route and schedule over the next few weeks and are eager to hear from you. All Roland Avenue school students are welcome!

Email Lily Mitchell at lillian.mitchell@gmail.com or join our WhatsApp group via the QR code above.

Celebrating 25 Years of the RPN



With the 100th issue of the Roland Park News,

we’ve reached quite a milestone. It’s been 25 years since the first magazine was published. The brainchild of then-chair of the Roland Park Community Foundation Kathleen Vander Horst and fellow board member, Anne Stuzin, the quarterly magazine was inspired by a monthly newsletter first published by the Roland Park Company in 1926. Thanks to all who’ve contributed over the years—the Community Foundation team, writers, photographers, advertisers, graphic designers and proofreaders—and to our readers!

Other community-building opportunities in the neighborhood abound this spring. With the removal of dead and dying trees from Hillside Park (see our cover story), our shared space has become even more appealing (and safe) for gatherings of all kinds. As the weather warms, I encourage you to invite your neighbors for an al fresco gathering on the Great Lawn. Make the Eddie’s of Roland Park recipe for warm goat cheese salad (see page 23). (I’ll bring my grandmother’s famous deviled eggs). Host an impromptu kite festival. Assemble the (leashed) hounds for a meet-and-greet of furry friends (or is that sniff-and-chase?).

Opportunities to come together as a community are particularly appealing after the forced isolation of seemingly endless frigid days being hampered by snowcrete. So, however you choose to celebrate community this spring, enjoy! ❖

Roland Park Bike Bus
WhatsApp group

Scan or upload this QR code using the WhatsApp camera to join this group

Hillside Park Takes Shape

By Brandon Wilson Radcliffe, Urban Educator

Since Hillside Park opened last year, we've been working hard to make the space safe and inviting to all Baltimoreans. To this end, over the past few months, we have been removing trees that are unsafe or high-risk. Given that the management of the property has, for the most part, been limited to lawn-mowing, there are several standing dead trees, referred to as snags, that are likely to come down on their own (or with some help from inclement weather, like the snow and ice we had in January). As we work on removing these trees, you can expect to see a shift in the long-stagnant canopy of Hillside Park.

We are primarily targeting dead white and green ash trees for removal. Many of these have been dead for quite some time, having fallen victim to the arrival of emerald ash borer beetle, a small, nonnative invasive wood-boring insect from Asia that, according to the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, arrived in the U.S. in the spring of 2003. Ash trees have some of the densest wood available in this region of North America, so if one comes down on its own, it could have serious safety consequences for people visiting the park.

The felling of dead and dying trees, or snags, is no reason for concern; the resulting cleared space will allow more sunlight

to reach the ground and help jumpstart a new wave of growth in the spring and through the summer. Additionally, the downed trees will continue to serve several ecological purposes for the park. They can serve as habitat to native birds and insects, and the downed ash trees will no longer be in danger of predation from the emerald ash borer. They will continue their decomposition process over the coming years, feeding the soil in the park and encouraging



the growth of new plant life. Aesthetically, the removal of larger snags will also make the streams on the property a more visible and approachable feature of Hillside Park. Right now, those visiting the park for the first time are unaware that there are streams unless they happen upon them.

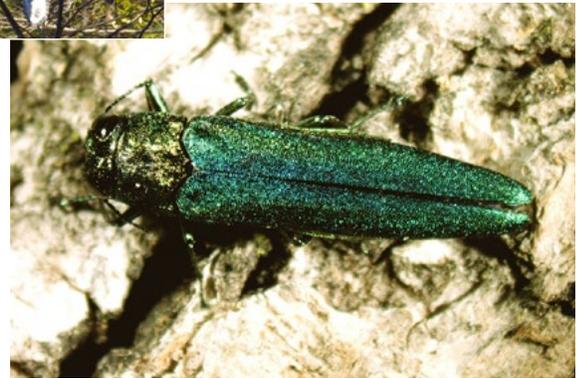
Some of the snags will be chipped onsite, with the woodchips to be stored on the old tennis courts so that they can at some point be used in the park. Others are still in amazing shape and have usable wood. For

A-AAA Tree Service has been removing trees that have been designated as unsafe or high-risk from Hillside Park.

Photo: Andrew Senker

According to the USDA, emerald ash borer infestations are responsible for the death and decline of tens of millions of ash trees in North America.

Photo courtesy of USDA, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service



these, we plan to work with Camp Small to process the timber and draft designs for potential park infrastructure, including benches, play zones for youth, raised garden beds, wood chips for trails, signposts and small-scale fencing. For those who may not be familiar with the facility, Camp Small is the lumberyard for

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Camp Small transforms downed trees into furniture, climbing structures for playgrounds and raised garden beds. Photos courtesy of Camp Small



HILLSIDE PARK TAKES SHAPE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the city of Baltimore. They are responsible for processing many of the downed trees in the city and ultimately up-cycling them into lumber that can continue to be of use to our community. If you're ever interested, you can visit them and ask about potential fixtures for your garden or at-home playgrounds.

As we continue to develop ways to make Hillside Park welcoming to all Baltimoreans, we will do our best to keep everyone updated on ongoing projects and progress. The park has experienced several waves of non-native species invasions over the years, with the emerald ash borers being one of the more devastating examples, so there is a sizable backlog of restoration that needs to be tackled if we want to be responsible stewards of the park going forward. Some other examples of non-native invasive species we hope to address include Tree of Heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*), Asiatic bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*), porcelain berry (*Ampelopsis glandulosa*) and spotted lanternfly (*Lycorma delicatula*). While it can be jarring to see changes being made to a space that has remained relatively untouched for decades, the work currently being undertaken at Hillside Park is not only meant to beautify it and remove potential safety hazards, but also to improve its ecological activity and productivity. ❖



Photo: Brandon Wilson Radcliffe

CAMP SMALL

BALTIMORE CITY REC & PARKS URBAN WOOD RECYCLING

Managed by the Forestry Division within Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks, Camp Small is the sorting and recycling facility for the 9,000 tons of tree debris that is collected annually from city-owned street and park trees.

The urban wood recycling program utilizes onsite processing equipment such as sawmills and drying kilns to transform the materials into lumber, firewood, furniture and other valuable wood products.

Camp Small products are available to everyone.

Source: treebaltimore.org/camp-small


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Hillside Park Wins Major NOAA Grant for Stream Restoration

By Mary Page Michel, Roland Park Community Foundation Chair

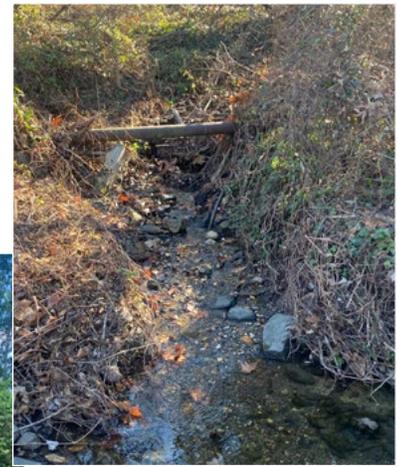
When the Hillside Park team walked the property before the purchase, we knew we had two urgent needs—dying and dangerous trees and a stream that was in terrible condition and deemed unhealthy. We are addressing both.

What does it mean to have an unhealthy stream? The banks of one of the streams in Hillside Park are steep, with deep cuts. That means that, after a heavy rainfall, water moves downstream (and downhill) fast and carries sediment into the Jones Falls. That sediment, when it reaches the Inner Harbor, blocks sun and nutrients, affecting the fish, birds and other wildlife that call the harbor home. Another issue with the Hillside Park streams is that they feature large debris jams from previously fallen trees that have led to additional erosion, and even an active sewage pipe that stretches across one of the channels. Finally, the huge number of invasive plant species along the streams are harming the trees along their banks.

If you walk along the Stony Run, you can see how different it looks. A healthier stream, it has overflow areas that slow down water from a heavy rainfall, giving it more time to be absorbed into the ground before heading into the Jones Falls. That process of absorption filters the water, ultimately sending cleaner and

The streams at Hillside Park are choked by invasives and blocked by fallen trees and a sewage pipe.

Photos: Mary Page Michel

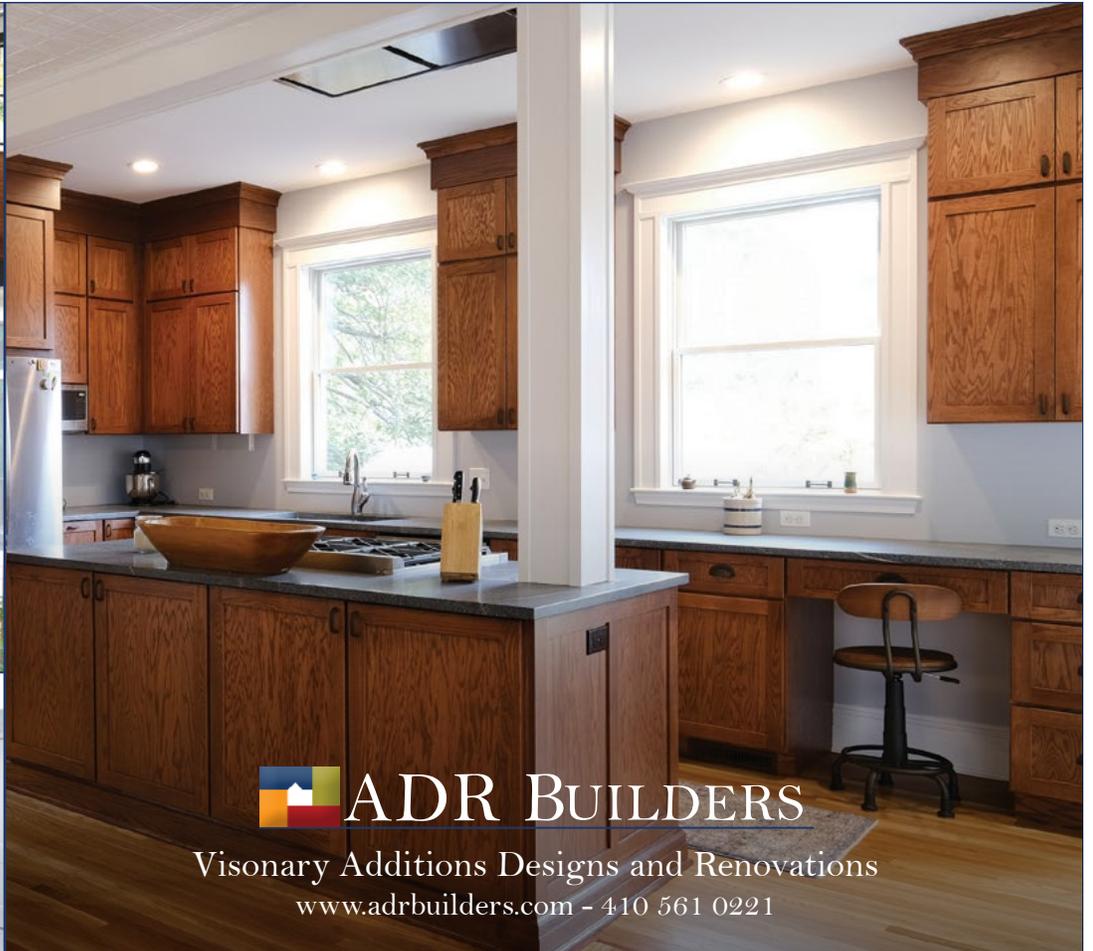


clearer water downstream. Wildlife prospers along the Stony Run, including frogs, birds and fish.

In December 2021, when the Community Foundation announced its contract to purchase Hillside Park, we received a lot of calls.

Stephen Mainello, a neighbor with extensive construction experience, walked the property with us and pointed out that the streams were in disrepair. He recommended that we meet with Environmental Quality Resources, LLC (EQR), a firm that specializes in stream restoration. We walked the property with EQR experts, who worked with us to identify a stream restoration grant for which we might be eligible, though they warned us the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



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HILLSIDE PARK WINS NOAA GRANT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

process might take years. To be honest, we thought we might never hear from them again.

In May 2022, EQR pointed us in the direction of a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) grant, which seemed like a perfect fit for our project. EQR's experts indicated our grant proposal would be far more competitive if we brought in a local partner that had strong grant management experience and could leverage the restoration work by increasing the exposure of local students to restored ecosystems and environmental education. We immediately reached out to the Parks & People Foundation, the well-known leader in Baltimore in these areas, and asked if they would consider a partnership. They agreed. EQR, with their expertise in stream restoration, recommended that we partner with Biohabitats, Inc., a Baltimore-based firm with expertise in stream restoration design. With our team in place, we put together a 74-page proposal and submitted it in December 2023.

