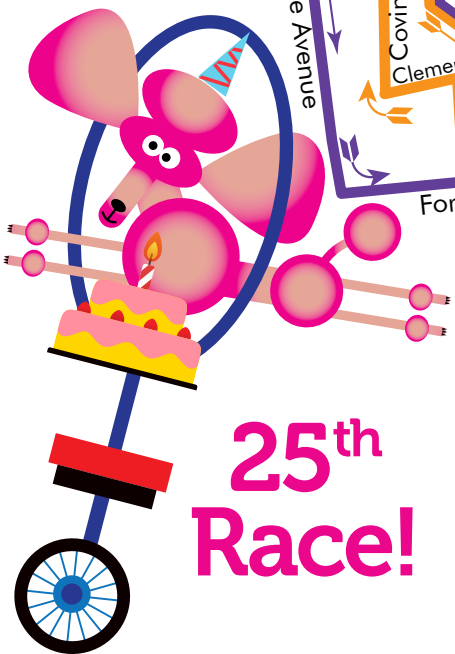
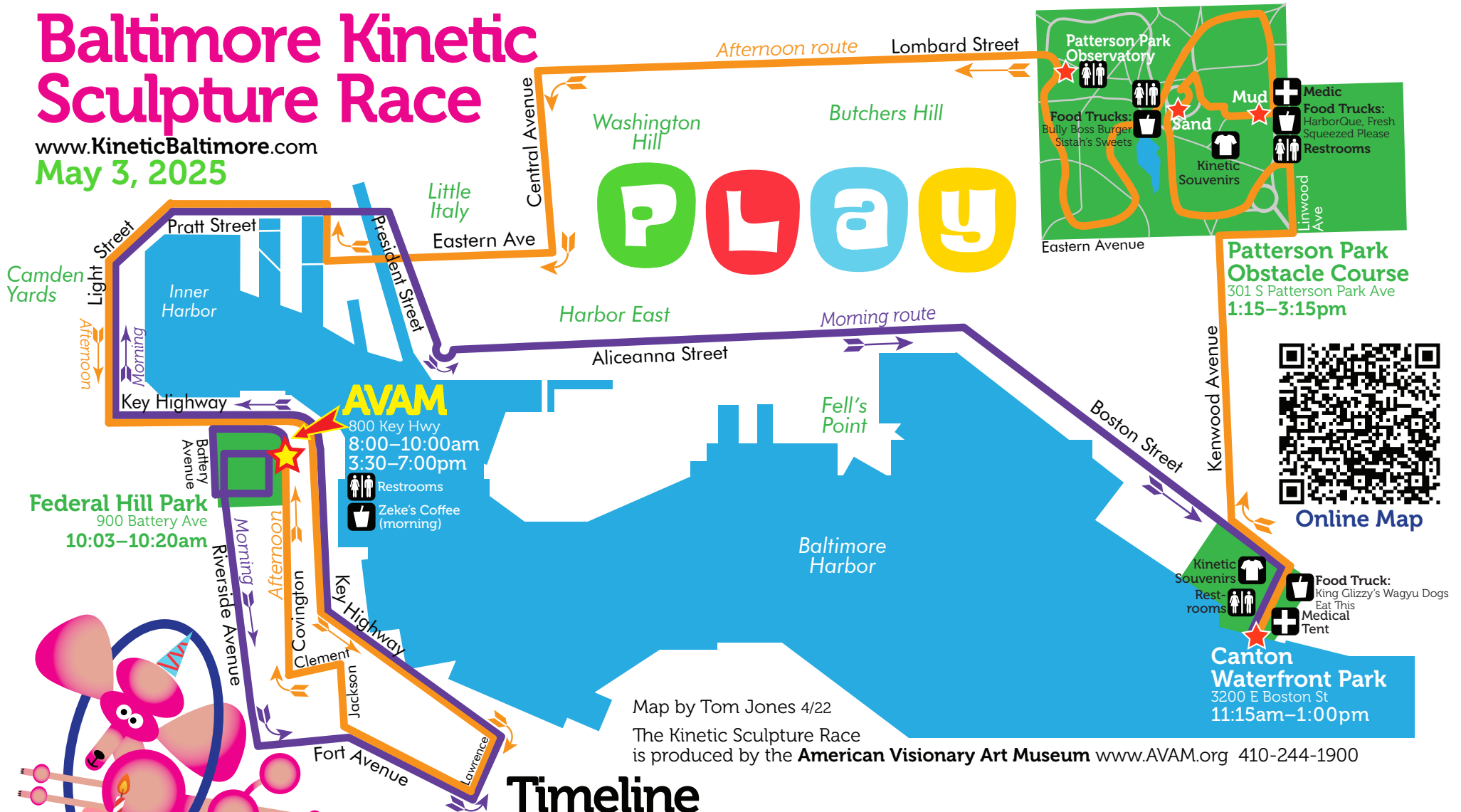


