



## OPTIONAL PRECONFERENCE TOURS

Arrive early and get a head start on the proceedings. Register for one of the *three exciting tours* that our hosts at the Maryland State Arts Council have organized for your enjoyment. The tours will depart from the Baltimore Marriott Waterfront.

### Thursday, December 6

#### **O! Say Can You See —The Star-Spangled Experience in Baltimore – Bus Tour**

A poem and a flag crafted in Baltimore are among the most potent of all our national symbols. Encounter the people and places of the war of 1812 Battle of Baltimore, and see how their actions helped shape our national identity. Just days after the President and Congress abandoned Washington and the White House and Capitol were in ruins, the diverse citizens of Baltimore defeated the greatest military power in the world. See the sites where it happened, including the Fells Point National Register Historic District (the “nest of pirates” the British set out to destroy); Patterson Park and its fanciful pagoda; Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine; the Flag House, the home of the women who sewed the 15-star Star-Spangled Banner; the Battle Monument, America’s first war memorial and monument to the common soldier; and the Maryland Historical Society, the home of Francis Scott Key’s original manuscript.

*Please note that this tour is accessible to people with disabilities and older adults; however, the interior of the pagoda at Patterson Park is not accessible.*

Tour operates from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Cost: \$15 U.S. per person (transportation included)

#### **Tour the Newly Renovated Historic Hippodrome Theatre**

*One of the classic movie theaters designed by renowned theatre architect Thomas W. Lamb*

Built in 1914, the Hippodrome operated as a vaudeville & movie show house for decades until its closing in the 1970s. In early 2004, the curtain rose again at the legendary Hippodrome Theatre, now a state of the art theatre and home of Broadway shows and world-class performing arts. The \$45 million renovation transformed three historic landmark buildings and one new building, preserving each building’s unique identity while forming a seamless series of venues that blend old and new. A full tour of all buildings is typically not

open to the public. See the full restoration of the impressive dome ceiling, the mural above the stage proscenium and the preservation of existing plaster, exterior walls, facade and decorative materials.

***Please note that this tour is accessible to people with disabilities and older adults.***

Tour operates from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Cost: \$15 U.S. per person (transportation included)

**Mt. Vernon Cultural District Architectural Walking Tour followed by  
Walters Art Museum Tour with Gary Vikan, Museum Director**

The Mount Vernon Place Guided Walking Tour leads you through the best-preserved 19th century urban square in the country and takes you on a 100-year trip through Baltimore history for a fascinating exploration of the neighborhood's architecture. See the first large-scale monument in the nation to George Washington; the great townhouses on the square; the Peabody Institute and Library; the Mount Vernon Place Methodist Church, a prime example of Victorian Gothic architecture; and the Garrett-Jacobs Mansion, the oldest and the most imposing residence on the square with a Tiffany glass dome. The tour will end with a visit to the Walters Art Museum, the jewel in the crown of Mt. Vernon Place. Museum Director Gary Vikan will give a guided tour through the highlights of the Walters renowned collections, which in the last several years have been totally reinstalled in stunningly renovated galleries. He will be sharing fascinating stories - the sort that don't make it to the labels and wall texts!

***Please note that this tour is partially accessible to people with disabilities and older adults.***

***Some of the historic areas may require walking on cobblestone (Washington Monument and Mt. Vernon Square) and use of stairs (Peabody Institute and Library; the Mount Vernon Place Methodist Church, and Garrett-Jacobs Mansion [Engineering Society]). The Walters Art Museum is fully accessible.***

Tour operates from 9:00 am. – 11:00 a.m.

Cost: \$15 U.S. per person (transportation included)

***Please note:* If you need accommodations due to a disability, please call Sharon Gee, Director of Meetings and Events, at 202-347-6352 (ext. 112) or e-mail [sharon.gee@nasaa-arts.org](mailto:sharon.gee@nasaa-arts.org) no later than November 7, 2007.**