Applying for a federal grant is not for the faint of heart. It is an extremely technical and detailed process, understandably so. The skill set required was way out of our league, but right up the alleys of EQR and Biohabitats. It took more than a year to form the partnerships, document the responsibilities, create a draft design and budgets, and then redo the budgets again and again. Managing a federal grant is also extremely detailed and exacting

work—again, not the Community Foundation's forte. Funds need to be tracked carefully and completely. Deadlines cannot be missed. Parks & People has the staff and experience to manage a federal grant.

In August 2024, NOAA asked for a meeting to discuss the grant. Our partners prepped for the meeting—deciding who should answer what questions and how much detail should be provided. On the call, the representatives from NOAA told us that our grant application was selected as an awardee. We were awarded \$2.1 million. Together with our partners, after more than two years of planning and applications, our hard work paid off.

Over the past year, EQR and Biohabitats created a design and construction plan for the stream restoration. They will be presenting the plan to the community at the regular Roland Park Civic League meeting on Wednesday, March 4 at 6:30 pm at the Roland Park Presbyterian Church. We hope you will attend or read the details, which will be posted to [HillsideParkMD.org](https://www.hillsideparkmd.org) after the meeting. Your understanding of and input regarding the stream restoration are very important to making this project a success.

With this grant, we will restore the two streams that run through Hillside Park and empty into the Jones Falls, which in turn flows into the Inner Harbor and the Chesapeake Bay. We will also work to educate as many people as possible, including many local students, on the importance of healthy streams and the effect of a stream on the environment. The timing of this grant could not be any better as we are in the very early stages of planning Hillside Park, which will be a part of the Baltimore landscape for generations. ❖



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Celebrating Maryland Arbor Day at Cylburn Arboretum

By Erika Castillo

THEN

By the 1970s, Cylburn was a vital access point to nature for Baltimore's schoolchildren. In a 1971 letter, then-president of the Cylburn Arboretum Association, Mrs. T. Frederick Mulvenny, wrote, "For many city school children, a field trip to Cylburn Park is the first time they have been in a woodland or have seen wildflowers native to the area, a heritage that is rightly theirs." She went on to note that more than 18,000 students came each year to study trees, wildflowers and the many species of birds attracted to Cylburn's woodlands.

Arbor Day is dedicated to planting, nurturing and celebrating trees. In the U.S., it is observed each year on the last Friday in April. However, the good work of honoring trees is not solely a federal affair. Many states also celebrate their own Arbor Day, usually timed to align with the tree-planting conditions in that state.



In 2025, Cylburn's Maryland Arbor Day celebration included school field trips and tree-themed activities. Photo courtesy of Cylburn

For example, in Florida (my home state), Arbor Day is celebrated on the third Friday in January. Vermont observes Arbor Day on the first Friday in May, while Alaska celebrates on the third Monday in May. In Maryland, Arbor Day is held on the first Wednesday in April.

Cylburn Arboretum's first Arbor Day celebration was held on April 7, 1982. That year marked a moment of both reflection and transition. Philip Myers, who served as president of Cylburn Wildflower Preserve and Garden Center from 1964 to 1970, had recently passed away. In recognition of his leadership and service, a tree was planted in his honor, and Mayor William

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CYLBURN

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Donald Schaefer spoke at the event. Notably, 1982 was also the year Cylburn officially changed its name from the Cylburn Wildflower Preserve and Garden Center to Cylburn Arboretum, reflecting a growing commitment to trees.

Cylburn has continued to celebrate Maryland Arbor Day. Early festivities included tree-themed poetry readings by children, speeches by the mayor and the city’s Horticulture Division staff, and ceremonial tree plantings. Trees planted during these early years included oaks (specifically, seedlings of the Wye Oak), chestnut hybrids, dogwoods and heritage birch trees. Many local schools participated throughout the year, including Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary, Dr. Roland Patterson Academy, Pimlico Elementary, Edgecombe Circle Elementary, Greenspring Middle School, Cross Country Elementary and the Waldorf School.

Arbor Day programming has evolved over time. In 1984, for example, the Frederick Douglass High School Brass Ensemble opened and closed the program with live music. By the 1990s, professional demonstrations such as tree climbing, pruning, stump grinding and log loading were added. Tours of the property and of the Cylburn Nature Museum, then located on the third floor of the mansion, were also commonly included.

In the early 2000s, Cylburn experienced a hiatus in formal Arbor Day celebrations, though the focus on trees and connecting Baltimore residents remained strong. During this period, several

major changes took place: the Cylburn Nature Museum was relocated from the mansion’s third floor to the Carriage House, Cylburn undertook a master planning process, the Vollmer Visitor Center was constructed, and, in 2023, the Nature Education Center opened in the renovated carriage house.

NOW

Last April, we once again celebrated Maryland Arbor Day at Cylburn. Cylburn Arboretum Friends co-hosted the day with Baltimore City Recreation and Parks and its Forestry Division. The day began with field trip groups from Park Heights Academy (whose students walked to Cylburn) and Tunbridge Charter School.

Much like in the days of old, students observed professional arborists climbing trees and performing tree work, participated in tree-themed activities such as a guided hike, and visited the Nature Education Center (NEC) to learn more about trees. In the afternoon, the public was invited to join tours of Camp Small and Cylburn’s champion trees, observe tree plantings, and visit information tables hosted by organizations including the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and TreeBaltimore. Visitors also had the opportunity to create tree-themed crafts, explore the NEC, and watch the Forestry Division at work with bucket trucks, log trucks, tree climbers and tree trimmers.

Looking ahead, Cylburn will celebrate Maryland Arbor Day on April 1, coinciding with our Spring Break Camp. The day will once again feature collaboration with Forestry Division’s amazing team of professional arborists, along with a tree-themed walk open to the public from 12–1 pm. By revitalizing this cherished tradition at Cylburn, we hope to inspire Baltimore residents, youth and adults alike, to celebrate, plant and nurture trees! ❖

Cylburn Arboretum Friends (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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6 Upland Rd., No. F2	\$ 525,000	\$ 482,000
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847 W. University Pkwy.	\$ 649,500	\$ 649,500
308 Northfield Pl.	\$ 897,000	\$ 930,000
4502 Roland Ave.	\$1,750,000	\$1,475,000

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Waiting on Spring Garden Cleanup to Support Beneficial Insects

By Madeline E. Potter, M.S., Faculty Specialist for Entomology and Integrated Pest Management, University of Maryland Extension

Edited and excerpted from Maryland Grows Blog (marylandgrows.umd.edu/2024/04/15/waiting-on-spring-garden-cleanup-to-support-beneficial-insects)

With warmer temperatures and spring blossoms, we are likely ready to get back into our gardens. Before we get our hands dirty, let's learn how to support the beneficial insects in our landscapes that are and will be emerging from their overwintering sites. In today's post [from April 15, 2024], we will review some information and tips on how we can support, and not disrupt, the life cycles of beneficial insects like our native bees, when we do any spring garden cleanup or prep.

Overwintering beneficial insects

Some insects migrate (e.g. Monarch [*Danaus plexippus*]) to avoid the cold temperatures, but there are many insect species that overwinter (spend the winter months in one of their life stages—egg, larva, nymph, pupae or adult—in Maryland. These include luna moths (*Actias luna*) that overwinter in the pupal stage in cocoons

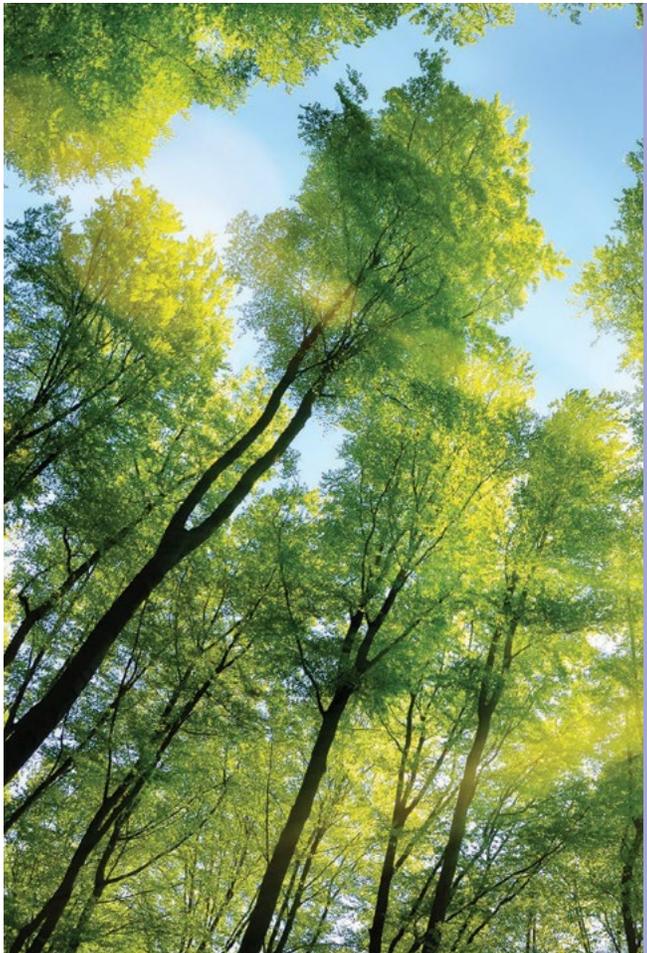


Plant stems, leaves and other debris can be home to many beneficial insects during the winter months that are waiting on warmer days before they emerge this spring. Wait as long as you can before removing any plant materials. Photo: M.E. Potter, University of Maryland Extension

within leaf litter, the great spangled fritillary (*Speyeria cybele*) that overwinters as caterpillar larvae in leaf litter, bumble bee (*Bombus* spp.) queens that overwinter as

adults underground, small carpenter bees like *Ceratina strenua* that overwinter as adults in plant stems, and praying mantids like the Carolina mantis (*Stagmomantis carolina*) that overwinter in the egg stage as ootheca (egg cases) laid on woody plant stems and other structures. All these examples are of beneficial insects, that provide services like pollination and pest control during their active life stages. This goes to show, even in the cold and quiet winter months, your garden can be full of life!

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SPRING GARDEN CLEANUP

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

When is too early for spring cleaning?

Generally, the longer you can wait the better! Insects do not all emerge at the same time. There are some native bee species that emerge from their overwintering sites as early as March, like some cellophane bees (*Colletes spp.*) and some that typically do not emerge until late May, like blue-green sweat bees (*Halictidae*). Unfortunately, due to the changing climate and the diversity of insect life cycles, we cannot point to a specific date on the calendar to know all the overwintering insects have emerged from our green spaces. We can look for different cues in our environment to hint at insect emergence.

Before last frost and consecutive warm days

Once we are out of risk of evening frosts and when daytime temperatures are consistently above 50 degrees for several days in a row, many insects will begin to emerge. Otherwise, leaf litter and other plant debris are vital for overwintering insects to survive the cooler temperatures. With climate change, and the chances for more drastic temperature changes, fallen plant material becomes even more important for protecting overwintering insect populations. Think of a fallen leaf as a blanket for our beneficial insects!



Wait until after flowering native trees like Eastern redbuds bloom. Photo courtesy of Missouri Botanical Garden

Before fruit trees bloom

Many of our fruit trees (along with natives like Eastern redbuds and red maples) bloom in early spring, providing nectar and pollen for our early-riser pollinators. If you wait for any garden cleanup until these trees have finished blooming (around mid-May), many of our insects will have likely emerged by then. Since phenology (seasonal changes in a plant's life cycle, such as the timing of bloom) can shift with changing climate conditions, always keep an eye on the trees and blooms around you. It's a great excuse to get outside and get to know your local plant life.

Before consistent lawn/turf growth

Noticing consistent lawn/turf growth in your area? Cool-season grasses begin their spring growth once soil temperatures are between 50 and 65 degrees. As a general guideline, once lawns need to be mowed it is a good sign it has been warm enough for many of our overwintering insects to emerge.

Native Plant Garden Workbook

Looking to add natives to your garden this spring? The Guilford Garden Club (GGC) has published an excellent resource, the *Native Plant Garden Workbook: Selecting Plants for Mid-Atlantic Gardens*, which is available for purchase on the club's website (guilfordgdc.org). The book was compiled from 25 years of native plant lists from the GGC's sales and projects. ❖

If you have lots of lawn in your space, consider reducing and replacing the lawn with beneficial insect-friendly native plants! If you are wondering what you could plant instead, check out the blog on lawn alternatives (extension.umd.edu/resource/lawn-alternatives) and the pros and cons of the No-Mow May Movement (marylandgrows.umd.edu/2023/05/11/qa-pros-and-cons-of-the-no-mow-may-movement). Or read Dr. Gail Langellotto's article, "Controversy Surrounding No Mow May" (blogs.oregonstate.edu/gardenecologylab/2023/09/20/the-controversy-surrounding-no-mow-may).

