

# The Prince George's Post



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## MSAC Awards \$75,000 in Folklife Apprenticeships

By PRESS OFFICER  
Maryland State Arts Council

BALTIMORE, Md. (August 8, 2023)—MSAC's traditional arts program, Maryland Traditions, has awarded \$75,000 to artists in the state through the Folklife Apprenticeship grant. The funding supports the sharing of traditional arts skills from a master artist to an apprentice artist during a one-year teaching period. Fifteen grants of \$5,000 each have been awarded for the 2023–2024 granting period to the teams listed below, with master artists named first:

- Samia Ahmad (Montgomery County) & Nora Ahsan (Montgomery County): Hindustani classical music
- Christina Allen (St. Mary's County) & Abigail Greenwell (St. Mary's County): Kitchen gardening
- Kenneth Allen (Prince George's County) & Woyneab Wondossen (Prince George's County): Ethiopian k'rar
- Yara Cordeiro (Montgomery County) & Michael Rochon Jr. (Montgomery County): Afro-Brazilian capoeira
- Pablo de Oliveira (Prince George's County) & Felipe de Almeida (Montgomery County): Brazilian choro music
- Linda Goss (Baltimore City) & Patricia Smart (Washington County): Black storytelling
- Loretta Kelley (Montgomery County) & Laura Hummel (Carroll County): Norwegian Hardanger fiddle
- Kalin Kirilov (Baltimore County) & Yana Kirilova (Baltimore County): Bulgarian folk music
- Catherine Lamont (Montgomery County) & Leó Qualls (Baltimore County): Hungarian folk dance
- Omolara McCallister (Baltimore City) & Savannah Wade (Baltimore City): Afro-Brazilian capoeira
- Billy McComiskey (Baltimore County) & Richard Osban (Baltimore City): Irish traditional music



PHOTO BY HUMAN BEING PRODUCTIONS, COURTESY OF MSAC

**Apprentice Azaria Joseph (foreground, Baltimore City) during a 2022–2023 Folklife Apprenticeship on crankie folk puppetry with master artist Katherine Fahey (Baltimore City).**

- Cathy Smith (Baltimore City) & Oreoluwa Akinsanmi (Baltimore City): Yoruba masquerade costume design
- Hess Stinson (Queen Anne's County) & Elana Casey (Montgomery County): Hoodoo healing
- Pansay Tayo (Baltimore City) & Toshima Cook (Anne Arundel County): African-centered birthwork practices
- Paula Whaley (Baltimore City) & Danyett Tucker (Baltimore County): Doll making

The Maryland State Arts Council is committed to making sure all Marylanders can access its programs and services. For grant application assistance, please contact the appropriate Program Director. Guests with further accessibility questions or who require accommodations may fill out the Accommodations Request Form or contact the MSAC Office Secretary at [msac.commerce@maryland.gov](mailto:msac.commerce@maryland.gov).

## Support Local Students this Back-to-School Season

Help Kids Start the New School Year with the Tools They Need to Succeed

### Through August 18—Stuff the Bus School Supply Drive

The Department of Public Works & Transportation's (DPW&T) annual "Stuff the Bus" school supply drive is underway now through August 18.

Residents can drop off school supplies at the DPW&T office at 9400 Peppercorn Place, Largo, MD 20774 from Monday to Friday from 10 AM to 2 PM.

**Supply List:** Backpacks, Plastic school boxes, Glue sticks, #2 Pencils, Crayons, Scissors, Rulers, Protractors, College ruled notebook paper, Three-inch, three-ring binders, Highlighters, Composition books (college ruled), Blue and black ballpoint pens, Colored pencils, Erasers, and USB Flash/Thumb Drives.

### August 18—Operation Backpack "Stuff the Cruiser"

Help kids in need succeed and get ready for the new school year by coming out to our first Operation Backpack® "Stuff the Cruiser" event! This event is brought to you by Volunteers of America Chesapeake & Carolinas, IKEA College Park, ABC7 News DC, F.H. Furr and the Prince George's County Sheriff's Office.

Here is a list of items kids need the most: Backpacks (ONLY clear backpacks accepted for Middle & High School students); Spiral notebooks, Composition notebooks, Two-pocket organizer folders, Three-ring binders, Pencil cases, Twelve-inch rulers, Five-inch safety scissors, #2 pencils, Ballpoint pens, Boxes of colored

markers, Dry erase boards (8.5" x 11"), Dry erase markers, Boxes of colored pencils, Boxes of crayons, Pencil sharpeners, Easy twist-up glue sticks, Highlighters, Pink erasers, Washable paint sets, Pads of drawing paper, Hand sanitizer, Small tissue packs, Earphones/headphones, and Flash drives

Can't attend? You can still make a difference! Donate online at [www.voachapeake.org/donate-backpack](http://www.voachapeake.org/donate-backpack). You can also text "school" to 243725 to donate by smartphone!

Operation Backpack® is Volunteers of America Chesapeake & Carolinas' initiative to fill in the gap for our region's most vulnerable children. From now through September 1, 2023, your donations will help us provide backpacks, school supplies and funding for academic enrichment to more than 3,000 homeless and underprivileged children in Maryland, the District of Columbia and Virginia. To learn more, visit [www.voachapeake.org/backpack](http://www.voachapeake.org/backpack). For questions, please contact us at [contactus@voaches.org](mailto:contactus@voaches.org).

## Upper Marlboro Town Administrator Snyder Accepts Position as Town Manager with Town of Berwyn Heights

By RAY FELDMANN  
Town of Upper Marlboro

UPPER MARLBORO, Md. (August 10, 2023)—Kyle Snyder, who has held several essential roles with the Town of Upper Marlboro government over the past eight years, announced that he had accepted a new position as Town Manager with the Town of Berwyn Heights in Prince George's County. Snyder's last day with the Town of Upper Marlboro will be Aug. 23, Mayor Sarah Franklin announced to the Town residents at a special Town meeting held this past Tuesday.

During his tenure with the Town of Upper Marlboro, Snyder served in multiple positions, including Deputy Clerk, Chief of Staff to the Mayor, and Town Administrator when the position was established in the Charter in 2021. Snyder initially started his career in municipal government working part-time for the City of Greenbelt and Town of Berwyn Heights while attending the University of Maryland. Snyder also currently serves on the Prince George's County Fire Commission, as well as the President of the Maryland City-County Managers Association.

"To say we are sad to see Kyle leave us is a huge understatement," Mayor Franklin said Tuesday. "During his distinguished eight years of service with our Town, Kyle has worked tirelessly to modernize the town's government, expand access to grants, and implement projects that the community previously had only wished for.

"His dedication has led to countless improvements including downtown sidewalk improvement, parking upgrades, revamping the Town's social media, annexations, and the development of new Town parks including the Upper Marlboro Community playground and the Downtown pocket park," Franklin said. "He also worked to align the Town's ordinances and processes with a modern government structure in-

cluding the shift from three elected officials to five.

"Perhaps even more importantly, Kyle is known around town for his kindness and willingness to help," Franklin added. "I know my fellow commissioners and I piled a lot on Kyle's plate during our time working together, and that's because he is not only knowledgeable and dependable, he's also great to work with, a total team player, and incredibly selfless. We will miss him greatly."

Snyder said he was sad to be leaving the Town of Upper Marlboro but is excited to see the positive trajectory the Town is on for the future.

"I am grateful to the residents and all of the elected officials of the Town for the opportunity to serve the Town for the past eight years," Snyder said. "I have learned and grown much with the Town and will treasure the relationships and lessons learned for the rest of my career. While I am sad to be leaving, I am excited for the track that the Town is on for future revitalization and growth."

Snyder will start in his new position with the Town of Berwyn Heights later this month.

The Upper Marlboro Board of Town Commissioners has already begun the search for a new Town Administrator, with qualified applicants required to submit their cover letter and resumes to the Town by Tuesday, Sept. 5, 2023, at 9 a.m.