# Baltimore Kinetic Sculpture Race

www.KineticBaltimore.com  
May 3, 2025



**Morning**

- 8:00–9:30 Safety check & brake test at AVAM
- 9:30–10:00 Opening ceremony & Le Mans start onto Key Hwy
- 10:03–10:20 Climb Battery Ave into Federal Hill Park
- 10:15–11:30 Down Riverside, Fort, Lawrence, Key Hwy, around the Inner Harbor, down President, 240° around the National Katyrín Memorial, to Aliceanna & down Boston St
- 11:15–1:00 Water Entry at Canton Waterfront

## Timeline

*It's a race! Times are approximate and anything may change as needs must.*

**Afternoon**

- 1:00–1:30 Up Kenwood, Right on Eastern, Left on Linwood & into Patterson Park
- 1:15–3:15 Patterson Park Obstacle Course: Sand, Mud, & climb the hill past the Observatory
- 3:30–4:45 Race down Lombard, Central, Eastern, Pier 5, Pratt, Light, Key Hwy, Lawrence, Fort, Jackson, Clement, and north up Covington to the finish line at AVAM (first racers may finish ~3:30)
- 4:00–6:00 Post-race recovery (dinner for racers & volunteers)
- 6:00–7:00 Awards ceremony at AVAM

Map by Tom Jones 4/22

The Kinetic Sculpture Race is produced by the **American Visionary Art Museum** www.AVAM.org 410-244-1900



Online Map

**Patterson Park Obstacle Course**  
301 S Patterson Park Ave  
1:15–3:15pm

**Canton Waterfront Park**  
3200 E Boston St  
11:15am–1:00pm

Food Truck: King Glizzy's Wagyu Dogs  
Eat This Medical Tent

Kinetic Souvenirs  
Restrooms



Medic  
Food Trucks: HarborQue, Fresh Squeezed Please  
Restrooms

Food Trucks: Bully Boss Burger, Sistan's Sweets

Mud  
Kinetic Souvenirs

## Race Day

As with any human-powered dash for glory, times overlap and are approximate! The race goes on in rain, shine, or any other sub-calamitous conditions.

**8:00–9:30 Pre-Race Panic & Safety Checks:** You can see sculptures in their unsullied glory, but don't disturb the Kinetinauts—they're busy! See "Getting to AVAM". Zeke's Coffee will be there.

**9:30–9:59 Opening Ceremony:** Performances by the Baltimore Men's Chorus and more. Then last year's Grand Mediocre Champions—Team 1,800 Lbs—reignite the eternal flame, and Sister Euphonia O'Blivion blesses "de feet" of Kinetinauts on the steps of the AVAM plaza.

**10:00 Launchgong** at AVAM. KSR retains a Le Mans start years after Le Mans itself threw in the towel. Racers line up on Federal Hill, and when the sound of the gong radiates at 340 meters per second, they scamper down to their vehicles on Covington Street. With police escort they burst onto Francis Scott Key Highway.

**10:03–10:20 Federal Hill Park:** Battery Avenue up Federal Hill is very steep. This is the first real challenge. Some sculptures break down before they get this far (not kidding). After a lap around the park, sculptures complete the southern loop and return along Key Highway a few minutes later.

**Running Late?** From I-95 take exit 55 onto Key Highway north to see sculptures on Fort, Lawrence, or Key.

**10:15–11:30 Through the Inner Harbor, Harbor East & Fell's Point:** The sculptures pass landmarks in the Inner Harbor and Harbor East, including most of the way around the cobblestones circling the [National Katyr Memorial](#).