Sometimes less is more

Less garden cleanup can have a positive impact on beneficial insect populations! Rethink removing plant debris in certain areas of your landscape. Unless the plant debris comes from a diseased or pest-infested plant, leaves, stems, sticks and more can be left, relocated or reused as wildlife habitat. Your plant debris is some animal's home! Research conducted in Maryland residential yards by Dr. Max Ferlauto, PhD, a University of Maryland graduate, found that removing leaves reduced overall arthropod emergence by 17 percent, with certain groups more affected than others, including a reduction of butterfly and moth species richness by 40 percent and abundance by 45 percent (Ferlauto and Burghardt, 2025). If you are removing any plant material, consider relocating the material to another area of your green space or to a compost pile after late spring. Plant debris is also great nesting material for birds.

Help fight climate change's impact on beneficial insects by providing shelter to enable insects to withstand adverse conditions. Consider leaving or adding one or more of the following sources of habitat in your green space this spring!

- Leaves
- Flower stalks and plant stems
- Fallen or removed twigs
- Wooden logs
- Rocks and rock piles

Maryland Grows (marylandgrows.umd.edu) is the blog of the Home & Garden Information Center (HGIC), a program of the University of Maryland Extension. It educates Maryland residents about lawn care and ornamental plants, food gardening, and the services provided by the statewide Master Gardener Program. Through the website, online Ask Extension service, and network of 1,700 Master Gardeners, HGIC delivers science-based sustainable gardening and integrated pest management education for better human and environmental health.

A Strong Inaugural Season for Garrison Forest's Mock Trial Team

The year marked Garrison Forest School's (GFS) inaugural season with the Maryland Mock Trial program, a rigorous, structured experience that simulates real trials. Each year, teams prepare to argue the same case throughout the season, competing as both plaintiff and defense. In addition to enhancing understanding of the law, court procedures, legal system and law-related professions, the Mock Trial program also teaches key skills like public speaking, critical thinking, collaboration and reasoning.

"Mock Trial is a substantive, demanding experience and I am impressed with the hard work our students have put into this effort," says the team's faculty advisor Andrea Perry, director of the James Center and dean of Special Programs at GFS. "This group is largely self-directed and has brought really impressive critical thinking skills, writing ability, collaborative grace, presentation talent and all manner of knowledge and experience."

The program is just one of many enriching academic and co-curricular experiences that students can be a part of at GFS, where a particular focus is on connecting students with programs and initiatives that will deepen their understanding and



The Mock Trial team at their first competition. Photo courtesy of GFS

provide experiential learning and leadership opportunities.

In preparation for their first trial in January, the GFS team spent more than eight weeks reviewing case materials, learning courtroom procedure, developing a theory of the case, and rehearsing opening statements, direct and cross-examinations, and closing arguments. For this year's civil case, students were required to master complex facts and legal standards while working collaboratively under time constraints. Their hard work paid off. Despite being new to the program and competing in a circuit that includes long-established teams, GFS delivered a well-prepared performance that resulted in a victory in their first competition.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 23



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A Century of Competition and Leadership

This April, The Bryn Mawr School lacrosse program marks an extraordinary milestone: 100 years of competition and leadership on the field. A century ago, a small group of Bryn Mawr students made history by forming the first girls' lacrosse team in the nation.



Bryn Mawr formed the first girls' lacrosse team in 1925. Photos courtesy of Bryn Mawr

Today, that same spirit of innovation and purpose continues to define a program that has shaped generations of athletes—and leaders—both on and off the field.

Interscholastic girls' lacrosse first came to Bryn Mawr and the country in December 1925, when physical education teacher Rosabelle Sinclair introduced the sport to Bryn Mawr's campus. By the spring of 1926, the students were competing, laying the foundation for what would become a nationally influential program. Over the last 100 years, the game itself has evolved dramatically. Rules, equipment and the pace of play have all



changed, reflecting the growth of women's lacrosse nationwide. Yet at Bryn Mawr, the program's core values—leadership, teamwork, perseverance and sportsmanship—have remained constant.

Those values are embodied by Varsity Lacrosse Coach Molly Wolf, a 2012 alumna, whose connection to the program spans decades. Wolf first wore a Bryn Mawr jersey as a 7th grader, went on to play four years of varsity lacrosse and later became a collegiate starter at Loyola University, as well as an All-American her senior year. Now back at her alma mater, she is focused on developing the next generation of student-athlete leaders.

"My *goal* as a coach is to win games, to win championships," Wolf says. "But my *priority* as a coach, and the way we win games, is to foster a love of the game and to create strong, positive leaders both on and off the field."

Wolf is just one example of the many alumnae who have carried Bryn Mawr lacrosse forward long after graduation. Over the decades, scores of Mawrtians have gone on to play at the collegiate level, coach future generations and advocate for women's athletics. Among them is Teresa Sherry, a 2000 graduate, who became an All-American and national champion at Princeton University. In recognition of her achievements on and off the field, Sherry was inducted into the Bryn Mawr Athletics Hall of Fame as part of its inaugural class in 2025.

This spring, Bryn Mawr is celebrating the centennial with a brunch for families, former players and coaches, and friends of the lacrosse program. It is also hosting a doubleheader as a part of the Morrow Lacrosse Challenge. Bryn Mawr will play Penn Charter, with a formal recognition of the anniversary during halftime. After, Roland Park Country School will play Glenelg High School. The centennial celebration reflects both the program's storied past and its vibrant present.

As the nation's first girls' lacrosse program enters its second century, Bryn Mawr continues to lead with purpose while embracing its roots. "Baltimore being such a hotbed of lacrosse, it is really special that Bryn Mawr is the birthplace of women's lacrosse in the United States," Wolf explains. "There is so much tradition in our program and such a strong foundation to grow from. I know we're all excited to see where the next hundred years takes Bryn Mawr lacrosse." ❖

The Bryn Mawr School (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.



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RPCS Celebrates 125 Years

By Melissa Tully



RPCS anniversary celebrations have included a commemorative drone photo and special Halloween decorations. Photos courtesy of RPCS



Roland Park Country School (RPCS)

is proudly celebrating its 125th anniversary this school year, bringing members of the community together to honor the legacy, appreciate the present and inspire the future of RPCS.

“Here we are, ready to celebrate that we are all together again, ready to make new friends and keep the old, ready to start a new year, the 125th year of Roland Park Country School!” Head of School Joan Smith told students, families, alumnae and employees at the school’s all-school Opening Day Convocation last August. “We are all part of a long line of girls and young women who make up the history of RPCS. Our school has been devastated by fire—twice—but has come back better than ever. We have a resilient spirit, we have tenacity of purpose, we love learning, we are many, we are one, and we are 125 years strong!”

Festivities kicked off in September with an all-school celebration on the turf that included a special drone photo to commemorate the historic year, followed by music and treats. Parents and

guardians also celebrated in September at a “Cheers to 125 Years” happy hour, held in the newly renovated Smith Athletic Multi-Purpose Room and terrace. In October, all students in grades K-12 decorated 125 pumpkins, which were displayed along the front walkway of the school before and during Halloween.

Additionally, this past fall, RPCS highlighted the artistic talents of several graduates who have participated in the school’s Alumna Artist Exhibit since 2008 through this year’s Alumnae Artists Exhibit. A beautiful collection of work was displayed on campus throughout September and October as a tribute to the school’s anniversary. In December, the student-led Spirit Organization planned a 125th celebration week for upper school students, with themes, activities and trivia to honor this special milestone.

This spring, the students will continue to engage in activities and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 24

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, and challenge themselves to excel in an academically rigorous environment.

Come and see us!

Take a Tuesday Tour this April to learn more about RPCS! Register using the QR code or at rpcs.org/visit.



Roland Park Country School

all girls K-12 school with a co-ed infant to pre-k program

Finding Your Way with Friends' Newest Addition to the Native Plant Teaching Gardens

Since 2005, Friends School of Baltimore has been committed to transforming its 35-acre Homeland campus into a native plant oasis. Through a partnership with Guilford Garden Club, led in development and design by professional garden consultant Kay McConnell, the campus is now home to award-winning Native Plant Teaching Gardens.

For more than 20 years, the gardens have evolved in number and purpose, serving not only to showcase the diversity of native plants of the Piedmont region but also to support wildlife, absorb surface water and increase sustainability. This past winter, Friends was thrilled to unveil the newest addition to these gardens: a larger-than-life, first-of-its-kind "wayfinding" fox statue, created by renowned sculptor and alum Bart Walter (1976). Walter is celebrated for his dynamic approach to depicting wildlife subjects using bronze. His work can be found around the world, including in museums, galleries and zoos.

The sculpture project was made possible by the Class of 2025's Senior Family Gift Effort, which also allowed for the creation of



A new "wayfinding" sculpture at Friends was a Senior Family Gift from the class of 2025. Photo courtesy of Friends

a new garden that the statue calls home. Established in 1989, the Senior Family Gift Effort is a fundraising effort that creates a legacy for Friends seniors and their families. The Class of 2025's gift integrates seamlessly with the Class of 1969's recent gift, which in 2019 sponsored the design, fabrication and installation of four garden maps throughout the campus, and first introduced the idea of wayfinding statues.

At Friends, not all learning happens inside the classroom. In fact, sometimes the most powerful discoveries take place in nontraditional settings. Friends' Teaching Gardens offer students opportunities to explore and record natural phenomena, apply classroom theory to solve ecological challenges and cultivate a passion for stewardship. Schoolwide plantings and clean-up days offer students opportunities to work alongside gardening experts, and get their hands dirty planting and maintaining the garden beds.

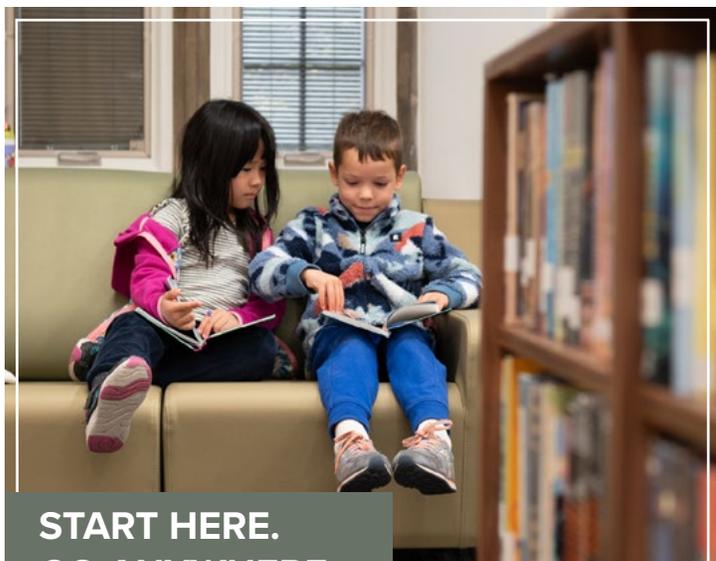
In addition to providing an outdoor laboratory for student learning, the Teaching Gardens are a central part of sustainability at Friends. The gardens reduce water consumption, attract pollinators, provide food for migrating birds, animals, and insects, and redirect and filter stormwater runoff from North Charles Street and Northern Parkway, protecting the Stony Run and aiding in rehabilitating the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

The fox statue serves to symbolically honor the school's Quaker values—simplicity, peace, integrity, community, equality and stewardship—introduced by George Fox, founder of the Religious Society of Friends, while evoking a spirit of curiosity and purpose. As the first wayfinding sculpture, this statue will also implement a new tradition of artistic navigation at Friends, and help enhance the campus environment by fostering a sense of play, creativity and community.

Friends plans to continue partnering with Walter for the creation of more statues. It is the hope that additional wayfinding sculptures, which will all depict native wildlife, coupled with the Class of 1969's maps, will denote each Teaching Garden and enrich the campus and its gardens, for both the Friends community and beyond to learn from and enjoy.