**The job announcement can be found on the town website: [uppermarlbormd.gov/news](http://uppermarlbormd.gov/news).**



PHOTO OF KYLE SNYDER COURTESY OF THE TOWN OF UPPER MARLBORO

## AAA Checklist for College Students: Insurance, ID Theft and Car Care

What to Know Before Heading to Campus

By RAGINA ALI  
AAA Mid-Atlantic

WASHINGTON, D.C. (August 9, 2023)—Whether students are heading off to college for the first time or returning to campus, it's important for parents to make sure vehicles and other property are adequately covered by insurance and that students know how to guard against theft.

### Review insurance coverage

Dorm rooms can be a hot spot for thieves. Just two roommates could have thousands of dollars' worth of electronics alone—laptops, tablets, smartphones and gaming systems—as well as other items of value in their small living space.

"Whether it is personal possessions or a vehicle, college campuses present risks

that differ from home, so it's important to speak with your insurance provider to be sure your student is properly protected and covered if theft occurs," said Welaine Memenza, Territory Manager, Retail Insurance Sales, AAA Club Alliance.

According to findings published in June 2022 by the U.S. Department of Education there were 27,300 crimes on post-secondary education campuses in 2019–2020. Of those reported crimes, 33% were burglaries, 11% were motor vehicle thefts and 3% were robberies. Among the items most stolen from college dorms are electronics, cash and credit/debit cards, bicycles, textbooks, jewelry and clothing.

Memenza added that college students living away from home should understand they may have limited coverage under their parents' insurance policies. "Before

leaving for college, students and their parents should review their policies and speak to their agents to see what risks and liabilities are covered," she said.

Homeowners and renters insurance tips for students:

- If you live in a dorm, some personal possessions may be covered under parents' homeowner's or renter's insurance policies. Expensive items, such as electronics, may be subject to coverage limits under a standard homeowner's policy and some states require a special student endorsement. Review coverage with your agent before heading to campus.
- If you live off-campus, purchase renter's insurance to protect you and your belongings. It can also protect you from liability in the event someone is accidentally injured on the property.
- Leave valuables at home. While some valuable items, such as laptops, are needed on campus, items such as expensive jewelry is best left at home.
- Create a "dorm inventory." Create a

detailed inventory of all items in your dorm room. In the event you need to file a claim, an up-to-date inventory will make the process easier.

- Safeguard your items from theft. Always lock your dorm room door and never leave belongings unattended on campus. The library, dining hall and other public places are hot spots for property theft on campus.

### Auto insurance tips for students:

- Coverage may depend on location. If you bring a car to campus and remain on your parents' policy, coverage likely still applies. If you attend an out-of-state school, make sure your coverage follows you. Students planning to stay away from home year-round should check with their agent to see if they are still covered on their parents' policy.
- Guard against vehicle theft. Never leave your keys in your parked vehicle and never leave it running with the key in it. Lock your car everywhere you park it as well as locking door

upon entry. Always park in a well-lit area for both personal safety and theft protection. Keep valuables stowed out of sight.

### Protect against identity theft

In addition to ensuring they don't fall prey to vehicle or property theft, AAA has an additional reminder for college students.

"Students can become targets for ID theft because they don't have much of a transaction history, making it more difficult to identify unusual activity," said Ragina Cooper Ali, Public and Government Affairs Manager, AAA Mid-Atlantic. "Scammers use both low- and high-tech methods for stealing a student's personal information, from looking over a victim's shoulder to sending out bogus credit card offers to stealing financial information on shopping sites."

ID theft is the most common type of reported fraud, making up about 24% of

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"We must teach our children at every age how we expect them to treat themselves and others respectfully and fairly and then struggle to model that behavior daily..."

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### Applications Open for Second Round of Maryland Humanities' Shine General Operating Support Grant Program

Maryland Humanities announces the second round of SHINE general operating support to humanities-focused Maryland nonprofits.

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# TOWNS *and* NEIGHBORS

## In & Around Morningside-Skyline

### A WSSC Water Project is Coming to Our Neighborhood

The Broad Creek Basin Sewer Rehabilitation Project is underway and will eventually affect a number of homes in the Morningside area.

According to my letter from WSSC (you probably got one, too), the work consists of the “repair, rehabilitation or replacement of sanitary main, sanitary laterals and manholes in the road right of way.” It will replace/rehabilitate 3.16 miles of sewer pipes and approximately 86 manholes and replace approximately 0.43 miles of individual sewer laterals (the portion of the pipe connecting our main to the on-property sewer service line).

Design completion was scheduled for this spring. Estimated construction is due to start this summer and the estimated construction is expected to take two years.

Impacted in Morningside are Boxwood Dr., Larkspur Rd., Maple Rd., Marianne Dr., Morgan Rd., Pickett Ct., Pickett Dr., Pine Grove Dr., Poplar Rd., Randolph Rd., and Suitland Rd. Also, on the list—my street, Skyline Drive.

Some trees may be pruned or removed. Residents will be notified, and all that work will be supervised by an urban forester from WSSC. WSSC will provide residents at least a 48-hour advance notification if there will be parking restrictions.

WSSC will restore sidewalks, roadway and landscaping within 90 days of construction completion.

(WSSC is now WSSC Water. Do you remember what it used to be? It was Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission. I tell you this because the new practice of ID-ing everything is with acronyms. I always want to know what the letters stand for.)

### Town of Morningside: Back-to-School

Mayor Benn Cann, Vice Mayor Brad Wade, Council Members John Anthony, Sharon Fowler and Todd Mullins, Clerk-Treasurer Karen Rooker, and a Morningside Police Officer attended the 2023 Maryland Municipal League Conference in Ocean City June 25–28.

Morningside will host a Back-to-School Event on Friday, Sept. 15, 5:30–8:30 p.m., with an ice cream social and roller skating. More details in next week’s column.

Other upcoming events include Hal-loween, Oct. 28; Senior Holiday Luncheon, Nov. 16; and Breakfast with Santa, Dec. 9.

The Town meeting room is available for rental. They have had everything from baby showers to repasts there. They even hosted a wedding. The calendar is now open until December 31. Call 301-736-2300.

### Neighbors and Other Good People

The Morningside Police Department has commended Corporal Vena Mitchell as an “Outstanding Officer” for his heroic bravery and valor for the on-site apprehension of a shooting suspect at a funeral procession on Suitland Road, June 6.

Lt. Gen. Frank Maxwell Andrews, his passengers and crew, were remembered May 3 in Iceland, in commemoration of the crash of his B-24 Liberator bomber on Mount Fagradalsfjall 80 years ago. An Honor Guard from Joint Base Andrews—which is named for Gen. Andrews—attended.

Carol McCabe Booker, of Lusby, has a new book out, *The Waterman’s Widow*, published through New Bay Books. She has written about a crime called the worst ever on peaceful Solomons Island. Shortly after midnight September 13, 1900, an oysterman was shot and mortally wounded as he lay in his bed. Within 48 hours, his wife of 24 years and the mother of their five children, was accused of his murder. You can buy *The Waterman’s Widow* through Barnesandnoble.com, Books-a-Million, Amazon and others.

### Changing Landscape

The House of Jerk, a Jamaican eatery, is due to open soon in Morningside, on Suitland Road. In preparation for the big opening, they’ve resurfaced the driveway. This is another new life for the place which first opened about 50 years ago as Tastee Freez. I still miss it; I liked that soft vanilla ice cream. I remember taking son John there many years ago to celebrate his 16th birthday. After he finished off his banana split, John applied for a job. The manager said he had to be 16. John said he was. The manager hired him on the spot.

I’ve been told that the Temple Hills Skate Palace has closed. Again. I don’t know details and the closure is not reflected in the Internet coverage.