**11:15–1:00 Canton Waterfront:** Sculptures enter the harbor. Cool winds and potential hydrocatastrophic scenarios make the most popular spectator site of all, and finding street parking gets more challenging every year. No sculptures can enter the water after 12:45pm. Get your lunch at [King Glizzy's Wagyu Dogs](#) and [Eat This](#) food trucks.

**1:00–1:30 Up the Hill into Patterson Park:** Rested and fed racers move fast even uphill as they leave Canton as a group.

**1:15–3:00 Patterson Park Sand & Mud:** The mud is on a slight incline—easier for spectators, harder for racers. There's street parking around the park perimeter. [Bully Boss Burger](#) and [Sistahs' Sweets](#) will likely be at the sand, and [HarborQue](#) and Fresh Squeezed Please probably at the Mud.

**3:30–4:45 Back to AVAM for the Finish:** Lombard Street descends steeply so sculptures fly through Butcher's Hill, Washington Hill, and Little Italy back to the Inner Harbor. Each team breaks through a huge finish line banner on Covington Street at AVAM.

**4:00–6:00 Dinner:** You should eat. If you're clean check out [Rusty Scupper](#) seafood, [The Outpost](#), or upscale [Ammoora](#) (reservations recommended). Or walk 10 minutes west to Light Street in [Federal Hill](#) for two dozen awesome local restaurants. Finding late parking will be especially challenging due to the nearby **7:15pm Orioles game**.

**6:00–7:00 Awards Ceremony:** You'll be exhausted just from spectating—imagine how the racers feel! Cheer on the winners in the AVAM Sculpture Barn. We'll also celebrate the lives of Kinetic Judge Kim Domanski, Pilots Mike Oh of Tick Tock and Bobby Goodfellow of Sorry for Party Socking.

## (Some) Kinetic Awards

**ACE:** The highest race challenge is the ACE. ACE pilots can't swap or receive forward propulsion assistance at any time, and can't get out to push or pull (especially at the water exit, sand, or mud). Each ACE-seeking team has a special license plate and a merciless ACE judge scrutinizing every move.

**2025 PLAY Award:** The team most effectively conveying this year's race theme.

**2025 Bobby Goodfellow Award:** Someone who makes the race better for everyone: lending a helping hand (or wheel), cheering on a struggling competitor, and being an all-around Goodfellow. See entry #4 on the last page.

**Art:** Coveted award for best artistic design, reflected in color, humor, costumes, theatrical appeal, and kinetic motion.

**Best Bribes:** The team with the best gifts for Kops and Judges to absolve minor infractions. (Unlike supreme court justices, Kinetic Judges report their bribes.)

**Best Pit Crew:** For greatest patience, ingenuity, and quick thinking, often in the face of kinetic disaster.

**Engineering:** Awarded to the most ingenious technical design tackling the rigors of the race.

**Golden Dinosaur:** Awarded to the most memorable breakdown, or the first team to break down. An entry that *would* have been great but something went wrong. Created by Laurence J. Peter, the guy who created the [Peter Principle](#).

**Golden Flipper:** The "most interesting" entry on the water.

**Grand Mediocre Champion:** #1 of all awards, for being the middle of all race finishers (after time penalties).

**Next-to-Last:** The penultimate finisher.

**People's Choice:** Most popular entry, based on surveys of the crowd taken by Kinetic Chickens.

**Sock Creature of the Universe:** Each sculpture must have a homemade sock creature (HSC); this award goes to the best.

**Speed:** Fastest team, after any time penalties.

**Spirit of the Glorious Founder:** The team, person, or other entity embodying the mindset of Hobart Brown.

**Worst Honorable Mention:** Awarded to the team whose half-baked "engineering" did not deter its pilot(s) from the challenge of the race.

## Kinetic Glossary

**AVAM:** The American Visionary Art Museum founded and produces this East Coast Championship Kinetic Race.

**Barnacle:** A 93+ pound human who rides on a sculpture but doesn't provide propulsion. Provides a time bonus.

**Bush League:** Teams completing the race *except* the water. There's one this year, and you can build one next year.

**Hobart Brown:** In 1969, the Glorious Founder in Ferndale California created the first raceable Kinetic Sculpture for his son, lost that first race to a smoke-emitting turtle, then spread Kinetics around the world. We miss his enthusiasm.

