

## A Busy Fall at BSA Learning From and Visiting Master Artists

School has been in session for only about a month, but students have had quite a few wonderful opportunities to work with and learn from master artists already!



Thomas Dolby & students

Visual artists kicked off the year with a week-long master class with artist [Sara VanDerBeek](#) (see their collective project in the gallery through October 30!). They, and some of their classmates from other disciplines, have embarked on **Art Practices**, a bi-weekly after-school outing to visit and learn from local artists. To date, they've been to the [Station North Tool Library](#) and to artist James Bouché's [studio](#). A group of students went to hear [Thomas Dolby](#) speak at the [SXSW](#) Techbreakfast Spectacular and visited with him at JHU & MICA's [new theatre](#). Theatre students have been to [Center Stage](#) to see a matinee of *Pride and Prejudice* and have worked with Sally Boyett from the [Annapolis Shakespeare Company](#) (BSA grad Lauren Levitt is the new Managing Director) to prepare scenes from [Goldoni's A Servant of Two Masters](#) for the [Madonnari Arts Festival](#) in Little Italy this weekend. Dancers got to see [Ailey II](#) at Towson University. There are many more exciting visits and classes in store in the coming weeks! These opportunities to see, meet and/or work with professionals are a vibrant and essential part of BSA's curriculum and help our students to understand and envision the possibilities ahead. Many of them are made possible by donors to the BSA Foundation -- Thank you!

## Fashion & Philanthropy Meet at Art of Giving

BSA and Kennedy Krieger Institute are the lucky beneficiaries of the **5<sup>th</sup> Annual Art of Giving**. Join friends to see fashion by [Ruth Shaw](#), enjoy lunch, and more on **Thursday, October 8 at 11:00 am** at [Renaissance Fine Arts](#) in The Village of Cross Keys -- It promises to be a fun morning! [Tickets](#) are \$150 and benefit KKI and BSA's *Nutcracker*. Students will be on hand to model costumes from the school's production coming this December.

## October 2015

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## Fall 2015 Calendar of Events

### OCTOBER

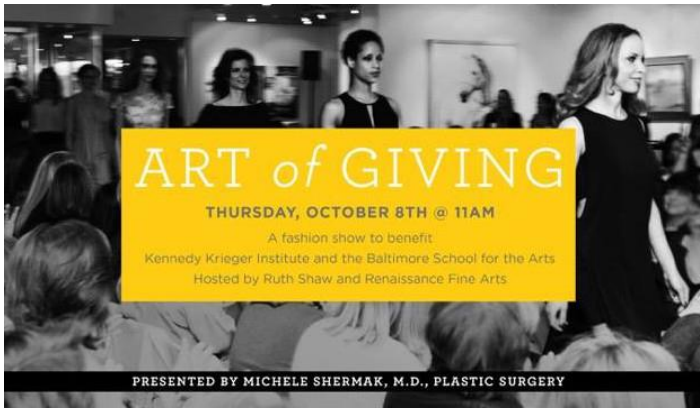
**Cabaret at Germano's**  
Meet BSA's British exchange students on **October 29 at 7:30 pm** as they work with our own actors on the production they will present together this June in London! Tickets are \$10 (dinner not included) and benefit BSA. Restaurant opens at 6 with the show at 7:30. [Click here](#) for tickets & info.

### NOVEMBER

**Gotta Dance**  
You simply gotta save **Saturday, November 7 at 6:30 pm** for this fun event at BSA to benefit our Cultural Outings program. Pay your age (or how you feel) at [bsfa.org](#).

### Wind Symphony and Jazz Ensemble

Join us in the Schaefer Ballroom on **Wednesday, November 11 at 5 pm** for music! Tickets at the door \$5 & \$10.



## Summer Programs Benefit Students All Year Long

This past summer 33 students attended summer programs across the country and internationally, such as Tanglewood Summer Intensive, Washington National Opera Camp, Tyler School of Arts, and Interharmony International Festival in Italy to name just a few, with scholarships from the BSA Foundation. These programs are important for the students personally as they receive top-notch training, make connections, and get an idea of what life will be like in college; but they also benefit the BSA community when artists return energized and inspired and ready to share what they've learned with their classmates. Thanks to everyone who helps to make these scholarships possible for BSA students!



Zara Anwar (l) attended Alvin Ailey Dance Theatre Summer Intensive. "The teachers were amazing; they really pushed me to take risks in my dancing and to keep growing in strength and curiosity about my ability."

Rebecca Bahr (r) went to the American Academy of Ballet's Summer School of Excellence at SUNY Purchase, "While the intensive was really great, my favorite part was the variety of people. In my class there were three people that spoke English out of 20 people. I met people from Brazil, Peru, Argentina, Venezuela, Germany, Portugal, South Africa, Israel, and even Japan."

## BSA students have highest SAT scores in the City!

BSA students are well known as artists but they're pretty amazing scholars too! In 2015 to date, BSA students have the highest SAT scores in Baltimore City. Collectively, their scores also went up by 50 points in a year where there was a general decline nationally. BSA student Laura Seaberg is a semi-finalist; and Thomas Burke, Ava Geenen, and Claire Iverson are commended students in the 2016 [National Merit Scholarship Program](#). These exceptional students are in the Top 5% of the more than 1.5 million students who took the 2014 PSAT. Congrats to all of the scholars at BSA!