A home at 4315 Ridgecrest Drive, in Skyline, has just sold for \$300,000.

### Shawn Webb, Enjoyed Being Santa Claus

Shawn Michael Webb, 64, of Camp Springs, a graduate of Staunton Military

Academy, Class of 1976, died May 30.

He’s survived by his mother, Christina Webb, and siblings Tom, Devin and Amy Webb, nieces and nephews.

From his obit: “Shawn had a passion for giving and was always there for his loved ones, from playing Santa Claus and singing karaoke, to watching Nascar, baseball and football, and spending time at the Marlboro Moose Club with friends, especially his special girl, Sandy.”

A memorial service was held for him August 5 at his parish, St. Philip the Apostle, in Camp Springs.

### Donald Cooke, Gwynn Park Teacher

Donald Lee Cooke, 89, for years a much-loved Horticulture teacher at Gwynn Park High School, died July 24.

Don grew up on the family farm in Upper Marlboro, son of Harold and Ursula Cooke. He attended Sasser High School where he met, and later married, Lois Rush. He cherished the friendships he made during those sweet high school years and always remained close with his fellow graduates.

As a horticulture teacher at Gwynn Park High, he raised beautiful poinsettias in preparation for Christmas each year. He also taught drivers ed to thousands of Prince George’s County students. He enjoyed living in the Chesapeake Bay region, playing poker with family and friends, making visits to the Shenandoah Mountains, and family vacations to Ocean City and Deep Creek Lake.

He is predeceased by his wife of 57 years, Lois, and his three brothers, Harold, Samuel and Alfred Cooke. Survivors include his daughters, Susan Ballinger and Nancy Stillwell, grand- and great-grandchildren. Services were at Lee Funeral Home Calvert. Interment will be private.

### Milestones

Happy Birthday to Fr. Patrick Lewis and Melody Barnes, Aug. 20; Austin Michael Fowler and Denise McHale, Aug. 21; Wayne Anderson, Barbara Phipps and Gavin Michael Glaubitz, Aug. 22; Shelly Sansbury and Joseph R. Maiden, Jr., Aug. 23; and Edith Hull who turns 88 on Aug. 26.

A bittersweet reminder of my son Brian who would have turned 66 on August 25. He died of brain cancer on April 11, 2006.

Happy 20th anniversary to my wonderful next-door neighbors, John and Stacie Smith, on August 23.

## Waldorf Native Serves Aboard U.S. Navy Warship in Pearl Harbor

By JASON WAITE

Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class, Navy Office of Community Outreach

PEARL HARBOR, HI (August 1, 2023)—Petty Officer 2nd Class Aaron Young-Oliveira, a native of Waldorf, Maryland, is serving aboard *USS Chung-Hoon*, a U.S. Navy warship operating out of Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

Young-Oliveira, a 2019 graduate of North Point High School, joined the Navy three years ago. “I joined the Navy because I needed a way to start a career,” said Young-Oliveira. “College wasn’t really an option at that point in my life.”

Today, Young-Oliveira relies upon skills and values similar to those found in Waldorf to succeed in the military.

“Growing up, my parents taught me that if I didn’t want to do something more than once, that I needed to get it done right the first time,” said Young-Oliveira. “This is big in the Navy. Getting it done right the first time is the expectation.”

*USS Chung-Hoon* is a guided-missile destroyer that provides a wide range of warfighting capabilities. The destroyer is a multi-mission ship that can operate independently or as part of a larger group of ships at sea. The ship is equipped with tomahawk missiles, torpedoes, guns and a phalanx close-in weapons system.

More than 300 sailors serve aboard *USS Chung-Hoon*. Their jobs are highly specialized, requiring both dedication and skill. The jobs range from maintaining engines to handling weaponry along with a multitude of other assignments that keep the ship mission-ready at all times, according to Navy officials.

With 90 percent of global commerce traveling by sea and access to the internet relying on the security of undersea fiber optic cables, Navy officials continue to emphasize that the prosperity of the United States is directly linked to trained sailors and a strong Navy.

“Our mission remains timeless—to provide our fellow citizens with nothing less than the very best Navy: fully combat ready at all times, focused on warfighting excellence, and committed to superior leadership at every single level,” said Adm. Mike Gilday, Chief of Naval Operations. “This is our calling. And I cannot imagine a calling more worthy.”

Serving in the Navy means Young-Oliveira is part of a team that is taking on new importance in America’s focus on strengthening alliances, modernizing capabilities, increasing capacities and maintaining military readiness in support of the National Defense Strategy.

“The Navy, along with our allies, supports national security by defending freedom, preserving economic prosperity, and keeping the seas open and free for countries around the world,” said Young-Oliveira.

Young-Oliveira and the sailors they serve with have many opportunities to achieve accomplishments during their military service.

“My proudest accomplishment so far has been completing a deployment,” said Young-Oliveira. “I never imagined myself in that environment and what it would take to get there, so I’m proud of myself for persevering through it.”

As Young-Oliveira and other sailors continue to train and perform missions, they take pride in serving their country in the United States Navy.

“Serving in the Navy means I have the opportunity to protect our nation,” said Young-Oliveira. “In return, the Navy trains me in a trade and offers free college. I’m here to build a career for myself. If I want to stay in, I have that option. However, if I don’t want to stay in, the Navy has given me the skills to continue building my career as a civilian.”

Young-Oliveira is grateful to others for helping make a Navy career possible.

“I’d like to thank my mom for supporting me, not only as a kid but also while I was transitioning into the Navy,” added Young-Oliveira. “I also want to thank my dad for guiding me into the Navy, because Lord knows he didn’t want me to join the Army. Lastly, I want to thank my wife for supporting me and pushing me to be better.”



PHOTO BY MASS COMMUNICATION SPECIALIST 1ST CLASS ANNA-LIESA HUSSEY, NAVY OFFICE OF COMMUNITY OUTREACH

## Brandywine-Aquasco

by Audrey Johnson 301-922-5384

### BULLDOG GOLF CLASSIC

Save the date, 12th Annual Bulldog Golf Classic, the Country Club at Woodmore, cewoodmore.com Tuesday, October 10, 2023. Hosted by the Bowie State University Department of Athletics. For more information, Contact Jennifer Coke, Executive Director of Athletic Philanthropy: 301-860-4778. Tournament day schedule: 7 a.m. Registration, 8:30 a.m. Shotgun Start. The Golf Clinic begins at 11 a.m. Bulldog Post-Networking Event (after tournament ends).

Early bird registration fees through September 1, 2023, are: Per foursome: \$700; Per Golfer: \$200; Per Golf Clinic: \$100. Registration includes eighteen holes, greens fee and golf cart, continental breakfast, lunch during tournament, post-networking, gift bags, and much more.

Not a golfer? Not a problem. You can still participate and take your game to the next level. All skill levels welcome. Learn the basics or refine your skills. Taught by a Woodmore Golf Pro and includes lunch.

Do not miss your chance to play golf at the exclusive Country Club at Woodmore, an Arnold Palmer-designed 18-hole golf course located in the charming Woodmore community. Maintained to the highest standards, the golf course at Woodmore has a distinguished reputation of being one of the area’s most challenging and esteemed venues. Your support matters. Proceeds from the Bulldog Golf Classic will support the Bowie State University Athletics Department’s goal of establishing an ongoing student scholarship program. The Athletics Department is an auxiliary to the university and is responsible for program fundraising.

About BSU Athletics: Bowie State University is a member of the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA), an NCAA Division II conference of twelve historically African American institutions. The Bulldogs compete in five men’s sports, football, cross country, indoor track and field, and outdoor track and field, and eight women’s sports, basketball, softball, tennis, volleyball, cross country, indoor track and field, outdoor track, and field.