**Kinetic Grand Championship:** Our race is a qualifier for the Grand Championship in Humboldt County, CA: 50 miles, 3 days, Memorial Day weekend. Teams cross 2 miles of Humboldt Bay, a slimy slough, and a huge sand dune called Dead Man's Drop. More at [KineticGrandChampionship.org](#).

**Kinetic Kops:** "Officers" issue tickets when sculptures break rules (and sometimes when they don't). Kops are known to accept bribes to overlook all but **ACE** and safety infractions.

**Kinetinauts:** Fearless artist-engineer-pilots, perhaps *you*?

**Volunteers:** People like you who have fun making the race happen! Sign up for next year at [KineticBaltimore.com](#).

## Getting to AVAM

**Parking:** Race day street parking is scarce. You can also pay at the Rusty Scupper or in many nearby lots and garages. Prices vary considerably—see [Parkopedia.com](http://Parkopedia.com).

**Amtrak and Penn line MARC trains:** from DC, Philadelphia, and elsewhere to Baltimore Penn Station, then taxi or Circulator Purple Line (below). Bicycles are ok on MARC but MARC's first Saturday train from DC arrives 9:53am. See [mta.Maryland.gov/schedule/marc-penn](http://mta.Maryland.gov/schedule/marc-penn) and [Amtrak.com](http://Amtrak.com).

**Charm City Circulator:** Free buses every 15–25 minutes 9am to midnight! Purple Route from Penn Station to Science Center near AVAM; Orange and Green Routes to Fell's Point; Banner Route from Inner Harbor past AVAM to Fort McHenry. Maps & info at [transportation.baltimorecity.gov](http://transportation.baltimorecity.gov).

**Light Rail:** Take a train to Camden Station, a 20 minute walk to AVAM. Park free at Falls Road or Lutherville to the north near I-83; or Cromwell/Glen Burnie near I-97 to the south. See [mta.Maryland.gov/schedule/lightrail](http://mta.Maryland.gov/schedule/lightrail).

## Spectate from One Spot...

Since the sculptures navigate 15 miles through the city, the easiest way to spectate is to pick a spot and watch them pass by. Parking is available along some stretches (especially on the southern and eastern parts of the route). Watch for any last-minute route changes. However, most spectators join the crowds at AVAM, Canton Waterfront, and Patterson Park for the festive Kinetic atmosphere where sculptures congregate to surmount exciting obstacles.

## ...Or Follow Along

If you have time and energy, following the race lets you see a lot more action. Some means of transport are:

- **Bike or roller blade:** Big human-powered sculptures aren't super-fast. If you're fit for 15 miles on city streets, you'll likely keep up. Ride carefully and watch for rough roads. Bring a bike lock. If you need repairs look for the Station North Tool Library mobile crew.
- **Rent a bike or scooter:** Rent a battery-powered scooter or bike with an app from [Lime](http://Lime) (green) or [Spin](http://Spin) (orange).
- **Automobile:** Parking gets more challenging every year, so you may want to avoid parking with app-hired drivers to get around. If you drive, bring credit cards or quarters for parking, lock your car, and read parking signs carefully.

## Don't forget 2026!

Put the next race **Saturday, 2 May 2026** on your calendar!