These gardens are open to the community for tours. For those interested, contact Friends' Advancement Office at 410-649-3268. ❖

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



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Park's Innovative and Interdisciplinary Science Curriculum

During the 2018/19 school year, Park School's science department rolled out a new, innovative, interdisciplinary approach to the sciences for upper school students. Developed by Park faculty members, the Core 9 and Core 10 science courses for 9th and 10th graders are year-long, integrated curriculums. Using a combination of disciplines—physics, biology, chemistry, computer science and engineering—to work through key project-based experiences, coursework provides the necessary rigor for students to gain the skills and knowledge they need to succeed in solving real-world scientific problems

In Core 9, the first of two foundational courses, 9th grade students examine a careful selection of topics that govern the physical world, such as kinematics and electricity, as well as engineering and computer science concepts that dictate the designed world. Integrations of these disciplines consist of using physics as a context for engineering and computer science projects while incorporating computer and engineering skills and models to better understand physics. These concepts are grounded in hands-on culminating experiences



Park's upper school science curriculum provides engaging and hands-on experiences that prepare students with a strong foundation in skills for learning at the highest level. Photo courtesy of Park

and projects. Throughout the year, the course provides a substantial foundation in laboratory skills, with an emphasis on experimentation, design, modeling and data analysis. Writing is also central to the course, as students learn to form a cohesive argument using both experimental data and scientific theory as support.

Core 10 is the second of two foundational courses in Park's science program. This integrated course for 10th graders covers key biological principles, such as ecology, evolution, genetics and the environment, grounding them in chemical concepts such as molecular structure and function, solubility, rates of reactions and equilibrium. The foundational laboratory skills practiced in Core 9 are expanded upon in Core 10, with

CONTINUED ON PAGE 28



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“There is some kind of magic in the water here,” says Sarah Ross, director of college counseling at Gilman School. She is referring to the success of the school’s students in the National Merit® Scholarship Program (NMSP), an academic competition that recognizes high scores on the PSAT exam. Out of 1.3 million high school students who enter, approximately 16,000 semifinalists are awarded annually across the country, “representing less than 1 percent of the nation’s high school graduating seniors,” according to NMSP. Gilman’s class of 2026 lauds eight seniors who were awarded the semifinalist distinction.

This class isn’t unusual at Gilman; in each of many recent years, five to eight students have been given this honor. So, to what can be attributed their achievement? To start, “Our students are incredibly aspirational and deeply curious,” Ross says. “They are excited about learning.”

The Gilman curriculum doesn’t directly prepare students for PSAT material, and Randy Liu (2026), a semifinalist, thinks that’s a good thing. “Engaging discussions in English classes develop our analytical ability,” a skill that is relevant for the exam. “Outside studying was certainly helpful, but Gilman classes provided the base of knowledge that I then refined.”

Other semifinalists agree. “Gilman does a good job of introducing concept-based questions that delve into why ideas



Gilman’s Director of Health Education Bessie Oster teaches Freshman Seminar. Photo courtesy of Gilman

work,” says Nikhil Gupta (2026). He specifically names math teacher Jeff Gouline (2000), who “has a simple way of breaking down answers until I understand the problem.”

Teo Garza (2026) credits Gilman’s intense reading and writing program in helping him understand word problems that appear on the exam, and he points to science teacher Frank Fitzgibbon for guiding him to “follow the ideas that make me curious.” Garza says that the vast number of courses available at Gilman have allowed him to study subjects of particular interest to him, which, “paired with amazing teachers who care about what they teach, has helped me succeed.”

While some parts of their education—like class discussions or tests—more easily connect to the skills important for the PSAT, other

CONTINUED ON PAGE 24

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The Quiet Rhythms of the Waldorf Day

By Scotti Morrow, Advancement Director

Nap, or rest time, may be one of the most overlooked and misunderstood parts of an early childhood program. Some adults may smile at the idea. Nap? Surely the easiest part of a day. Children lie down. Eyes close. Silence at last. Parents and teachers of young children, however, know better.

In an early childhood classroom at the Waldorf School of Baltimore, rest time is not an interruption to the day. It is a destination. The rhythm is built so that the time before rest gently prepares the way for it.

After a rich and busy morning filled with meaningful work, imaginative play and generous time in nature, the children return indoors through a deeply familiar transition song. Outdoor clothes and shoes are carefully placed where they belong, first with help, and then as a practiced routine that supports the children's will and sense of order.

Lunch follows at an unhurried pace. Warm lavender water awaits for handwashing. A candle is lit. A blessing is sung. Lunch may be lively or quiet, depending on what the group needs that day. When finished, a finger play and song guide the children to their nap places.

By then, the classroom has subtly transformed. Soft harp music fills the space. Children settle into the same resting place each day, a familiar spot that becomes their own. One by one, a caregiver tucks them in, offers a gentle touch, whispers a simple verse or lullaby...the room grows still, not through force, but through trust.

Of course, this scene unfolds a little differently in each preschool classroom, shaped by the children, the teachers and the needs of the group. What remains constant is the intention. Teachers work carefully to help children feel settled in their bodies and secure in their surroundings, so that rest can arise naturally.

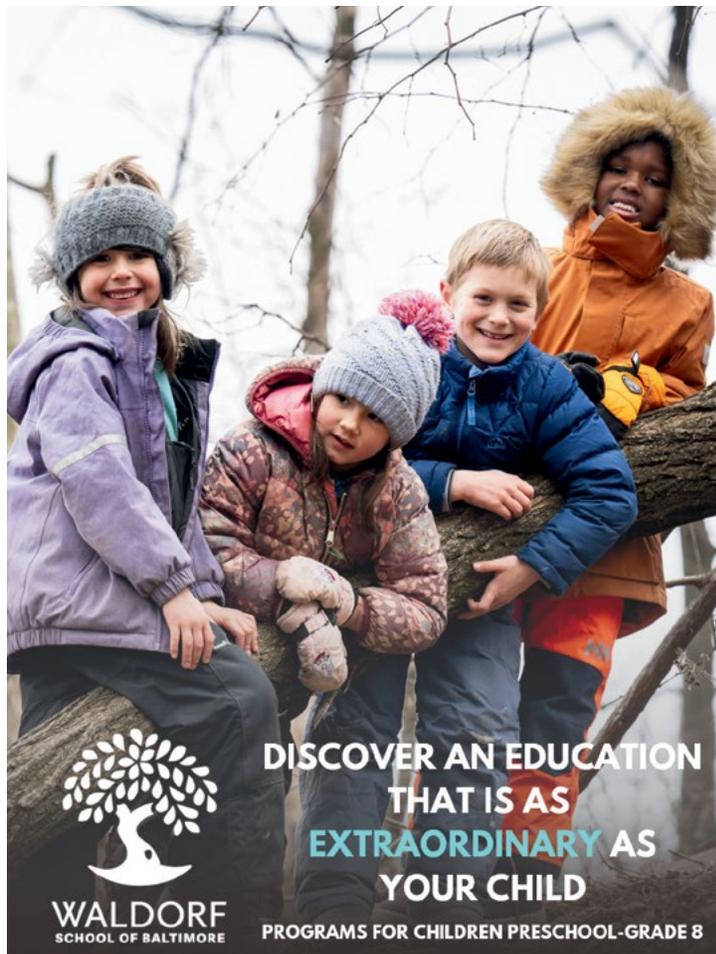
Just as much care is taken in waking as in resting. Curtains are opened slowly, a familiar waking song is sung, and the teacher moves gently and quietly about the room, greeting each child as they stir with a smile. With non-verbal cues, children fold their bedding, help tidy the room or quietly return the lyre to its place, easing back into the day.

Rest time in a Waldorf classroom is not about enforcing sleep. It is about teaching the body how to settle, the nervous system how to regulate, and the child how to experience the world as a good and safe place. What might appear to be a simple part of the day is, in truth, one of the most thoughtfully held. ❖



At Waldorf, rest time is about teaching young children how to settle their bodies, with gentle routines that foster feelings of comfort and safety. Photo courtesy of Waldorf

The Waldorf School of Baltimore (waldorfschoolofbaltimore.org) is tucked behind Cylburn Arboretum at 4801 Tamarind Road. The 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.




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Drink a glass of wine. *Salute.*

Text and photos: Sally Foster





A School Designed for How Boys Learn

At The Boys' Latin School of Maryland, movement, connection and character guide an education built for boys.

National conversations about education increasingly point to a troubling trend: boys are struggling to stay engaged, connected and confident in school. At Boys' Latin, that reality has long shaped the school's approach. The belief is straightforward. Boys learn best in environments built specifically for how they grow.

From kindergarten through 12th grade, Boys' Latin emphasizes active learning, strong relationships and character development. Movement is encouraged, curiosity is rewarded, and boys are challenged academically and personally each day.

"Boys need to do things, not just sit and listen," explains Headmaster Chris Post. "They learn through movement, competition, collaboration and taking risks. Our job is to create a place where that kind of learning leads to both academic excellence and personal growth."

That philosophy is visible across campus. On a typical day, students might be collecting water samples from the stream, working through a group project under the trees or competing on the athletic fields. In the lower school, mornings begin with outdoor play, setting the tone for a focused and energized day. Classrooms are interactive and discussion-based, and the school's phone-free culture encourages students to engage fully with the people around them.

In recent years, Boys' Latin has strengthened that culture through a schoolwide initiative focused on presence and connection. Middle and upper school students participate in an "away for



Hands-on learning is a daily part of life at Boys' Latin. Photo courtesy of Boys' Latin

the day" phone policy, turning in their devices each morning and retrieving them at dismissal.

"We implemented it on the first day of the school year and never reconsidered," Post says. "The change was immediate. Boys are talking more, participating more and forming stronger relationships. Many have told us they did not realize how much their phones were pulling them away."

The middle school day begins with hands-on activities such as building, board games, pick-up basketball or academic coaching before formal classes begin. Advisory programming includes digital citizenship lessons that help boys navigate social media and online interactions with thoughtfulness and respect.

For younger students, unstructured play remains essential. The Creativity Playground gives lower school boys the freedom to build, explore and problem-solve using open-ended materials, reinforcing independence and teamwork.

While academics are a priority, Boys' Latin places equal importance on its core values of courage, integrity and compassion. Through leadership opportunities, advisory relationships and service work across Baltimore, students learn that success is measured not only by achievement, but by character.

Families often remark that Boys' Latin feels different. With a close-knit community and a faculty committed to mentorship, each boy is known, challenged and supported.

"At Boys' Latin, we do not just teach boys," Post says. "We take the time to understand them." ❖

Founded in 1844, The Boys' Latin School of Maryland (BoysLatinMD.com) is a K-12 all-boys university-preparatory school, and the oldest independent, nonsectarian secondary school in the state.



RPEMS Kicks Off 2026 with Creativity, Celebration and Community Support

By Karen Tong

At Roland Park Elementary Middle School (RPEMS), the new year is off to a strong and spirited start, with a series of events that celebrate both scholar talent and staff appreciation. From the Middle School Art Showcase on January 15, which transformed the school into a gallery of vibrant work created by student artists, to the Elementary Beginner Band Winter Concert, the year has been filled with creativity and music so far. Some 3rd grade scholars organized a Kids' Peace Rally to honor Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Adding a warm touch in the midst of winter, the Hospitality Committee hosted a "Teachers and Staff Are SOUP-er" luncheon, honoring faculty and staff with a comforting and much-appreciated soup lunch.

Centennial Gala Sells Out

The Centennial Gala, held the evening of Homecoming Day, November 22, capped off a full day of celebration that included school tours and an alumni and staff volleyball game, and marked the culmination of a year of Centennial events honoring RPEMS' rich history. A sellout crowd of 165 guests enjoyed



Jay Boynton and alumnus Puttie Loane enjoy the Centennial Gala. Photo: Harry Bosk

an evening of music, fellowship and reflection. Emceed by alumnus and past RPEMS parent Jason Newton, news anchor at WBAL-TV, the gala raised nearly \$32,000 and welcomed the school's oldest alum in attendance, 92-year-old Puttie Loane (1946),

along with alumnae from the class of 1950, Ann Weller Dahl and Peggy Obrecht. The celebration was made possible with the support of Silver Sponsors Junica Properties and Georgeanne and Peter Pinkard, as well as Bronze Sponsors Porter Buckley Construction Group, SM+P Architects, Ziger | Snead Architects and the Weiss Family. Thank you to everyone who supported, attended and sponsored the Centennial Gala!

Sponsors and Community Partners Needed

RPEMS is seeking continuous sponsorships and community partnerships to support scholar achievement, enrichment programs and whole-child development. We are working to renovate and enhance our school building to create a safe, modern

CONTINUED ON PAGE 22

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The Pool Gears Up for a Joyful Season

Submitted by the Roland Park Swimming Pool Board and Staff

Although we're writing this when the ground is covered with 10 inches of icy snow, you are reading it as spring is sneaking into your imagination. That means summer is on the horizon, and so is the Roland Park Swimming Pool (RPSP). While the city experienced record snowfall, the pool board and staff were working to ensure that when warm weather returns, it brings with it the fellowship, fun and connection that defines our RPSP.