Sponsorship Opportunities: For more information on supporting the Bulldog Golf Classic and Sponsorship opportunities, contact: Jennifer Coke, Executive Director of Athletic Philanthropy, jcoke@bowiestate.edu, 301-860-4778. Clyde Doughty, Vice President for Intercollegiate Athletics and Recreation cdoughty@bowiestate.edu 301-860-3570. Sponsor Today.

### FAREWELL CELEBRATION

A Farewell Celebration was held for Nurbert and Carol Hughes from Clinton United Methodist Church, Clinton, Maryland to Alexandria Chapel United Methodist Church, Indian Head, Maryland. Congratulations. The order of events were welcome and introduction, opening prayer and blessing of the food, lunch, tributes/well wishes, acknowledgements, closing prayer.

### SAVE THE DATE

Save the date October 8–14 for UMBC Homecoming, the return of events such as the Bonfire, Men’s and Women’s Soccer Games, GRIT-X, Athletics Hall of Fame, Carnival, Puppy Parade, Retriever 5K, and new alumni reunions and gatherings, including a Greek Alumni and friends party to conclude the celebration. Contact us at homecoming@umbc.edu if you have any questions.

### ANNUAL AWARDS

Annual Awards, October 27 (in person and virtually). The Alumni Association Board of Directors will honor UMBC graduates and members of the community at the 3rd Annual Awards. Awardees will be honored in the Outstanding Graduate categories of social sciences, visual and performing arts, humanities, engineering and informant technology, natural and mathematical sciences, Distinguished Service, Young Alumni Rising Star, and Outstanding Faculty and Staff.

### BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY HOMECOMING

Save the date, brush off your Black and Gold. Meet us at Homecoming 2023. There is no place like home. October 7, 2023, Bowie State University Bulldogs vs. Virginia State Trojans. Kick-off: 2 p.m. in the Bulldog Stadium.

### SALUTE THE SUNSET CONCERT SERIES

Saturday evenings throughout the summer are military band nights at National Harbor. Bring a chair and enjoy an evening with performing ensembles from a variety of United States military bands at 7 p.m.

### 2023 MISSION NUTRITION

Free fresh seasonal produce—monthly distribution at Gwynn Park High School: 2023 Distribution Schedule: August 15, September 19, October 17, November 21, December 19 from 4–6 p.m. Please bring your own bags. Sponsored in partnership with Prince George’s County Department of Social Services, Capital Area Food Bank, and Community Supply, Inc.

### BILL PICKET RODEO

The Bill Picket Rodeo will be held September 23, 2023, 1:30 p.m. at Prince George’s Equestrian Center & Show Place Arena—14900 Pennsylvania Avenue, Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772. Visit the website. The Bill Picket Invitational Rodeo celebrates and honor, Black Cowboys and Cowgirls and their contributions to building the west. They highlight the irrefutable global appeal of Black Cowboys and Cowgirls in the West and stories behind a subculture that is still strong today. BPRI also serves as a cultural event and opportunity for families to enjoy and embrace the cowboy culture, while being educated and entertained with reenactments, historical highlights, and western adventure.

### Marietta House Museum presents:

#### “Mindfulness at Marietta,” a Forest Bathing Series

Relaxing afternoons engaged in history and nature through touch, sight, and smell. Upcoming “Mindfulness at Marietta” series events:

**Touching History**, Saturday, August 26 (rain date, August 27), 1:30 – 2:30 pm

**An Eye on History**, Saturday, September 30 (rain date, October 1), 1:30 – 2:30 pm

**The Fragrance of History**, Saturday, October 21 (rain date, October 22), 1:30 – 2:30 pm.

Mindfulness at Marietta, a Forest Bathing one-hour session led by Susan West Montgomery who deepens the mindfulness experience by layering the nature-culture connection outdoors on Marietta House Museum grounds. Forest bathing is based on the Japanese practice of Shinrin-yoku. Forest bathing has been shown to provide tremen-

dous health benefits including stress reduction and a greater ability to concentrate. The sessions are conducted in relative quiet and are not strenuous; all skill levels and most abilities can be accommodated.

Recommended for ages 5 & up. Ages 16 and under must be accompanied by an adult. \$5/person, children under 12 are free.

Please call 301-464-5291 or email mariettahouse@pgparks.com to register. Marietta House Museum is located at 5626 Bell Station Road, Glenn Dale, MD. 20769, and is a property of the MNCPPC.

# COMMUNITY

## California-Based Dynamic Artist Duo Create New Limited Edition Print at Pyramid to be Released at Exhibition “SANA(A)”

By KATE TAYLOR DAVIS  
Pyramid Atlantic

HYATTSVILLE, Md. (August 2, 2023)—California-based artists Jessica Sabogal and Shanna Strauss arrive at Pyramid the first week in August to create a collaborative print in its screenprinting studio and printshop through the new Denbo Publishing Residency program at Pyramid.

The new print will be released on August 25th at the exhibition opening of SANA(A), where Jessica and Shanna debut not only the new work but also their six-year collaboration as life partners and artistic duo. Together, they meticulously hand-print their individual and collaborative works on paper, encompassing an array of techniques, including photopolymer gravure, screenprint, and relief printmaking.

The public opening for SANA(A) takes place on **Friday, August 25** from 6:30–8:30 p.m. (free, RSVP required). The exhibition runs through September 24, 2023 in Pyramid's Helen C. Frederick Gallery. Gallery hours are Wed–Thurs., 10–8 p.m. and Fri–Sun, 10–6 p.m. Pyramid is located at 4318 Gallatin Street, Hyattsville Maryland 20781. For more information and an RSVP link, visit [pyramidatlantic.org](http://pyramidatlantic.org) or call 301-608-9101.

Jessica and Shanna's residency marks the return of this type of publishing program after a near 20-year hiatus. When thinking of whom Pyramid wanted to invite to this program that has a legacy of working with artists such as Hung Liu and William Christenberry, the nominating committee created a short list of artists around the country who would be exciting additions to Pyramid's Collection of work made in its studios. Jessica and Shanna quickly rose to the top due to their lusciously crafted prints and powerful content.

“We are thrilled to be invited together as a collaborative duo,” shared Jessica and Shanna. “Typical formats for invitations, residencies, and awards usually cater to individual artists. However, being Tanzanian-American and Colombian-American respectively, we have often encountered invitations specifically designated for Black artists or Latinx artists, which would only accommodate one of us. Therefore, we are incredibly excited about the opportunity to participate in a residency at Pyramid that breaks away from traditional models and embraces collaborative efforts like ours.”

The theme at the heart of SANA(A) is the healing of wounds, explored within various dimensions. Through Jessica and Shanna's own personal journeys and their connections with other queer and trans women of color, both living and departed, they investigate how we mend individual, collective, and societal wounds, caused by grief, family dynamics, invisible labor, and migration.

The title of the exhibition itself carries a profound significance, blending the artists' cultural backgrounds. “Sana” translates as a compelling command to “heal” in Spanish, while “sanaa” embodies the essence of “art” in Kiswahili, weaving together the roots of Jessica's Colombian background and Shanna's Tanzanian heritage. They interweave elements of these legacies within their work by incorporating symbols, patterns and artifacts from their respective motherlands.

SANA(A) visually represents the artists' dedication to depicting women of color existence, voices, tenderness, care-taking, and spaces—not as subjects, rather as centers. Each piece they create is a celebration of our differences and a symbol of our liberation.

SANA(A) will bring approximately 20 prints together at Pyramid and include the new print hot off the press.

Jessica and Shanna's collective studio is called Taller Sanaa, (TA - YER SAN- AR). Jessica is a cuir Colombian-American muralist from San Francisco whose large-scale public artworks attempt to document and disrupt. Shanna is Tanzanian-American mixed media artist whose work centers on honoring and uplifting the oral traditions and stories of Black women, Indigenous women, and women of color. Together, their practice draws inspiration, connection, and influence from contemporary political and social



PHOTO COURTESY PYRAMID ATLANTIC  
L-R: Artists Jessica Sabogal and Shanna Strauss

movements. Their collaborative discipline is committed to uplifting the sacredness of women, people of color, the disabled, queer and trans folks, immigrants and the undocumented, and indigenous peoples, whom history perpetually renders as less than human. For the past six years, they have cultivated a new visual practice, encompassing muralism, printmaking, community engagement, and public art.