## Jury Exhibition

BSA first juried show of the work of visual artists from all grade levels opens on **Friday, November 13 from 4-6 pm** in the Segal Gallery. Always free, always fabulous!

## String Orchestra & Chamber Music

**Sunday, November 15 at 3 pm** at beautiful [Grace United Methodist Church](#). All welcome to this free concert!

## DECEMBER

### Chamber Music & Monument Lighting

Join us in BSA's brownstone parlor before the annual lighting ceremony on **Thursday, December 3 at 5 pm** for free music and refreshments.

There will be a second **Chamber Recital on Tuesday, December 8 at 5 pm** in the Straus Recital Hall. Free.

### Mendelssohn Chorus Concert

BSA's vocal musicians will perform at the venerated [Shriver Hall](#) on **Saturday, December 5 at 8 pm**. Tickets \$10 & \$12.

### The Nutcracker

BSA's beloved Nutcracker, choreographed by [Barry Hughson](#) especially for our high school and TWIGS dancers, is returning to the Schaefer Ballroom!  
 >Friday, December 11, 7 pm  
 >Saturday, December 12, 11 am & 4 pm  
 >Friday, December 18, 7 pm  
 >Saturday, December 19, 1 pm

Tickets \$15 (students/seniors 75+) and \$20 (general admission). We can't wait to celebrate the holidays at home with you!

## TWIGS Begins October 19th -- New Programs Will Reach More Baltimore City Kids with the Arts

We're preparing to welcome our TWIGS students back to school the week of October 19<sup>th</sup>-- All 700+ of them! The 2nd-8th graders will be attending **free after school and Saturday classes** in dance, acting, stage production and design, visual arts and music. Our partnership with the [Boys and Girls Club of Metropolitan Baltimore](#) will see a second year as we work with kids in centers in the Brooklyn/Cherry Hill and Park Heights neighborhoods.



Students enjoyed reading and art in the pilot program with BGCMB. The program continues for a second year beginning in a few weeks!

We're also delighted to pilot another new initiative this year called **HelloTWIGS!** This Saturday program will bring students from Armistead Gardens and Tench Tilghman Elementary/Middle schools to BSA by bus, where they will spend an hour in either a dance, visual arts or acting class, have lunch, and head back to their home school.

Other programs in the works for the year include **First Look** where kids get a look at our visual arts classrooms and tour the gallery with high school student docents, and **Final Dress** in which they take a backstage tour and then watch a final dress rehearsal, complete with observing director's notes to the actors. We'll round that off with bringing hundreds of City Schools' kids to BSA for **free matinees** of our Nutcracker Ballet and other productions. All told, thousands of kids will engage in and be exposed to the positive, energizing power of the arts at BSA and we can't wait for all the fun!



**Follow BSA Director Chris Ford on his new blog "On the arts and education."**

Join Chris Ford as he contemplates the issues that will affect BSA students now and in the future. Follow the blog to receive an email when he posts a new entry. Ford begins the blog by discussing BSA's strategic plan, 18 months in the making, that will be presented shortly to the community. Learn about the genesis of this plan and why it is a vital step for BSA moving forward. Find the blog here: [arteducationatbsfa.org](http://arteducationatbsfa.org)

### **New Board and Faculty Members Join the BSA Family, and Some Babies Too!**

We are delighted to have seven new members join BSA's [Board of Overseers](#). The Board advocates for the school in the community, helping it to fulfill its mission and secure the private resources that make so many of the programs possible. Thank you to Gina Adams, Joe Butler, Jay Jenkins, Paul McKinnell, Mikey Monaghan, Jeanne Murphy, Julie Rothman, Jerry Schnydman and Helen Tracey for signing on! To learn more about our new board members, [click here](#).



## Spotted! BSA Alum Online & In the News



They're everywhere -- BSA grads are making news and making art! Actor [Shalita Grant](#) (Photo CBS) is a regular this season on NCIS New Orleans. Dancer Courtney Spears (below) recently gathered her [Princess Grace Award](#) in New York while Jermel Johnson danced with the [Pennsylvania Ballet](#) for Pope Francis.

When Designer [Christian Siriano](#) isn't developing new partnerships for his fashion goods, he's dressing stars like Taylor Swift for the red carpet. [Lawrence Gilliard Jr.](#) appeared in *BMag's* Conversation Issue talking with Kwame Kwei-Armah, Artistic Director at Center Stage. Gilliard is also a BSA parent and Kwei-Armah a new TWIGS parent. Trumpet player and alum [Dontae Winslow](#) is mentioned in *Rolling Stone* for his "wild, extended solo work" on Dr. Dre's new album *Compton*.



Congratulations to all of our graduates finding success in a wide variety of careers!

There are a couple of new teachers and staff members this year as well. Teaching math is Paminas Mayaka. He's completing his practicum for a Doctorate degree in mathematics at Morgan State University. Assisting Pat Galluzzo with all things tech in the CCAT is Sarah Hill. Teaching Electronic Music (or MIDI), and helping Chris Ford out for a few months, is Tevin Brown, a 2009 BSA alum. Jennifer McKinnell joins the Development team in the BSA Foundation.

Two new babies also joined the family this September! Born on September 15 to Brigid Myers Zuknik (a BSA alumna and Dr. Ford's assistant) Hazel Ann Zuknik. And on September 18 Rachel Duffy, BSA's Spanish teacher, welcomed Abigail Elinor Duffy.



Where the arts change kids' lives

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