## Attractions near AVAM

1. **AVAM:** The American Visionary Art Museum hosts self-taught work by artists compelled to create and fun workshops. CNN said "one of the most fantastic museums anywhere in America". Now showing "Good Sports: The Wisdom & Fun of Fair Play." Open 10am–5pm: [AVAM.org](http://AVAM.org)
2. **Maryland Science Center:** Exhibits about dinosaurs, health, space, and physics; IMAX and planetarium, Jedi Academy for kids. Open 10am–5pm Saturdays: [MDSci.org](http://MDSci.org)
3. **National Aquarium:** Sharks, rays, jellyfish, dolphins, Australian Outback, plus turtles and tiny colorful frogs. Buy advance tickets ASAP to enter 9am–6pm: [Aqua.org](http://Aqua.org)
4. **USS Constellation** (1797 frigate), USS Torsk (1944 submarine), LV116 Chesapeake (1930 lightship), USCGC Cutter 37 (1936 ship). Open 10am–5pm: [HistoricShips.org](http://HistoricShips.org)
5. **Baltimore Museum of Industry:** Awesome machines that ran our city and economy: Bethlehem Steel, Collective Action, Machine Shop & Forge, 9am–4pm: [TheBmi.org](http://TheBmi.org)
6. **Urban Pirates:** Reserve at [UrbanPirates.com](http://UrbanPirates.com) ASAP for a "Family Adventure" or adult "Bring Your Own Grog" cruise.
7. **Fort McHenry:** Baltimore's star-shaped fort in 1814 inspired our national anthem. Two miles from AVAM down Francis Scott Key Highway and Fort Ave; free; 9am–5pm: [nps.gov/fomc](http://nps.gov/fomc)
8. **Flower Mart:** Baltimore's oldest festival, 11am–8pm in Mount Vernon: [MountVernonPlace.org/Flower-Mart](http://MountVernonPlace.org/Flower-Mart)
9. **Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival:** Fans of even-toed ungulates and their follicular extrusions convene in West Friendship on Kinetic weekend: [SheepAndWool.org](http://SheepAndWool.org)

## Kim Domanski 1972–2025



Kinetic Judge [Kim Domanski](http://Kim Domanski) was a powerhouse of Baltimore art and joy. She supported, encouraged, and challenged not just the Kinetic Arts but helped create the Baltimore Public Art Commission, and Artscape and other BOPA magic. She met her partner and fellow Judge Ed at MICA. We miss her dearly.

## What to Wear

Something fabulous! Many folks wear festive garb (see below). You should too! If you dress well, find a KineticBaltimore.com photographer (we wear bright yellow shirts & feathered blue hard hats), and your photo may appear on this year's website or the 2026 Spectator's Guide!


## The Sculptures (4/30)

- ACE 1987 AMF Fire Truck Pedal Car** Captain Action Pat returns with a 1-pilot sculpture upgraded to go for ACE. It follows last year's *Overlea Fire-Rescue Dive Team & Fire Chief Vesuvius* that won **Sock Creature of the Universe** and 2023's *Engines & Dragons* fire truck that emblazoned its dramatic capsizes into Kinetic history.
- Image Man** is a Baltimore superhero flying over the city to celebrate the power and resilience of individuals with disabilities. This quadricycle with side pontoons is from the IMAGE Center of Maryland's VME Program.
- ACE Wheel Horse** is the tenth entry from this Catonsville pilot seeking his sixth **ACE** after winning the fifth with last year's *Scrapasaurus*, along with **Best Engineering** in 2022 and 2023.
- Sorry for Party Socking** is the 6<sup>th</sup> entry from this team whose sodden rolling dung beetle pedestrians won **Next-to-Last** in 2024 for *The Battle at Balls Deep*. We miss the all-terrain compassion & enthusiasm of **Bobby Goodfellow**.
- ACE Rainbow Road Rage** is a Mario Kart-themed 2-pilot from a different group of Duke University Mechanical Engineering students that won 2024 **Worst Honorable Mention**.
- Bush LEGO my Eggo** celebrates everyone's favorite toasted breakfast waffle, powered by lego minifigs. The team behind this 2-person entry raced *CLAWdia* in 2023 and won **Sock Creature of the Universe** in 2022 with *Ve-Fossil Wrapper*. Bush League complete the entire race except the water entry.
- Barely Buoyant** is a new team of 4 pilots who were Ass Gaskets Racing in the Hampdenfest Toilet Races. They welded pontoons on a bike with a water wheel in back.
- Radiolarian Special** began in 2017 in the Sculpture Department at Virginia Commonwealth University, inspired by the distinctive many-holed protozoa skeleton. Three pilots' chains feed a 1972 MGB rear axle to drive the big orange Aqua-Cycle wheels. They told us, "All the things that failed last year have been fixed."
- Thing-A-Ma-Rig** is a 4-pilot surrey transformed Seuss-style for the race. The Soda Quackers from New Jersey last year won **People's Choice** for their huge yellow bespectacled duck *Tail-or-Swiftie*.
- Pinball Wizards** After finding the Arcane Grimoire of Pinball Magic, these kinetinauts have a steely-eyed focus on flippers, ramps, and targets. This 4-pilot entry is sponsored by Sharky's Bar & Grill. Last year their Pop Rock NEONderthals won **Best Costumes**.
- ACE Friendship** is a two-pilot toy pirate ship. Friends School of Baltimore back is after a 6-year hiatus since 2019 when they won **Best Costumes** for *Shark Tank*. Their song is the Wellerman Sea Shanty.
- Proud Mary's Return** is a steamboat with giant wheels. Team NOVA Labs of Virginia said "Now, this is temporary unless it works!" Their ultraviolet green *Bright Sphinx* won **2024 Monumental Masterpieces**.
- Brick by Brick** is a tribute to the Danish Lego brick, the start of many humans' play. This new team Jank & Jiffy was introduced to kinetics as a 2nd grade pit crew member when Eldersburg Elementary won **Art** award for *Camelot in 2008*.