Their work has been collected and exhibited by various institutions including the National Portrait Gallery, the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, the PHI Foundation, the Library of Congress, The Obama Foundation Inaugural Summit, and Galeria de la Raza. Together, they have been commissioned by the California Endowment, the University of California, San Francisco, and the Euphrat Museum to create public art installations. Notably, they have also received several awards including the Kala Art Institute Fellowship, Women's Studio Workshop Studio Residency Grant, and the Incahouts Full-Grant Residency. They reside together in Oakland, California/Huchiun, unceded Ohlone territory.

The Denbo Publishing Residency relaunches a print publishing program at Pyramid that has been on hiatus for nearly 20 years. The residency invites artists to Pyramid's studios to work with staff on an edition of work in print form. The edition (number of prints) produced is split 50/50 between the artist(s) and Pyramid. Pyramid's current collection of work made by this type of residency includes prints, pulp paintings, and artist made books created and acquired between 1981 and 2007. Many of the artists who participated in the residency have since achieved greater prominence and influence, including Joyce J. Scott, William Christenberry, Miriam Schapiro, and Hung Liu. Pyramid is excited to add Jessica and Shanna's new work to this history and hopes to host artists annually through this program.

The Denbo Publishing Residency is made possible in part by support from the family of artist Beverly Denbo. Pyramid is also grateful to Landex Development, which operates MiXt Food Hall, Artisan 4100 and Studio 3807 in Brentwood, for providing housing during the artists' stay in the Gateway Arts District.

*Founded in 1981, Pyramid Atlantic is a nonprofit contemporary art center fostering the creative disciplines of papermaking, printmaking, and book arts within a collaborative community. We equip, educate, and exhibit in our historic Hyattsville home. Our vision is to create an artistic hub in Hyattsville that inspires and enables local, national, and international artists to create and innovate in our core disciplines; elevates the local arts and small business scene; and enhances the quality of life for artists and neighbors. We value artistic excellence, infrastructure for artists, hands-on experiences, and collaboration.*  
[pyramidatlanticartcenter.org](http://pyramidatlanticartcenter.org)

## How to Help Keep Your Child Safe and Healthy This School Year

(StatePoint) As students return to classrooms, doctors say that it's important to ensure that children are up-to-date with routine childhood vaccinations. “The evidence around vaccinations is abundantly clear; they're safe, effective and will help protect you, your loved ones and your community from preventable diseases. If you have questions about vaccines, their safety, or effectiveness, please speak to your physician. We are here for you, eager to answer your questions, and ensure your family is protected,” says Jesse M. Ehrenfeld, M.D., M.P.H., president of the American Medical Association (AMA).

In an effort to promote a safer, healthier school year for everyone, the AMA is sharing these vaccine facts and insights:

- Vaccines are safe, effective and save lives. Routine childhood immunization is highly effective at preventing disease over a lifetime, reducing the incidence of all targeted diseases, including measles, mumps, rubella, polio and chickenpox. For the U.S. population in 2019, vaccines prevented more than 24 million cases of disease.

- The benefits of vaccines can be quantified. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), vaccination of children born between 1994 and 2021 will prevent 472 million illnesses, almost 30 million hospitalizations and more than 1 million deaths, saving nearly \$2.2 trillion in total societal costs, including \$479 billion in direct costs.



PHOTO COURTESY OF STATEPOINT MEDIA

**American Medical Association President Jesse M. Ehrenfeld, M.D., and his son Ethan.**

- Vaccination rates have fallen. Even before the rise in vaccine misinformation and disinformation associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, vaccine hesitancy was increasing, elevating the risk of community outbreaks, which put under- and unvaccinated children at risk for serious illnesses, like measles. According to a mid-January 2023 report from the CDC, vaccination coverage decreased in most states for all vaccines among kindergarteners for the 2021-22 school year when compared with the previous school year, which was already below pre-pandemic levels.

- Speak to your child's physician. With increased misinformation around vaccinations, it is critical that you seek out reliable, evidence-based sources for information. These sources may begin with websites like [getvaccinesanswers.org](http://getvaccinesanswers.org), but they should also include your child's physician.

Physicians can also answer questions on the new monoclonal antibody therapy, nirsevimab, available for infants and children under the age of 19 months, for the prevention of RSV disease.

- Don't let cost be a barrier. Programs like Vaccines for Children (VFC) are federally funded to provide no-cost vaccinations to children whose families otherwise could not afford them. Parents can learn more by contacting their state or local health department.

“Make an annual well-child visit and immunizations a part of your household's back-to-school routine,” says Dr. Ehrenfeld. “Doing so will protect you and your family from a number of preventable illnesses. It's something I do for my own children, and I urge you to do so, too.”



PHOTO COURTESY OF FAMILY FEATURES

## 5 Tips to Set Your Kids Up for Back-to-School Success

(Family Features) Whether you're dreading hectic school-day schedules or excited for kids to be back in the classroom, most parents agree the transition back to school can be a stressful time.

Change can be trying for kids and adults, but it doesn't have to be if you tackle the season a little at a time — mentally, emotionally and logistically.

Consider these five school-readiness tips from KinderCare experts to help parents ease the jitters, prepare for school days and set goals to help ensure their children have great years.

1. Ease into school-year routines. Many children thrive on routines. Prep for the transition to a school-day schedule as early as possible by slowly moving your children's bedtimes up a little each evening. You should also establish school-year breakfast, lunch and dinner routines to help children adjust to regular mealtimes.

2. Take a trial run and figure out what hiccups need addressing. Ask your children's school if you can take an after-hours tour to increase familiarity and practice your routine. According to KinderCare's Parent Confidence Report, 61% of parents believe

being a parent means constantly thinking about child care gaps, so now is the time to make before- and after-school care arrangements and discuss them with your children. Help ease their nerves by making sure they practice the little things like opening and closing lunchboxes, water bottles and backpacks, and finding their drop off and pick up locations then adjust as needed to make sure they feel confident in each of the tasks.

3. Start back-to-school conversations at home. Children sometimes experience big feelings, and they may not know how to explain what they're experiencing. Whether it's excitement, jitters or anxiety around the unknown, having open conversations at home about school can give children a comfortable space to share what they feel and help quell their nerves. This is also a good time to gently remind your children about kindness and acceptance of others. During the school year, monitor your children's behavior to better understand how they may be feeling.

4. Build strong home and school partnerships. One of the best things you can do for your children is give

them the resources they need for success then support them along the way. One way to do this is by building partnerships with your children's teachers to create a strong foundation for the entire school year. Whether it's joining the local parent group at school, downloading a classroom app, following your children's school social media pages or sending an informal “getting to know you” email to your children's teachers, consistent and effective communication is often beneficial when you face challenges or have questions down the road.

5. Set school-year goals. These don't have to be formal; they can be impactful and fun, too. This may help your children understand what they're working toward. Maybe they want to try a new sport or learn a musical instrument. Maybe they would like to increase their math competencies by a letter grade or demonstrate more patience while learning new things. Make a mental note to continuously revisit these goals throughout the year to celebrate progress and growth. Watch for ways you can help them accomplish these objectives with support from counselors, coaches and instructors as well as at home.

For more tips to help ensure a smooth back-to-school transition, visit [kindercare.com](http://kindercare.com).

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Call 301-627-0900 Today!

# COMMENTARY

**Marian Wright Edelman**  
*Founder and President Emerita,  
 Children's Defense Fund*



**ChildWatch:**

## We Must Be the Examples

When our children see the news right now, what are they thinking? We are at a moment where adults everywhere are reminded once again that we must all continue to strive to be the examples we want our children to emulate. We must teach them to value the truth and to know right from wrong. We cannot depend on anyone else.