The pool has always been more than a place to swim. It is a gathering space where neighbors become friends, friendships span generations, and families build traditions that return year after year. That sense of fellowship does not happen by chance, it is carefully planned, thoughtfully supported, and rooted in a shared commitment to creating a safe, welcoming and vibrant environment for everyone.

Before the pool opens, the community comes together for one of its most meaningful traditions: Pool Set-Up Day on May 9. This is a hands-on day where neighbors bring their energy, gardening gloves and community pride to help prepare the pool for the season ahead. It is a powerful reminder that the swimming pool



Opening day for the pool is May 23. Photo courtesy of RPSP

RP Swimming Pool Membership

RPSP offers three membership tiers:

- **Family (\$650)**, with access for all family members in a household
- **Single (\$400)**, with access for a single head of household
- **Evening (\$350)**, with pool access for all family members in a household Mondays through Thursdays after 5 pm (no weekends or holidays)

There is a one-time initiation fee of \$750 for new members.

Please visit rolandparkpool.org/membership/join-our-waitlist for more information.

belongs to all of us and that summer is best when built together.

Mark your calendars for Opening Day on May 23. This much-anticipated celebration marks the official start of summer at the pool and sets the tone for the entire season. It is filled with excitement, smiling faces and the unmistakable joy of that first (cold) splash. It's the moment winter finally fades into the background and summer takes center stage.

Once the season begins, members can look forward to a lively lineup of events designed to bring people together. From Juneteenth celebrations and Independence Day festivities to relaxed Friday music nights featuring local musicians and food trucks, we try to offer something for everyone on the summer calendar. These events transform ordinary evenings into shared experiences and make the pool a true place of neighborhood life.

Starting in May, visit rolandparkpool.org for updates on the full summer events calendar, swim team registration and detailed membership information. Whether you're renewing your membership or considering joining for the first time, now is the perfect time to plan ahead.

We can't wait to welcome you back. ❖

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Quinoa Bowl with Hot Honey Salmon

Miss Shirley's Café

Serves two.

Quinoa Ingredients

- 8 oz. cooked tri-color quinoa
- 1/2 cup drained canned garbanzo beans
- 1/2 cup chopped, cooked broccoli florets
- 1/2 cup fresh cherry tomatoes, cut in halves
- 1/4 cup sliced cremini mushrooms
- 1/2 red pepper, sliced thin
- 1/2 yellow pepper, sliced thin
- 2 stalks green onions (scallions), chopped small
- 1/4 cup balsamic poppyseed dressing
- 1 fresh avocado
- 2 T. avocado oil
- Salt and pepper to taste

Drizzle oil into a large sauté pan over medium-high heat. Add the sliced red and yellow peppers and sauté for one minute. Add the mushrooms and continue to cook, stirring, for another minute to soften the mushrooms. Add the tomatoes and green onions, and continue to sauté for another 1 to 2 minutes. Sprinkle lightly with salt and pepper, and stir. Add the broccoli, garbanzo beans and cooked quinoa, and continue to stir for 2 to 3 minutes. Add the balsamic dressing and stir together well, tasting and adjusting the salt and pepper as needed. Cook for 1 to 2 minutes more until heated through. Divide the quinoa evenly between two bowls, topping each with a piece of hot honey salmon. Arrange sliced fresh avocado on top. Serve immediately.

Hot Honey Ingredients

- 1 cup honey
- 1/8 cup olive oil
- 1 T. red wine vinegar
- 1 T. Tabasco
- 1.5 T. cayenne pepper
- 1 tsp. kosher salt
- 1/4 tsp. granulated garlic
- 1/4 tsp. smoked paprika
- 1/4 tsp. chili powder
- 1/8 tsp. ground black pepper

In a small bowl, mix all dry spices together well with a whisk. In a separate small bowl, mix together all wet ingredients with a whisk. Add dry ingredients to the wet and whisk together well. Store in an airtight container (do not refrigerate). Will last for about two weeks.

Balsamic Poppyseed Vinaigrette Ingredients

- 1 cup olive oil
- 1/2 cup balsamic vinegar
- 1 T. lemon juice
- 2 T. red wine vinegar
- 1 tsp. Dijon mustard
- 1.5 T. agave syrup
- 2 tsp. chopped fresh basil
- 1/4 tsp. ground black pepper
- 1 tsp. kosher salt
- 1/2 tsp. fresh chopped garlic
- 1/2 tsp. poppy seeds

In a mason jar or plastic pint container with a lid, place garlic, basil, vinegars, lemon juice, Dijon mustard, agave, salt and pepper. Cover tightly and shake vigorously to combine. Add the oil and poppy seeds and cover tightly, shaking vigorously again until well blended. Taste and adjust the salt and pepper as necessary. Store in the refrigerator. Will last for 5 to 7 days.

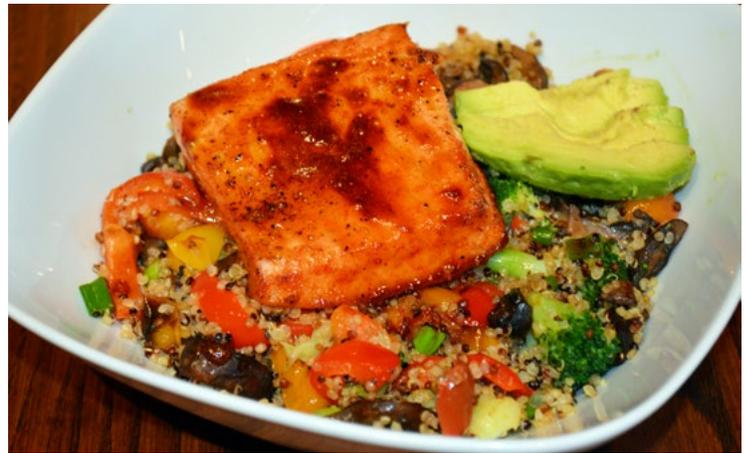


Photo courtesy of Miss Shirley's Café

Hot Honey Salmon Ingredients

- 1/4 cup hot honey sauce
- 2 6-oz. portions of salmon, skin off
- Salt and pepper to taste

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees. In a small bowl, coat the salmon with half the hot honey, sprinkle lightly with salt and pepper, and let sit for 5 to 10 minutes.

Heat a small, oven-safe sauté pan over medium-high heat. Coat the bottom of the pan with a high temperature oil like avocado oil. When the pan starts to get hot, place the salmon carefully down in the pan and sear for 2 minutes. Flip each piece of salmon and then put the pan in the oven to finish cooking. For medium, cook about 10 to 12 minutes; for more well-done, cook for 3 to 5 minutes longer. Remove the pan from the heat and let the salmon rest for 3 to 5 minutes. Top with remaining hot honey and serve immediately over the quinoa. ❖

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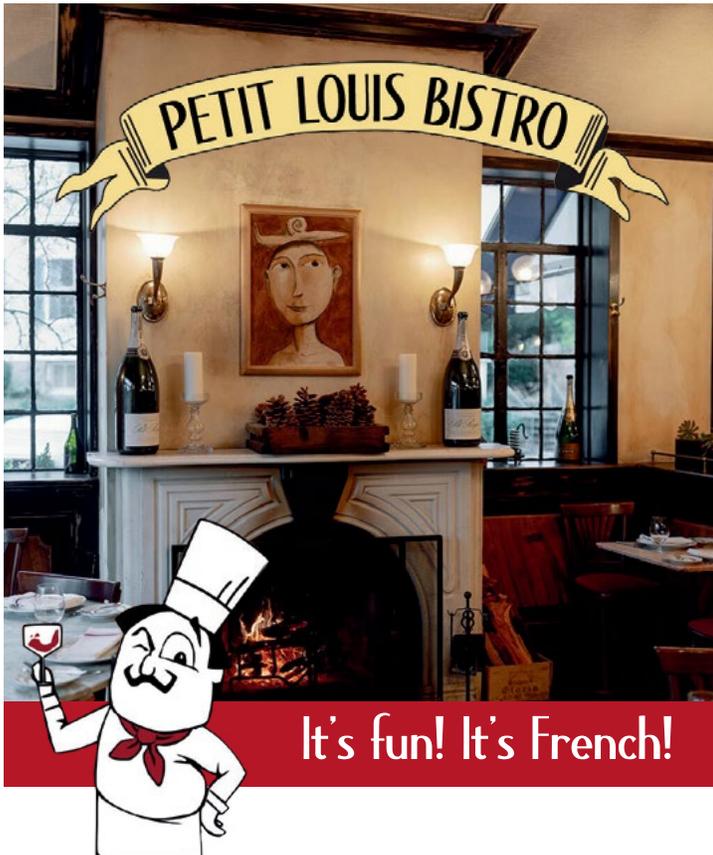
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RPEMS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19

and inspiring learning environment for our scholars. Ongoing partnerships allow us to expand opportunities, inside and outside the classroom. To learn more about sponsorship opportunities, please contact Jamal Ruffin at JRuffin@bcps.k12.md.us.

Request for MayMart Sponsors and Vendors

MayMart is RPEMS' annual fair with lemon sticks, games, prizes, bake sale, local vendors, inflatables, food trucks, plants and more! The 98th annual MayMart is set for Saturday, May 9, rain or shine. All are welcome to attend and join in the fun. Event admission is free and open to the public. Games and food have various costs; please bring cash. Sponsors and vendors are needed to support this PTA fundraiser. For details and sponsorship benefits, please email maymartpems@gmail.com.

Generous Contributions from Roland Park Annual Fund

Through the support of the RPEMS community, in 2025, the Annual Fund was able to provide:

- New stage lights in the multipurpose room
- Laptop storage carts (with built-in charging) for Pre-K, kindergarten, and 1st and 2nd grades
- Bus transportation for Pre-K-8th grade field trips
- Funding for teacher and staff appreciation events
- Interactive 65-inch SMART Boards with iQ LED

Every dollar donated helps us fulfill teacher requests, reduce the financial burden of RPEMS families and fund schoolwide capital projects that would otherwise not be possible. To donate to Roland Park Annual Fund, please visit rpafi.networkforgood.com.

Together, these celebrations, partnerships and generous contributions reflect a vibrant, supportive community working hand in hand to ensure a bright future for every RPEMS scholar. Thank you for being part of our community!

We are #RPEMSProud!

Roland Park Elementary Middle School embodies the art of quality instruction by fostering wholeness for all stakeholders and authentic learning through collaborative partnerships. We will empower a thriving community founded on integrity and fueled by innovation. bit.ly/RPEMS233



Warm Goat Cheese Salad with English Peas and Sugar Snaps

Eddie's of Roland Park

Creamy goat cheese, English peas, and a burst of lemon are what springtime is all about. Prep time: 15 minutes. Cook time: 7 minutes. Serves four.

Ingredients

- 2 T. plus 1/2 cup extra virgin olive oil, divided
- 3 sprigs fresh thyme, chopped
- 2 4-oz. logs of FireFly Farms Fresh Goat Cheese, cut into four half-inch thick rounds
- 3/4 cup panko breadcrumbs
- 1/2 tsp. coarse kosher salt
- 1/4 tsp. fresh ground black pepper
- Zest of 1 lemon
- 1 tsp. shallot, minced
- 1/4 cup fresh lemon juice (about 2 lemons)
- 1/3 cup fresh English peas or frozen baby peas
- 1 cup fresh sugar snap peas, trimmed, stringed and cut in half diagonally
- 1/4 cup fresh scallions, sliced diagonally in half-inch lengths
- 6 cups assorted baby greens (e.g., arugula, oak- and red-leaf lettuce), rinsed and dried
- 1/4 cup pistachio nuts, toasted
- 1/4 cup raisins (optional)

Preheat the oven to 450 degrees. In a small bowl, mix 2 T. olive oil with fresh thyme. Arrange goat cheese rounds on a flat dish. Pour oil mixture over cheese and set aside to marinate for a few minutes.

GARRISON FOREST

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

The team's success reflected strong preparation across several key areas: clear case theory, effective questioning of witnesses, organized presentation of evidence and composed courtroom presence. Judges' scoring emphasized both legal content and professionalism—areas in which GFS students performed particularly well.

The team is coached by an attorney-parent who helped bring Mock Trial to GFS this year and serves as the team's lawyer coach. A GFS junior, Liberty S. (2027), serves as a peer coach based on her prior Mock Trial experience.