## POWERED BY



- Bear Necessities** is from the Park School in Baltimore that last year raced *Statue of Lib-bear-ity* and won the **Golden Dinosaur** award for breaking down before the starting line, yet carrying pieces of the huge Bear through the race.
- MPH: BLT** is a 2-pilot mobile diner delivering delicious meals at the speed of BLT. Team 1800 Lbs is reigning **2024 Grand East Coast Grand Mediocre Champion** for *CONEstoga Creamers* that churned and served fresh ice cream along last year's route.
- ACE MacBath: Double Tubble Toil and Bubble** has 2 pilots on a mobile bathroom fixture piloted by the Weird Sisters of Federal Hill. All hail MacBath, thine suds shalt fling hereafter onto the streets of Baltimore!

- Gael Force** from Mount Saint Joseph High School was started 3 years ago by the 2 seniors leading it today. They learned to weld and water tested only once.
- Play-Cation** is the eighteenth entry from the Philadelphia Dumpster Divers, who first raced in Baltimore's inaugural 1999 race, and *I in the Pyramid* last year.
- ACE Kinetic Cruiser** is a 5-pilot entry, the 75<sup>th</sup> over the years from the Jemicy School of Owings Mills.
- ACE Brick Mobile** is a 1-pilot Jemicy entry. Last year, Jemicy's 3 entries won 2 **ACE** along with **Golden Flipper** and **Speed** award.
- Bush Legs-Go!** is Jemicy's entry in the Bush League: they intend to complete the entire race except the water entry.
- ACE Everything is Awesome!** is another 1-pilot entry from Jemicy, with the team song Everything is Awesome.
- Pink Poodle Club** AVAM's fabulous Fifi. Last year, pilot Theresa Segreti, Race Director 1999-2024 received & deserved **Spirit of the Glorious Founder**. 
- Loose Bushings** has wobbly steering in the spirit of excessive "play", reprising the 1950s with found items and two elderly pilots. It's from the Glam Rats whose *Oct-Opus* achieved **ACE** in 2024.
- Off the Deep End** is a 6-pilot tribute to summertime fun at pool parties. From a semi-new Takoma Park team.
- Tick Tock the Croc** is the jubilant colossal green 6-pilot articulated crocodile straight out of Peter Pan, with an inflatable tongue within the largest jaws on the racecourse. We miss sailor **Mike Oh** whose unstoppable contagious joy inspired us.
- Safe Space** is a blanket fort blasting off to the moon. All are welcome in its safe space. It's a 4-pilot entry from a new team of Baltimore stargazers.
- Play2-Pu5** In honor of the 25<sup>th</sup> year, the **Personal Long-range All-Terrain Yacht Proven Un-Safe** will host The Great Platypus Highland Games and Battle Tournament, including the Isle of Skye Boulder Hoy and Cullen Skink Smell Off. You can't miss this massive 9-pilot sculpture.
- Putt-Putt Pacman** is relaxing from his arcade career, with 2 pilots playing a round of golf atop the quick-transforming sculpture made by the after-school Engineering Club at St. Paul's School for Boys in Brooklandville.