I believe all great faiths, history, moral decency, and common sense beckon us anew to examine as individuals and as a people what we are to live by and teach our children by precept and example. I urge adults in America of all races, faiths, and political persuasions to make a difference by teaching our children to love themselves and others as God loves us. We must teach our children at every age how we expect them to treat themselves and others respectfully and fairly and then struggle to model that behavior daily no matter what people in power, public figures, or role models are doing or how often we fail to meet our own standards, get up, and try again.

To our children, I hope they will make a difference as they grow by being courageous, aiming high, and holding on to ideals of mutual respect; by caring and serving; by being

honest and telling the truth; by persevering and not giving up no matter how difficult the challenge; by being determined and resourceful; by being grateful for the gift and wonders of life; by working together with others; by being compassionate and kind; by being non-violent and working for justice and peace in their communities, nation, and world; and by being faithful and struggling for what they believe.

The arc of the moral universe is long, but it still bends towards justice. It is so important for adults not to let ourselves off the hook or to become apathetic or cynical by telling ourselves that nothing we do can make a difference. Every day, light your small candle. It just might be the one that sparks the movement to save our children's and our nation's future.

Lord, You told us, "Blessed are the poor in spirit."

The world says, "Blessed are those high on spirits."

You said, "Blessed are those who mourn." The world says, "Blessed are those who maim and torture."

You said, "Blessed are the meek." The world says, "Blessed are the arrogant and the strong."

You said, "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness." The world says, "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for fleeting power and fame."

You said, "Blessed are the merciful." The world says, "Blessed are the mercenary and punitive."

You said, "Blessed are the pure in heart." The world says, "Blessed are the hard of heart."

You said, "Blessed are the peacemakers." The world says, "Blessed are the weaponmakers."

You said, "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake." The world says, "Blessed are those who persecute for the sake of riches and race."

You said, "Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil about you falsely on my account."

The world says, "Blessed are you when people applaud you and praise you for your own sake."

Help us, Lord, to find our way to You.

—August 4, 2023

**Mark Morial**  
*President and CEO,  
 National Urban League*



**To Be Equal:**

## Charles Ogletree Leaves a Profound Legacy of Commitment to Justice and Equity, Compassion and Kindness

"He could, on any given day, advise the likes of Nelson Mandela, field a call from a U.S. senator, write a brief for a client, meet with students over a late lunch, chair a board meeting for a nonprofit, pray over the telephone with a member of his church, make a pro bono court appearance, edit a chapter for an upcoming book, have an early dinner with a community leader and finish the evening by moderating a Massachusetts gubernatorial debate."

—Harvard law professor  
**Ronald S. Sullivan Jr**

The 1921 Tulsa Massacre stands as one of the worst acts of racial terrorism in the United States since the abolition of slavery.

But it had nearly faded from history until 2003, when the late Charles J. Ogletree, Jr., filed suit on behalf of the victims and their survivors.

Ogletree passed away last week at the age of 70, but the fight for justice in Tulsa lives

on. On the day he died, a group of survivors and descendants asked the Oklahoma Supreme Court to reinstate their most recent lawsuit, which a lower court dismissed last month.

The case Ogletree launched two decades ago ignited a larger debate about the legacy of slavery and segregation and how the nation should make reparations.

It was my privilege to know and collaborate often over the years with "Tree," as he was called. We shared the stage for many forums, debates, and panel discussions, and he contributed his invaluable insights to several National Urban League Conferences.

It's hard to overstate his influence on civil rights and criminal justice, both as a brilliant, dynamic trial attorney, legal scholar, and Harvard law professor. His greatest influence, however, may be his mentorship of the young students who developed into the next generation of leaders—among them the first Black U.S. President, the first Black First Lady, and the

first Black woman Supreme Court justice.

As a Harvard law student, President Obama frequently attended Ogletree's Saturday School, a forum to support Black students and examine critical issues of justice, race, and equity.

Ogletree first came to national attention when he represented Anita Hill as she testified to the Senate Judiciary Committee in 1991 about the sexual harassment she experienced while working with Supreme Court nominee Clarence Thomas. He represented other famous clients but continued to serve the poor and marginalized people who suffered most from racial discrimination and bias in the criminal justice system.

His argument before the Supreme Court in 1990 led to a unanimous decision that Georgia prosecutors had violated the rights of Black man, convicted by an all-white jury and sentenced to death, by striking 90% of the Black potential jurors.

Even as his light began to fade with the diagnosis of early-onset Alzheimer's disease in 2015, he continued to uplift those around him by speaking out to destigmatize the condition and allay people's fears.

Ogletree was a rare soul who left a profound impact on the nation, his profession, the institution he served with his whole heart for 35 years, and every individual whose life he touched. We grieve his passing and extend our deepest sympathy to his family and the many friends and students who loved him.

—August 10, 2023

**Checklist from A1**

all fraud complaints. College-bound students can help guard against identity theft by following these tips:

- Monitor your credit. AAA provides ProtectMyID®, the Experian Identity Theft Protection service, as a free benefit to all members. Set up credit card and financial alerts and track your credit score.
- Guard your numbers. Provide personal information, such as PINs or Social Security numbers, only when absolutely necessary. Avoid carrying your social security card and driver's license together and refuse to lend your ATM or credit card to anyone.
- Choose strong passwords. Using a "passphrase" can be more secure than a single password. Use two-factor authentication if available. Be sure to use different pass-phrases for different accounts or sites.
- Use caution with mailed documents. Mailboxes for dormitories and campus-area apartments may not be secure. For important transactions that could include personal infor-

mation, use a permanent address such as your parents' home or get a post office box.

- Be sure online payments are secure. Avoid using public Wi-Fi when making an online payment or purchase. Not only does this increase the risk of your confidential information being stolen, but it potentially enables malware to be put on your computer.
- Be careful on social media. Becoming too comfortable with social media platforms may cause you to give away too much information in your posts, making it easier for thieves to guess your passwords or answer security questions. Set profiles to private and only accept friend requests from people you know

**Keeping up on vehicle maintenance**

In addition to reviewing insurance coverage, parents with students heading to college should also address the important subject of vehicle maintenance and repair.

"Frequently, a teen's vehicle is maintained by parents while living at home, and lessons on proper car care are only discussed briefly,"

said Ali. "Before heading to campus, it is vital that college students fully understand how to independently address their vehicle's routine maintenance needs."

AAA offers these vehicle care tips for parents and college-bound students:

- Find a trusted repair facility near college for routine or unexpected repairs. AAA.com/repair provides a list of AAA-approved auto repair facilities across the country. Keep the contact information handy.
- Perform regularly scheduled maintenance. Parents should review the vehicle owner's manual with the student, explain the recommended maintenance schedule and coordinate planned service. Be sure the vehicle is serviced before taking it to school.
- Prepare for roadside emergencies. Parents can provide their student with a AAA membership (can often be added to parent's membership at no or very low cost) to provide peace-of-mind in case of a dead battery, flat tire or other problem. AAA membership services are available to members no matter whose vehicle they are in—

theirs or a friend's.

- Keep an emergency kit in the vehicle. Be sure it is well-stocked with a flashlight and extra batteries, jumper cables, first-aid kit, basic tool kit and bottled water. In winter, add a small snow shovel, warm clothes, ice scraper/snow brush, flares or reflective triangles and something for traction such as coarse kitty litter or sand.