Though the team did not advance further in the playoff rounds, the participants are approaching their first season as a learning experience and are already looking ahead. Their faculty advisor has no doubt that their persistence and dedication will take them far: "Our students are remarkable young women," says Perry, "Ambitious, balanced, collaborative and all-in with their intellect, heart and talents." ❖

Garrison Forest School, in Owings Mills, is a day and boarding school educating girls in grades K-12, with a coed preschool and early childcare starting at 6 weeks. Daily transportation is offered to the Roland Park area. Learn more at gfs.org.



Photo courtesy of Eddie's of Roland Park

Meanwhile, cook English peas and snap peas in a pot of boiling, salted water for 2 minutes. Drain, then transfer to a bowl of ice water to cool. Peas and snap peas should be bright green.

In a medium bowl, combine shallots, lemon juice, lemon zest, salt and pepper. Whisk in 1/2 cup olive oil. Set vinaigrette aside until ready to serve.

Coat goat cheese rounds with panko breadcrumbs, pressing gently so that crumbs adhere to the surface. Place cheese rounds on a lightly oiled baking sheet. Bake for 5 minutes until golden.

In a large bowl, combine the greens, sugar snap peas, English peas, scallions and pistachios. Toss with the dressing and serve salad onto four plates. Top each serving with two warm goat cheese rounds. ❖

* Delicious paired with Weingut Sollner Gruner Veltliner "Danubio".

Eddie's of ROLAND PARK

Spring-Time Gourmet Cuisine

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RPCS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

contests, culminating in an all-school convocation and fashion show that will take place on the 125th day of school in March. During this convocation, we will honor the many eras of RPCS through fashion, throwback photos, interviews and more. Every class will contribute to a time capsule, which will be opened during the school's 150th anniversary. And this April, during Alumnae Weekend, a special video will debut, highlighting the traditions that make RPCS so special and featuring interviews from past and present students and employees, a mother-daughter duo, and a family with three generations of students at RPCS.

"Our goal is to make this a year to remember," explains Abbey Pulcinella, director of strategic communications. "For families who are new to the school and for longtime members of the community alike, we hope that everyone feels pride in being part of this extraordinary community and its legacy that has shaped generations of women for 125 years."

To learn more about Roland Park Country School's 125th anniversary, visit rpcs.org/culture-community-belonging/community-news-and-events/125th-anniversary. ❖

Roland Park Country School (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.

GILMAN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

aspects of the Gilman experience are at play as well—namely an emphasis on supporting students in mind, body and spirit, in addition to academic excellence. The school offers "a robust array of PreK-12 wellness programs designed to foster belonging and to build skills related to self-care, decision-making and social awareness," says Director of Health Education Bessie Oster, noting an intentional balance of rigor with wellness.

The research bears this out. Recently published studies in The Review of Educational Research found that "students in grades 1-12 who participated in universal school-based SEL [social-emotional learning] programs demonstrated better academic achievement."

Oster thinks the sense of community at Gilman doesn't hurt either. "It's so encompassing and reliable that it lifts our boys to achieve astounding measures of excellence—academically, athletically and artistically," she says. Over her nine years at the school, Ross has observed that boys show enthusiasm for their peers equally for all kinds of successes, whether it's a sports team celebrating a winning season at an assembly, a student impressively performing a traditional Irish dance in front of the student body, or the debate team returning from a tournament victorious. "The beauty of this place is that it's cool to be smart."

Read this article on Gilman's website at gilman.edu/curiosity-rigor-wellness. ❖

Gilman School (gilman.edu) is a pre-K through 12th grade independent school 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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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 April 3 for Good Friday and May 25 for Memorial Day

Programming at the Pratt

(details at 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 the library's most fun activities. Come ready to move, laugh and learn together. For families with children ages 2 to 5. All abilities welcome.
- Mar. 4, 3:15 pm. **Paper Bowl Jellyfish.** Wiggle like a jellyfish and come decorate one for the start of "Read to Reef."
- Mar. 14, 2:30 pm. **National Craft Day Celebration.** March 14 is National Children's Craft Day! Celebrate at the Roland Park branch with a crafternoon that's got a little bit of everything! With markers, pipe cleaners, popsicle sticks and more, there are so many ways to create something fun!
- Apr. 9, 10:30 am. **Pop! Goes the Storytime.** Pop in for a special "Spring into Stories" storytime featuring *Pop! Goes the Storytime* by Betsy Bird and Andrea Tsurumi.
- Apr. 23, 11 am. **Pop! Goes the Craft.** In honor of "Spring into Stories," pop into some fun by making sheep with cotton balls. All materials provided.
- May 14, 11 am **Tissue Paper Ladybugs.** Make a tissue paper ladybug to celebrate spring as part of a fun post-storytime craft.
- May 25, 3:45pm. **Pompom Bookmarks.** Make a pompom bookmark that will hold your place in all the fun books you'll read this summer!

For Teens

- Mar. 5, 3 pm. **Friendship Bracelets.** Create a friendship bracelet for you and a friend.
- Mar. 16, 3:30 pm. **LEGO® Club.** Roland Park is starting a Teen LEGO® Club! Join Ms. Jackie and fellow teens as we take on our first LEGO® challenge.
- Mar. 19, Apr. 13 and May 11, 3 pm. **Anime Club: Faux Stained Glass.** Create a stained glass painting of popular anime characters.
- Apr. 9, 3 pm. **How to Make a Zine with Kata Kane.** Kata Kane, Baltimore-based comic creator and artist of *Altar Girl* and *GFFs: Ghost Friends Forever*, will lead the group in creating an eight-page mini "book" (aka, a zine!). Young creators will participate

in a warm-up of drawing tips and tricks, while Kane shares helpful comic-creator advice along the way. This is an interactive workshop where young creatives will get to conceptualize, cut, craft and create their very own eight-page zine.

- Apr. 16, 3 pm. **Graffiti Fences.** Explore the art of graffiti lettering by creating an interpretation of your name with a fence background.
- Apr. 20, 3pm. **Dry Aquarium.** Create an aquarium inspired by the great barrier reef minus the salt water.
- May 4, 3 pm. **Star Wars Paper Lanterns.** Create a *Star Wars*-themed luminary.
- May 21, 3 pm. **Design a Shoe.** Visit the teen department to create a designer tennis shoe.

For Adults

- Mar. 16, 5:30 pm. **Jazz Concert with the "Home Cookin' Quartet."** Home Cookin' is a quartet of piano, bass, sax/clarinet and trombone that pairs two young Peabody Institute graduates with two older veterans of the Baltimore jazz scene. The band plays jazz standards and lesser-known but great tunes by well-known jazz musicians.
- Mar. 23, 6 pm. **Book Discussion: Orbital by Samantha Harvey.** Read and discuss *Orbital*, an eloquent meditation

CONTINUED ON PAGE 26



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BOOK NOOK

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25

on space and life on our planet through the eyes of six astronauts circling the earth in 24 hours. A slender novel of epic power, *Orbital* deftly snapshots a day in the lives of six women and men hurtling through space—not toward the moon or the vast unknown, but around our planet.

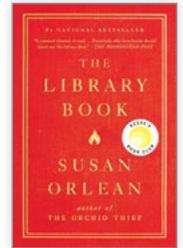
- Mar. 25, 4 pm. **Deborah Heiligman: *Loudmouth: Emma Goldman vs. America (a love story)***. Emma Goldman made trouble her whole life. The first time was by accident. Her birth (in Lithuania, in 1869) angered her father. He had wanted a dutiful son, not a headstrong daughter. The other times were on purpose. When she arrived in America as a young woman, she loved its democratic ideals but was appalled by its hypocrisy. Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness seemed to be only for those at the top. Something had to be done for everyone else. Someone had to speak up. Soon Emma was delivering rousing speeches on topics like workers' rights, feminism and the atrocities of capitalism. This is the story of Emma's complex love affair with America. It's also the story of her many romances with the men she met while trying to change America. Emma believed marriage was disempowering to women and lived her life according to the principles of free love. Emma called herself an anarchist and a freethinker. Her critics called her a troublemaker, a "loudmouth." But sometimes you need to be loud, if you want your voice to be heard.
- Apr. 11, 1 pm. **Film Series: *Wicked For Good***. Ariana Grande and Cynthia Erivo return in the epic conclusion of the Broadway musical's screen adaptation. Rated PG.
- Apr. 27, 6 pm. **Book Discussion: *Train Dreams* by Denis Johnson**. Read and discuss *Train Dreams*, the story of early 20th century day laborer, Robert Grainer, who endures the harrowing loss of his family while struggling for survival in the American West against a backdrop of radical historical changes.
- May 9, 2 pm. **Film Series: *Thunderbolts***. A world without Avengers doesn't mean there's not a group of superheroes. There is a group and they're called the Thunderbolts. Rated PG-13.
- May 18, 6 pm. **Book Discussion: *Time Shelter* by Georgi Gospodinov**. Read and discuss this award-winning

international sensation—with a second-act dystopian twist. *Time Shelter* is a tour de force set in a world clamoring for the past before it forgets.

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

***The Library Book* by Susan Orlean**

(recommended by Abby Lyon, children's librarian). In 1986, a suspicious fire destroyed more than 400,000 books and damaged at least 300,000 more at the Los Angeles Central Library. Later discovered to be arson, the case remains unsolved years later. Orlean explores this dramatic event in her compelling 2018 book that balances several stories: the true-crime investigation, the consequences and aftermath of the fire, the evolution and influence of libraries as neighborhood anchors, and her own appreciation for libraries, Los Angeles and the power of books and reading. She brings all this to life through well-written, vivid descriptions, deep historical research, entertaining characters and page-turning suspense.



***Drive Your Plow Over the Bones of the Dead* by Olga Tokarczuk**

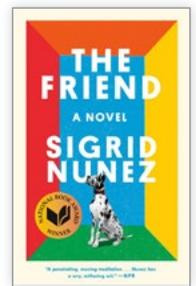
(recommended by Gregory Fromme, branch manager). This is a wonderful mystery with supernatural overtones by the Nobel prize-winning Polish author, Olga Tokarczuk. The story is told from the point of view of Janina Duszejko, a semi-retired teacher who lives in a remote rural region of Poland near the border of the Czech Republic. She has a part-time job as caretaker



for several neighboring vacation cabins in the vicinity of her own home. When local residents turn up dead under mysterious circumstances, the narrator becomes involved in the search for those responsible. Precise character analysis and in-depth examination of the local geography and culture come alive in the deft hands of Tokarczuk, as the mystery builds towards its surprising conclusion.

***The Friend* by Sigrid Nunez**

(recommended by Gregory Fromme). *The Friend* is a compelling novel about writers and the process of writing, as well as the narrator's experience teaching writing. The book also explores the phenomenon of friendship and the process of grief. It is narrated by a writer who is trying to come to grips with the suicide of a fellow writing professor with whom she has been very close. The novel is a deeply moving meditation on how we navigate the grieving process. *The Friend* is chock full of anecdotes by prominent authors about the writing experience as well as the purpose of writing, and why fiction is necessary. These anecdotal interludes might seem to create a distraction from the narrative, but Nunez is able to deftly weave them into the story of her lifelong friendship. Additionally, the book explores the poignant relationship the narrator develops with the dog her friend left behind. The result is a layered and rewarding experience for the reader. Highly recommended. ❖



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KidLit Picks

By Paula Willey, The Ivy Bookshop

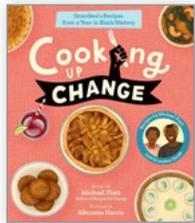
Fun and Adventure for Independent Readers

A Sea of Lemon Trees: The Corrido of Roberto Alvarez by María Dolores Águila



Olive Oakes and the Haunted Carousel by Kalynn Bayron

When You're Brave Enough by Rebecca Bendheim



Girl of Lore by Melanie Dale

Listen to the Girls by Chrystal D. Giles

Cooking Up Change: Grandma's Recipes from a Year in Black History by Michael Platt, illustrated by Alleanna Harris

A Place for Us, written and illustrated by James Ransome

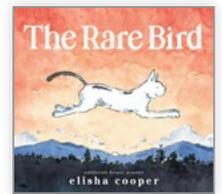


Life on the Moon by Matthew Swanson, illustrated by Robbi Behr

All the Blues in the Sky by Renée Watson—Winner of the 2026 Newbery Medal

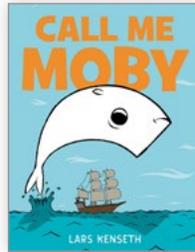
Destiny of the Diamond Princess by Sherri Winston

The Rare Bird, written and illustrated by Elisha Cooper



The Crayons' Book of Manners by Drew Daywalt, illustrated by Oliver Jeffers

Zamzam for Everyone: Sharing Water at Hajj by Razeena Omar Gutta, illustrated by Bassent Dawoud



Call Me Moby by Lars Kenseth, illustrated by Lars Kenseth

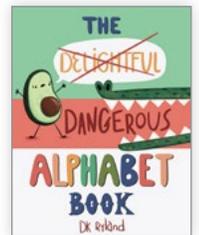
Another Word for Neighbor by Angela Pham Krans, illustrated by Thai My Phuong

Bread is Love by Pooja Makhijani, illustrated by Lavanya Naidu

Challah Day! by Charlotte Offsay, illustrated by Jason Kirschner

Lucía's Goals / Los Goles de Lucía by Angela Quezada Padron, illustrated by Christina Barragan Forshay

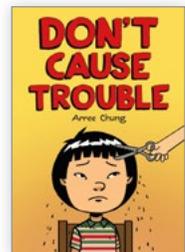
The Dangerous Alphabet Book by DK Ryland, illustrated by



The Outermost Mouse by Lauren Wolk, illustrated by Kristen Adam

CONTINUED ON PAGE 28

Graphic Novels



Don't Cause Trouble, written and illustrated by Arree Chung

Princess Academy graphic novel by Shannon Hale, illustrated by Victoria Ying

Earl & Worm #1: The Bad Idea and Other Stories, written and illustrated by Greg Pizzoli

Sashimi, written and illustrated by Dan Santat

Gunnar the Viking's Great Pizza Adventure by Diego Vaisberg

Great Books for Teen Readers

Under the Same Stars by Libba Bray—A "Good Morning America" Book Club Pick

Somadina by Akwaeke Emezi

Gooseberry by Robin Gow

The Unfinished by Cheryl Isaacs

One Word, Six Letters by Adib Khorrām

The Danger of Small Things by Caryl Lewis

The Beast You Let In by Dana Mele



Where Wolves Don't Die by Anton Treuer



Picture Books to Enjoy Together

The River of Caregiving by Jocelyn Chung, illustrated by Sarah Gonzales



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KIDLIT PICKS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 27

Sweet, Sweet Memory by Jacqueline Woodson, illustrated by Tonya Engel

Series Books for New and Emerging Readers

Ratoncito and the Box by Yanitzia Canetti, illustrated by Mariana Ruiz Johnson

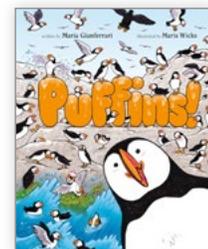
You're a Winner, Gracie Wei (Gracie Wei No. 1) by Kristen Mei Chase, illustrated by Basia Tran



Electric Life: The Hidden Radiance of Everything by Sander Funneman, illustrated by Peter Brouwers

Puffins! by Maria Gianferrari, illustrated by Maris Wicks

Ocean Explorer: A Search-and-Find Book by Carlee Jackson, illustrated by Neon Squid and Hannah Abbo



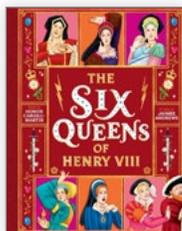
Love from America by Sarah Jospitre, illustrated by Amandine Thomas

Wild about Capybaras, written and illustrated by Kevin McCloskey

We Can Hear Without Ears: And Other Things You Didn't Know We Plants Could Do by Lisa Westberg Peters, illustrated by Danielle Ridolfi

What if...Every Volcano Erupted at Once? And Other Amazing Earth Questions by Emma Young, illustrated by Super Freak ❖

True Stories



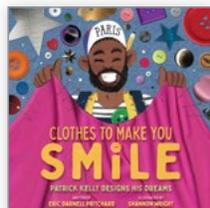
The Six Queens of Henry VIII by Honor Cargill-Martin, illustrated by Jaimee Andrews

Follow the Water: The Unbelievable True Story of a Teenager's Survival in the Amazon by Ellen Cochrane

Clothes to Make You Smile: Patrick

Kelly Designs His Dreams by Eric Darnell Pritchard, illustrated by Shannon Wright

Science Comics: Prehistoric Mammals: From the Jurassic to the Ice Age by Joe Flood



The Ivy Bookshop (5928 Falls Rd.) is Baltimore's independent literary bookstore, carrying a broad range of titles with an emphasis on new fiction, non-fiction, biography, art, interior design, cooking and, of course, children's books. theivybookshop.com

PARK

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

an emphasis on original research and statistical significance. The course includes student-driven experimentation both in the lab and outside on Park's 100-acre campus. The writing component includes exposure to primary sources of literature to support experimental findings.

By introducing all students to physics, biology, chemistry, computer science and engineering in 9th and 10th grade, Park creates greater equity, preventing students from self-selecting into certain scientific disciplines. The elective program for 10 to 12th graders further expands the curriculum by allowing students to dive deeper into the areas in which they are most interested, which can also be multidisciplinary courses. Park's electives offer students choices of more traditional offerings, such as Thermodynamics, Mechanics with Calculus and Ecology, and unique courses, including Molecular Gastronomy, Environmental Sensing with Arduino and Neuroscience of Learning. Our experienced faculty members are all interdisciplinary scientists themselves, bringing real-world experience by applying content in real-life scenarios, extending beyond an academic setting.

Guided by principles of progressive education and 21st century teaching and learning, Park's innovative upper school science curriculum provides engaging and hands-on experiences that prepare students with a strong foundation in skills not only for science, but also for learning at the highest level. ❖

Founded in 1912, The Park School of Baltimore (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.

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

The Baltimore Police Department Northern District Commander's Monthly Crime and Community Meeting is held on the second Wednesday of the month at 7pm at the Northern District Headquarters, 2201 W. Cold Spring Ln. All are welcome. baltimorepolice.org/find-my-district/northern-district

Saturdays, 10 am-4 pm. **Regular Hours**, Fire Museum of Maryland, 1301-R York Rd., Lutherville. firemuseummd.org

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 March 4.



March

- Mar. 2, 6:30 pm. **Women's History Month Event: Celebrating the "Unbeatable Determination" of Renowned Blind Astronomer Scientist Dr. Wanda Díaz-Merced**, Charm City Books, Friends School of Baltimore and Shanigans Toy Shop, Friends School of Baltimore Alumni Center, 5114 N. Charles St. Charm City Books, Friends School and Shanigans Toy Shop will recognize Díaz-Merced's "unbeatable determination" with author Amy S. Hansen, who co-authored her non-fiction picture book, *Wanda Hears the Stars*, recipient of the 2026 Schneider Family Book Award for the artistic expression of the disability experience for children. Tickets range from \$25-35, including the opportunity to donate tickets to public school students. Additional copies of the book will be available for sale and Shanigans will have a pop-up shop with astronomy- and

STEM-related toys, kits and games. charmcitybooks.com/events/4432020260302

- Mar. 5, 11 am. **William "Chick" Chickering, Board Chair, The Peale Museum**, The Woman's Club of Roland Park (TWCRP), 4500 Roland Ave. Chickering will discuss the part Rembrandt Peale and his father Charles Wilson Peale played in shaping the cultural landscape of America in the late 18th and early 19th centuries, emphasizing the son's contributions to Baltimore through the establishment of the Peale Museum. The talk will conclude with a journey through the museum building's functions in Baltimore and the efforts to save this unique part of Baltimore and the nation's history. RSVP to manager@twcrp.org. twcrp.org
- Mar. 5, 1:15 pm. **Ashley Valis: Love Your Neighbor, A Call to Serve from Catholic Charities**, The Woman's Club of Roland Park. Valis is the chief operating officer of Catholic Charities of Baltimore, the state's leading private provider of human services. She will discuss Catholic Charities' wide range of services and ways volunteers can serve our community. From the Safe Streets program, to work with children and families at Head Start and Villa Maria School, to Our Daily Bread and other well-known programs throughout the region, Catholic Charities is seeing real results as it serves Marylanders in need. Come learn how you can join the movement to love your neighbor. RSVP to manager@twcrp.org. twcrp.org
- Mar. 6, 6:30 pm. **Bingo Night**, Roland Park Presbyterian Church, 4801 Roland Ave. All are welcome. Bring cash for bingo cards and delicious treats, including pizza (with vegetarian and gluten-free options), chicken nuggets, freshly

CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 29

popped popcorn, chips, desserts and drinks. \$5 for all you can eat. rolandparkchurch.org

- Mar. 7, 10 am. **Family Safety Day**, Fire Museum of Maryland, 1301-R York Rd., Lutherville. Families and children can learn about fire safety from a variety of different vendors. Children will also learn about different First Responder careers. Free museum admission. firemuseummd.org
- Mar. 10, 10:30 am. **Children's Tree Time: Winter Solstice I**, Cylburn Arboretum, 4915 Greenspring Ave. Join this parent/child class to learn about nature through stories, crafts and exploration. Ages 2-5. Free for CAF members and \$5 suggested donation for non-members. Cylburn.org
- Mar. 11, 5:30 pm. **Abra Lee: Conquer the Soil**, Cylburn Arboretum. Lee, a garden historian, will share stories behind key African American figures from her upcoming book, *Conquer the Soil*. Free for CAF members and \$5 suggested donation for non-members. Cylburn.org
- Mar. 12, 1:15 pm. **Pascale Lemaire: Finding Your Style, Confessions of a Celebrity Stylist**, The Woman's Club of Roland Park. With a legacy in Maryland's style scene and a clientele featuring Michael Phelps and Jill Biden, Lemaire invites you to join the fashion elite. Learn how to discover your own personal style, including some insider tips on the best shopping spots in Baltimore. Lemire will share her

experiences as a former fashion editor at *Baltimore Magazine* and what it's like to dress high-profile celebrities like Norah O'Donnell, former anchor of "CBS Evening News." RSVP to manager@twcrp.org. twcrp.org

- Mar. 12, 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
- Mar. 12, 6:30 pm. **2026 Maryland Humanities Symposium Keynote Address: David Blight**, Loyola University Maryland, McGuire Hall (Andrew White Student Center), 4501 North Charles St. In this free lecture, Blight, a Pulitzer Prize-winning author, will explore how the Declaration of Independence and Frederick Douglass' landmark speech address the continuing effort to fulfill the nation's founding ideals. Blight's *Frederick Douglass: Prophet of Freedom* garnered nine book awards, including the Pulitzer Prize, the Francis Parkman Prize, the Bancroft Prize and the Gilder Lehrman Lincoln Prize. It was optioned by Higher Ground Productions and Netflix for a feature film. Signed copies of Blight's books will be available for sale. Advance registration is encouraged. Visit loyola.edu/symposium.
- Mar. 15, 1-6 pm. **The 50th Annual Baltimore Bach Marathon**, St. David's Episcopal Church, 4700 Roland Ave. Delve into the world of J.S. Bach, as St. David's is filled with swirling counterpoint and unfurling melodies. Celebrating its 50th year, the Baltimore Bach Marathon welcomes the area's best Baroque interpreters, who bring to life the master's music. This year will feature a performance of Bach's tremendous *Mass in B Minor*, from 4-6 pm. The event is free and open to the public, with doors opening at 12:30 pm. A suggested donation of \$10 per hour attended will directly benefit the musicians and the music series. Tickets are available from eventbrite.com/e/the-50th-annual-baltimore-bach-marathon-tickets-1641599290669. stdavidsbaltimore.org.
- Mar. 15, 2 pm. **Travelogue: Jay Sherman, Uzbekistan**, The Heart of the Ancient Silk Road in Central Asia, The Woman's Club of Roland Park. Jay Sherman returns to the club to share pictures and stories from his travels to Uzbekistan in Central Asia. Sherman will present images of the geography, people, markets, architecture and art of this fascinating region, once part of the Soviet Union. RSVP by March 9 to manager@twcrp.org. twcrp.org
- Mar. 15, 3:30 pm. **Community Concerts at Second: Saxophonist Brent Birkhead**. Community Concerts at Second, 4200 St. Paul St. Birkhead and his sextet will perform original music from his 2024 album "Cacao," along with beloved jazz standards and some unexpected tunes. cc2nd.org
- Mar. 18, 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
- Mar. 18, 6 pm. **Sujata Massey: The Star from Calcutta**, The Ivy Bookshop, 5928 Falls Rd. Massey launches the latest novel in the Perveen Mistry Series, in which the only Mistry, the female lawyer in Bombay, is back with her biggest client yet:

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Champa Films. Set in 1922, *The Star from Calcutta* brings the glamour, romance and intrigue of the beginnings of Bollywood to life. RSVP for this free event at theyivybookshop.com.