AAA provides automotive, travel, and insurance services to more than 63 million members nationwide, nearly 90,000 members in Washington, D.C. and more than 1,000,000 members in Maryland. AAA advocates for the safety and mobility of its members and has been committed to outstanding road service for more than 100 years. AAA is a non-stock, membership corporation working on behalf of motorists, who can map a route, access a COVID travel restriction map, find local gas prices and electric vehicle charging stations, discover discounts, book a hotel, and track their roadside assistance service with the AAA Mobile app (AAA.com/mobile) for iPhone, iPad and Android. For more information on joining or renewing a Membership, visit [www.AAA.com](http://www.AAA.com).

## Hoyer Statement on the One Year Anniversary of the PACT Act

By PRESS OFFICER  
 Office of Congressman Steny H. Hoyer

WASHINGTON, D.C. (August 10, 2023)—Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (MD), Chair of the Regional Leadership Council, released the following statement today marking one year since the Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act was signed into law:

"Today marks one year since President Joe Biden signed the Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act into law—the largest expansion of Veterans' benefits in decades, impacting about one in every five Veterans. Thanks to this historic law, millions of Veterans who were exposed to dangerous toxins—from Agent Orange in Vietnam to toxic burn pits in Iraq and Afghanistan—while serving in uniform will have greater access to the lifesaving care they deserve. For too long, our service members have put their lives at risk to defend our nation and returned home with a greater risk of cancer, respiratory diseases, and other harmful conditions because of these toxins. The PACT Act ensures that these courageous men and women won't have to navigate a web of red tape to receive treatment and other benefits. Just as our Veterans made a commitment to serve our nation, our nation has a responsibility to serve them long after they take off the uniform.

"I was pleased to bring the PACT Act to the House Floor as Majority Leader last Congress and to pass this legislation on a bipartisan basis. Now, I am proud to play a leading role in the implementation of this transformative law as Chair of the Regional Leadership Council. Earlier this Summer, the Regional Leadership Council met with VA Secretary Denis McDonough to discuss outreach efforts related to the PACT Act. Indeed, this law is already making a difference in the lives of numerous Veterans across the country. In the past year since the PACT Act's enactment, more than 660,000 Veterans have applied for PACT Act-related benefits, 4.1 million Veterans have received free toxic exposure screenings, more than 287,000 Veterans have enrolled in VA health care, over 350,000 Veterans have already received expanded benefits, and nearly 3.5 million Veterans are eligible for the benefits they earned through their service.

"The Regional Leadership Council and I are hard at work to ensure that eligible Veterans take advantage of these new PACT Act resources. There is no deadline to apply for benefits, and just this morning, the VA extended the deadline for Veterans and survivors to apply for PACT Act benefits backdated a full year, to this upcoming Monday, August 14. I encourage all our Veterans to visit [VA.Gov/PACT](http://VA.Gov/PACT) to take advantage of all that the PACT Act has to offer."

**TUESDAY TIP**  
**Summer Storms & Lightning Risks**  
 Summer storms can be devastating! The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) offers these safety tips to keep you out of harm's way.

- Never lie flat on the ground.
- Stay away from objects that conduct electricity.
- Never shelter under an isolated tree, tower, or utility pole.
- Immediately leave elevated areas such as hills, mountain ridges, or peaks.
- Get as low as possible from rocks, fences, and other bodies of water.
- For more information, visit [fema.gov/emergency](http://fema.gov/emergency).

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# BUSINESS AND FINANCE

## Maryland Delegation Announces Over \$6.5 Million to Enhance State, Local Cybersecurity Infrastructure

By PRESS OFFICER  
Office of Senator Ben Cardin

WASHINGTON, D.C. (August 10, 2023)—U.S. Senators Ben Cardin and Chris Van Hollen and Congressmen Steny H. Hoyer, Dutch Ruppersberger, John Sarbanes, Kweisi Mfume, Jamie Raskin, David Trone and Glenn Ivey (all D-Md.) today announced \$6,514,533 in U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency funding to help strengthen Maryland's cybersecurity infrastructure.

The federal funding, awarded to the Maryland Department of Emergency Management, comes through the FY 2023 State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program (SLCGP) which helps state, local and territorial (STL) governments manage and

reduce systemic cyber risk. "Increased cyberattacks on Maryland's schools, hospitals and state and local government agencies have exposed our residents' personal information and threatened our national security. The need for strong, secure cybersecurity infrastructure is greater than ever," said the lawmakers. "This funding will help address vulnerabilities within our cybersecurity infrastructure to both better defend against attacks and prevent attacks before they happen."

The SLCGP, made available by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, enables the Department of Homeland Security to make targeted cybersecurity investments in SLT government agencies and improve the security and resilience of critical infrastructure including technology, equipment, training and planning activities.

State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program applicants are encouraged to complete the Grants.gov application no later than seven days before the October 6, 2023, deadline. Additional information can be found at [www.cisa.gov/state-and-local-cybersecurity-grant-program](http://www.cisa.gov/state-and-local-cybersecurity-grant-program).

## Applications Open for Maryland Humanities' SHINE General Operating Support Grant Program

By SARAH WEISSMAN  
Maryland Humanities

BALTIMORE, Md. (August 2, 2023)—Maryland Humanities announces the second round of SHINE (Strengthening the Humanities Investment in Nonprofits for Equity) general operating support to humanities-focused Maryland nonprofits. This round, the organization will distribute a total of \$950,000 in general operating support grants, thanks to the State of Maryland, via Maryland Historical Trust. Applications are currently open: they close September 1.

Previously known as SHINE (Strengthening the Humanities Investment in Nonprofits for Equity) Grant Program, Maryland Humanities has renamed it the Marilyn Hatza Memorial SHINE Grant Program after the organization's late Director of Grants and Community Engagement.

"Honoring Marilyn's legacy in our grants program and our racial equity work felt important. I am so thankful that we are able to name SHINE, a program she imagined during the pandemic, after her," says Lindsey Baker, Executive Director of Maryland Humanities.

Full guidelines and eligibility requirements are available on the Maryland Humanities website; the application template and scoring rubric will be released at the end of the month. These grants provide full flexibility to nonprofits, al-

lowing them to determine where funds are most needed. General operating expenses include salaries, rent, utilities, supplies, equipment, programs, and other expenses.

Eligible nonprofit organizations will offer humanities programming as a significant part of their mission with an annual budget of up to \$500,000. They include but are not limited to: museums, historic sites, preservation and historical societies, and community or cultural organizations. Ninety-five eligible nonprofits in Maryland will receive grants of \$10,000 each.



"I am thrilled that Maryland Humanities is able to launch the second round of our SHINE funding," says Baker. "Lowering barriers and providing funding in a more equitable way to organizations statewide remains a goal for us and the Marilyn Hatza Memorial SHINE Grant Program allows us to work towards those goals."

Keith Stone, Vice Chair of the Board of Directors and Grants Committee Chair at Maryland Humanities, says, "We believe that the shift to general operating support will allow Maryland Humanities to build deeper, stronger relationships with our partners, each of which will focus on providing quality humanities programming to Marylanders."

Running the Hatza SHINE Grants program will be Emily Ross, Maryland Humanities' new Program Officer for Grants. Ross joined the staff last month and recently graduated from the University of Maryland, Baltimore, earning her Master of Social Work. During her studies, she conducted social research at the Urban Institute and worked with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra designing programs for OrchKids. Prior to that, Emily worked as a museum educator for six years at institutions such as the Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art and The Fralin Museum of Art.

These grants are funded by the State of Maryland via the Maryland Historical Trust. Learn more about our SHINE Grants, eligibility, and deadlines on the website, [www.mdhumanities.org/grants](http://www.mdhumanities.org/grants). For questions, contact Ross at [eross@mdhumanities.org](mailto:eross@mdhumanities.org).

Maryland Humanities creates and supports bold experiences that explore and elevate our shared stories to connect people, enhance lives, and enrich communities. For more information, visit [www.mdhumanities.org](http://www.mdhumanities.org). Maryland Humanities is generously supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities; the State of Maryland; the Citizens of Baltimore County; private foundations; corporations; small businesses; and individual donors. Connect with Maryland Humanities on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube.