- Mar. 19, 10:30 am. **Children’s Tree Time: Winter Solstice I**, Cylburn Arboretum, 4915 Greenspring Ave. Join this parent/child class to learn about nature through stories, crafts and exploration. Ages 2-5. Free for CAF members and \$5 suggested donation for non-members. Cylburn.org
- Mar. 19, 11 am. **Angela Sriram: Ontology**, The Woman’s Club of Roland Park. Sriram, a fiber artist and club member, will discuss her artwork collection, “Ontology”—the study of the similarities of all things—sharing the techniques used, the geometry of materials and the importance of the subject. RSVP to manager@twcrp.org. twcrp.org
- Mar. 19, 1:15 pm. **Judy Pearson: Radical Sisters: Shirley Temple Black, Rose Kushner, Evelyn Lauder and the Dawn of the Breast Cancer Movement**, The Woman’s Club of Roland Park. Pearson will present her newest, and arguably her most important, biography. These “radical sisters” did for themselves what the mainstream healthcare system refused to do: they challenged the male-dominated medical and government structures, turning their breast cancer diagnoses into a movement that has saved millions. Signed copies of the book will be available for sale. RSVP to manager@twcrp.org. twcrp.org
- Mar. 22 to Apr. 19. **Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike**, Everyman Theatre, 315 W. Fayette St. This Tony Award-winning comedy by the great American playwright and master satirist, Christopher Durang is a hilarious and poignant exploration of family tensions and longing for relevance in a changing world. everymantheatre.org
- Mar. 27, 6 pm. **Anna Harwell Celenza: On the Record: Music that Changed America**, Bird in Hand Coffee & Books, 11 E. 33rd St. Join in this evening conversation about the intersection of music, politics and culture with Anna Harwell Celenza, author of the new book, *On the Record: Music that Changed America*. Each chapter highlights an iconic musical work, tracing its backstory, uncovering its connection to political debates and legislative actions and, in the process, revealing it in a new light. RSVP for this free event at theyivybookshop.com.
- Mar. 28, 2 pm. **Spring Egg Hunt**, The Woman’s Club of Roland Park. All are invited to bring baskets for a spirited egg hunt in the garden. RSVP by March 23 to manager@twcrp.org. twcrp.org
- Mar. 29, 3:30 pm. **Community Concerts at Second: Musicians of the Baltimore Symphony**. Community Concerts at Second. The performances will include Grazyna Bacewicz’ *Piano Quintet No. 1*, Boris Pigovat’s *Sonata No. 2 for Viola and Piano*, and Johannes Brahms’ *String Quartet No. 3 in B-flat Major, Op.67*. cc2nd.org
- Mar. 31, 6 pm. **Melissa Lewis: I See Me**, The Ivy Bookshop. Lewis’ new book highlights the transformative power of genealogy in healing family connections and processing grief. Drawing on her extensive experiences as a social work and child welfare professional, she invites readers to explore the intricate tapestry of family relationships and the healing power of reconnecting with one’s roots. RSVP for this free event at theyivybookshop.com.

April

- Apr. 3, 7:30 pm. **Music at St. David’s: Music for Good Friday**, St. David’s Church. Join the Choir of St. David’s for a program of choral and organ music exploring the love, life and loss at the center of Holy Week, featuring Gabriel Fauré’s Requiem. The event is free and open to the public, with doors opening at 7 pm. A suggested donation of \$10 to \$20 will directly benefit the musicians and the music series. Tickets are available from eventbrite.com/e/music-for-good-friday-tickets-1641608448059.
- Apr. 9, 1:15 pm. **Sheila Callahan: (Wo)man’s Treasure**, The Woman’s Club of Roland Park. After a 30-year career in finance, Callahan embarked on an artistic journey, giving second life to objects that are no longer wanted or useful to others—most often broken and discarded items like obsolete appliances or random hardware. Callahan will share her creative process in this engaging program. Explore, transform and have fun. RSVP to manager@twcrp.org. twcrp.org
- Apr. 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
- Apr. 12, 3:30 pm. **Community Concerts at Second: Cellist Tommy Mesa**. Community Concerts at Second. A Cuban American cellist, Mesa has established himself as one of the most charismatic, innovative and engaging performers of his

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CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

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generation. cc2nd.org

- Apr. 14, 10:30 am. **Children's Tree Time: Winter Solstice I**, Cylburn Arboretum, 4915 Greenspring Ave. Join this parent/child class to learn about nature through stories, crafts and exploration. Ages 2-5. Free for CAF members and \$5 suggested donation for non-members. Cylburn.org
- Apr. 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
- Apr. 16, 10:30 am. **Children's Tree Time: Winter Solstice I**, Cylburn Arboretum, 4915 Greenspring Ave. Join this parent/child class to learn about nature through stories, crafts and exploration. Ages 2-5. Free for CAF members and \$5 suggested donation for non-members. Cylburn.org
- Apr. 16, 11 am. **Elana Vikan: Family of Holocaust Survivors**, The Woman's Club of Roland Park. In her recent book, *Finding Home: How the Holocaust Shaped My Family*, Vikan inspires us with her true story of how antisemitism and then the Holocaust shaped her courageous and resilient family. Signed copies of the book will be available for sale. RSVP to manager@twcrp.org. twcrp.org

- Apr. 16, 1:15 pm. **Tom Filipiuk: An Afternoon at the Keyboard**, The Woman's Club of Roland Park. The piano has always been a favorite among composers because of the vast range of colors and textures that emanate from a single instrument. In this lecture-recital, Filipiuk, a student at the Peabody Institute, will present a variety of piano works from the classical repertoire. He will describe the key motives to listen for and the ways those motives are developed to tell a story through music. RSVP to manager@twcrp.org. twcrp.org
- Apr. 17, 7:30 pm. **Music at St. David's: Handel Choir of Baltimore**. St. David's Church. The Music at St. David's 2025-2026 Ensemble-in-Residence will return with a concert of Ralph Vaughan Williams' *Five Mystical Songs*, featuring baritone soloist Ross Tamaccio. The event is free and open to the public, with doors opening at 7 pm. A suggested donation of \$10 to \$20 will directly benefit the musicians and the music series. Tickets are available from eventbrite.com/e/the-handel-choir-of-baltimore-chandos-singers-tickets-1641616622509.
- Apr. 18, 7 pm. **St. David's Day School Auction Fundraiser**. The Ross-Winans Mansion, 1217 St. Paul St. An evening of fun, fellowship and fundraising. For more information and to buy tickets, visit supportstdavids.com/eventinfo.stdavidsdayschool.net
- Apr. 21, 6 pm. **Nicole Hackett: Mom Brain**, The Ivy Bookshop. Celebrate the launch of Hackett's novel, which details an immersive week-long experience on the breathtaking island of O'ahu, where mothers in all stages of crisis can come to take control of their lives. RSVP for this free event at theyivybookshop.com.
- Apr. 23, 1:15 pm. **Judge Stephen Sfekas: Roosevelt's Four Freedoms**, The Woman's Club of Roland Park. On January 6, 1941, President Franklin Roosevelt gave the annual State of the Union address and outlined four fundamental freedoms: freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom from want and freedom from fear. This speech shaped the best parts of the world we have lived in. The Four Freedoms became the basis of the Atlantic Charter and U.S.-British war aims in World War II. They were incorporated into the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Charter of the United Nations. They inspired people all over the world seeking to end colonial rule. Sfekas will discuss the origins, history and legacy of the Four Freedoms, and whether they remain relevant today. RSVP to manager@twcrp.org. twcrp.org
- Apr. 25, 2 pm. **Mount Vernon Virtuosi in Concert**, The Woman's Club of Roland Park. The Mount Vernon Virtuosi string quartet will return to perform selected musical pieces and to explain their mission to uplift the Baltimore community through classical music. RSVP by April 20 to manager@twcrp.org. twcrp.org
- Apr. 30, 11 am. **Senior Forum**, The Woman's Club of Roland Park. TWCRP will present a full day dedicated to providing timely information on aging. Aging in place, brain training, caregiving, estate planning, helpful resources, housing options, money matters, purposeful living and more. Exhibitors from local service providers will be available to answer questions and provide helpful information. RSVP to manager@twcrp.org. twcrp.org

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May

- May 3, 3:30 pm. **Community Concerts at Second: Stiletto Brass Quintet.** Community Concerts at Second. The quintet's energetic and broad repertoire includes contemporary, classical and popular works from the Baroque period to Gershwin. cc2nd.org
- May 3, 4:30 pm. **Music at St. David's: Recital and Evensong,** St. David's Church. St. David's Baltimore presents a festival with a pre-service recital featuring baritone Jacob Elfner and soprano Elisheva Pront. The event is free and open to the public, with doors opening at 4 pm. A suggested donation of \$10 to \$20 will directly benefit the musicians and the music series. Tickets are available from eventbrite.com/e/festival-evensong-tickets-1641621797989.
- May 9, 10 am-3 pm. **MayMart,** Roland Park Elementary Middle School, 5207 Roland Ave. This is the Roland Park Elementary Middle School PTA's annual fair, with games, inflatables, food trucks and more. Admission is free and open to the public. Games and food have various costs. No advanced registration required. [instagram.com/rpems_233](https://www.instagram.com/rpems_233)
- May 9, 10 am. **Annual Steam Show,** Fire Museum of Maryland. Hose wagon rides, demonstrations with hand-drawn and horse-drawn apparatus, working steam engines, antique models, kids' activities, working draft horses and food vendors. Fun for the whole family. Free. firemuseummd.org
- May 10, 8 am-2 pm. **Market Day,** Cylburn Arboretum. Cylburn's annual plant sale, where you can also shop for handmade goods from regional vendors, and enjoy food trucks and family activities. Free. On-site parking is \$10. Cylburn.org
- May 14, 11 am. **Dr. Glenn Johnston: History of the Port of Baltimore,** The Woman's Club of Roland Park. Johnston, director of the Center for the Study of the Port of Baltimore at Stevenson University, will take the audience on a nostalgic look at the history of Baltimore's port. RSVP to manager@twcrp.org. twcrp.org
- May 15, 6 pm. **Kyle McCarthy: Immersions: A Novel,** The Ivy Bookshop. Taut and spellbinding, *Immersions* follows the aftermath of a celebrated dancer's abrupt decision to quit her company and join an enclosed convent in France, and her younger sister's obsessive conviction that her sister's ex-husband is responsible. RSVP for this free event at theivybookshop.com.
- May 17 to Jun. 4. **Emma,** Everyman Theatre. Exuberant and brimming with heart, Kate Hamill's exciting new adaptation of Emma offers a fast-paced modern take on Jane Austen's classic story of love and romance. Renowned for her imaginative and feminist adaptations of literature, Hamill brings a mischievous flair into Emma Woodhouse's matchmaking adventures with a heartwarming comedy that promises an evening of laughter, romance and delicious surprises. everymantheatre.org
- May 23, 10 am. **Roland Park Pool Opening Day,** 5021 Lawndale Ave. Welcome back RPSP members to the pool's opening day! rolandparkpool.org

- May 24, 10 am. **Memorial Day Mass: Mozart's Mass in D Major.** St. David's Church. The Choir of St. David's will mark the commemoration of Memorial Day with a performance of W.A. Mozart's *Mass in D Major*, accompanied by strings. The event is free and open to the public. Tickets are available from eventbrite.com/e/memorial-day-mass-mozarts-mass-in-d-major-tickets-1641633884139.
- May 29, 7:30 pm. **Music at St. David's: Friends of Early Music,** St. David's Church. Friends of Early Music presents a program performed on period instruments exploring politics in France and England, and also including improvisatory traditions from Italy and Spain. The event, which also celebrates the 50th anniversary of Mark Cudek's first performance, is free and open to the public, with doors opening at 7 pm. A suggested donation of \$10 to \$20 will directly benefit the Friends of Early Music. Tickets are available from eventbrite.com/e/friends-of-early-music-tickets-1641640102739.
- May 31, 3:30 pm. **Community Concerts at Second: Musicians of the Baltimore Symphony.** The performances will include Alyssa Morris' *Coastal Kaleidoscope*, György Kurtág's *Hommage a R. Schumann, Op. 15d*, Bernard Hermann's *Clarinet Quintet, "Souvenirs de Voyage,"* and Johannes Brahms' *String Quintet No. 1 in F Major, Op. 88*. cc2nd.org ❖

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