### Social Security Matters

Ask Rusty:

## Why is Social Security Withholding My Monthly Payments?

By RUSSELL GLOOR,  
National Social Security Advisor at the AMAC Foundation, the non-profit arm of the Association of Mature American Citizens

**Dear Rusty:** I have been working since I started collecting Social Security when I turned 62. Last year I was apparently overpaid because of my job. I made \$37,000 and now the Social Security Administration says I owe them \$8,800 dollars because I made too much, and they have withheld my \$2000 monthly SS payment. I am close to the maximum allowable again already this year. So, I am looking at quitting my job so I don't go over, but they are holding my payments so then I would have no money. Any help would be appreciated.

**Signed: Frustrated by Social Security**

**Dear Frustrated:** You are being affected by Social Security's "earnings test" which applies to everyone who collects early Social Security and also works before reaching their full retirement age (FRA). If your earned income exceeds the annual limit (which was \$19,560 for 2022), Social Security will withhold \$1 in benefits for every \$2 you are over the limit. If you earned \$37,000 in 2022 you were more than \$17,000 over the limit and owe half of that back to Social Security. They usually recover what you owe by withholding your future benefit payments, so they won't pay you benefits until they have recovered that \$8,800, after which your benefits will resume—but only for a while.

If you are working full time and also collecting early Social Security benefits, the earnings test lasts until you reach your full retirement age, which for you is 66 years and 8 months. The earnings limit goes up a bit each year—for 2023 it is \$21,240—but if you continue to work full time, you'll receive another overpayment notice and have more benefits withheld. A better approach might be to contact Social Security in advance and tell them what your 2023 earnings are expected to be, thus permitting them to suspend your benefits in advance and avoid over-

paying you. I'm afraid there is no way around this—collecting early benefits while working full time means the "earnings test" will affect your benefit payments.

The "good news" in all of this is that when you reach your full retirement age, you will get time-credit for all months your benefits were withheld. By that I mean they will, at your FRA, recalculate your benefit entitlement as though you had claimed later (later by the number of months you had benefits withheld), which will result in a higher monthly payment after your FRA. In that way, you may eventually recover some or all of the benefits withheld by receiving a higher monthly amount for the rest of your life, starting at your full retirement age.

I suggest you contact Social Security at 1.800.772.1213 (or at your local office) and tell them you want to provide them with an estimate of your 2023 earnings because you are working and collecting early Social Security benefits. They will work with you to suspend your benefits for an appropriate number of (additional) months to avoid another overpayment situation. Note, you'll likely need to do this each year you continue to work full time, until the year you reach your full retirement age when the earnings limit more than doubles. The earnings limit goes away when you reach your full retirement age.

The 2.4 million member Association of Mature American Citizens [AMAC] [www.amac.us](http://www.amac.us) is a vibrant, vital senior advocacy organization that takes its marching orders from its members. AMAC Action is a non-profit, non-partisan organization representing the membership in our nation's capital and in local Congressional Districts throughout the country. And the AMAC Foundation ([www.Amac-Foundation.org](http://www.Amac-Foundation.org)) is the Association's non-profit organization, dedicated to supporting and educating America's Seniors. Together, we act and speak on the Association members' behalf, protecting their interests and offering a practical insight on how to best solve the problems they face today. Live long and make a difference by joining us today at [www.amac.us/join-amac](http://www.amac.us/join-amac).

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website ([amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory](http://amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory)) or email us at [ssadvisior@amacfoundation.org](mailto:ssadvisior@amacfoundation.org).

OFFICE OF CENTRAL SERVICES  
Land Acquisition and Real Property Division



NOTICE: REQUEST FOR SPACE ("RFS")  
OCS-RFS-DSS-2023-8:

## DSS WARM NIGHTS EMERGENCY TEMPORARY HOUSING

Prince George's County's Office of Central Services ("OCS") is seeking offers for land for new construction or existing free standing building(s) that is currently ready for occupancy or could be renovated to be occupied as an emergency temporary housing for residents experiencing an episode of homelessness. It is the County's strong preference to purchase a site, land, or the redevelopment of an existing building in the fulfillment of this requirement, but the County will also consider lease structure or ground lease options that include a path to ownership.

Responsive offers, among other things, should provide space that is within one building and contiguous on a single floor is preferred. However, properties [campus complex] that include multiple buildings may be considered. **ISSUANCE DATE: AUGUST 1, 2023**

### DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING PROPOSALS:

Offers will be received and considered on a rolling basis starting and this solicitation shall remain open until the County has awarded a contract that satisfies the entirety of this requirement.

**Offers must be e-mailed to:** [OCS\\_RealProperty@co.pg.md.us](mailto:OCS_RealProperty@co.pg.md.us)

### ATTENTION:

Ikenna Udejiofor, Administrator  
Land Acquisition and Real Property Division (LARP)

### REFERENCE:

DSS Warm Nights Emergency  
Temporary Housing RFS DSS-2023-8

### SUBMISSION FORMAT AND DUE DATE:

Please submit two (2) electronic copies (1 PDF and 1 Word version.) Offers must be submitted to OCS with all required supplemental information and documentation, by 3:00 pm, September 4, 2023, else the offer will not be considered.

Addendum: If it becomes necessary to revise any part of this RFS or if additional data is necessary to enable interpretation of provisions of this RFS, such revisions or additional data will be made available online at <https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/4212/Development-and-Solicitation-Opportunity>



**No phone calls, please.**

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**UNITED METHODIST**

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9363 D'Arcy Road  
Upper Marlboro, MD

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9 a.m.

(301) 735-9373  
Fax: (301) 735-1844

**Rev. Dr. Timothy West, Pastor**

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[www.westphaliaum.org](http://www.westphaliaum.org)

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20785 (301) 773-6655

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Sunday Worship:  
7:30 a.m., 10:45 a.m.  
Saturday Worship:  
6:30 p.m.

'WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS WITH JESUS':  
12 noon (The Power Hour) and 6:45 pm

"A Time of Prayer, Praise, Worship, & The Word"  
**Dr. Henry P. Davis III, Pastor**  
[www.fhbp.org](http://www.fhbp.org)

**BAPTIST**

**First Baptist Church of College Park**

Welcomes You Where Jesus Christ Is Lord and King  
Stephen L. Wright, Sr., Pastor

5018 Lakeland Road  
College Park, MD 20740  
**301-474-3995**  
[www.fbc-cp.org](http://www.fbc-cp.org)

Sunday School 9:30a.m.  
Sunday Worship 11a.m.  
Holy Communion 1st Sunday  
Wednesday Bible Study 7-8p.m.  
Wednesday Prayer Service 8p.m.

**UNITED METHODIST**

**Union United Methodist Church**

14418 Old Marlboro Pike,  
Upper Marlboro, MD

Church (301) 627-7389

Sunday School (Children/Adults) - 8:30 a.m.  
Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.

**Reverend Twanda E. King, Pastor**  
[www.uumchurch.com](http://www.uumchurch.com)

**S. G. Spottswood A.M.E. Zion Church**

419 Hill Road, Landover, MD  
20785 • 301-490-2625

*Rev. Ranesa Mayo, Pastor*

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Matthew 28:19-20

Sunday School 9:00 a.m.  
Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.

Soulful Thursdays  
Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

**BAPTIST**

**Forest Heights Baptist Church**

We exist to strengthen your relationship with God.  
6371 Oxon Hill Road  
Oxon Hill, Maryland 20745

Sunday School (Adults & Children) - 9:30 A.M.  
Worship Service - 11:00 A.M.  
Wed. Prayer Service & Bible Study - 7:00 P.M.  
Office (301) 839-1166  
Fax (301) 839-1721  
E-mail: [FHBC@verizon.net](mailto:FHBC@verizon.net)  
Pastor: Rev. Waymond B. Duke

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