

**THE HAMILTON STREET CLUB**  
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Dawn Elardo, Club Manager

## **DECEMBER 2014**

**Winter Break:** The Club will be closed December 23 through January 2 for Winter Break.

**A gentle reminder** - the holiday season is just around the corner, a time we ask you to contribute to the holiday staff gift fund. Remember your meetings and lunches at the Club do not include gratuities for our staff [Dawn Elardo, Club Manager, and Chuck Allen, Club Cook,] and our two servers under contract with Food Staff [Cindy and Candice]. For those of you who have asked, the average contribution is \$75.00, but any amount is appreciated.

**December 6-February 28:** Our next exhibiting artist is **Kyle Hackette**, a 2013 MFA graduate from MICA in the Hoffberger School of Painting. A talented young black artist, his work has attracted much attention, winning him a Best in Show Award at the Bethesda Painting Awards, residencies at the Vermont Studio Center and the Contemporary Artists Center, as well as exhibitions in NY, Delaware, Maryland and Washington DC. His exhibit at the Hamilton Street Club will include a dramatic, life-size self portrait as well as other probing portraits and figurative works.

## **DECEMBER PROGRAMS**

**Wednesday, December 3. Luncheon with Guest Speaker: Upstairs at noon; Lunch at 12:15. Controversial Questions About Today's Immigration** Immigration gives Americans so much to talk about and so much to debate. It is a topic that touches on many aspects of American life, who we are as a nation, how we make a living, what our core values are. Anthropologist **Martin Ford** will engage us in a discussion of several critiques of contemporary immigration: Are we admitting too many immigrants? Do the newcomers take more than they give? Are they becoming Americans like immigrants in the past? Are they "stealing" jobs from the native-born? Is America fragmenting because of them? Ford will take an evidence-based approach in answering these controversial questions. Martin Ford is Associate Director at the Maryland Office for Refugees and Asylees (MORA) and former Executive Director of the Maryland Ethnic Heritage Commission. He has taught at Bowie State University and Towson University and was a Fulbright scholar in Liberia. He received his Ph.D. and M.A. in Cultural Anthropology from SUNY-Binghamton, an M.A. in International Studies from Ohio University, and a B.A. in English Literature from Rutgers University.

**Thursday, December 4. Luncheon with Guest Speaker: Upstairs at Noon; Lunch at 12:15. Nancy Proctor** is Deputy Director for Digital Experience and Communications at the Baltimore Museum of Art and Co-chair of Museums and the Web. She will speak on: *Open Doors and New Interfaces to the Baltimore Museum of Art*. Previously Nancy Proctor headed the Mobile Strategy and Initiatives at the Smithsonian Institution (2010-2014), and New Media Initiatives at the Smithsonian's American Art Museum (2008-2010). With a PhD in American art history and a background in filmmaking, curation and art criticism, she published her first online exhibition in 1995. She

co-founded *TheGalleryChannel.com* in 1998 with Titus Bicknell to present virtual tours of innovative exhibitions alongside comprehensive global museum and gallery listings. The Gallery Channel was later acquired by Antenna Audio, where she led new product development from 2000-2008, introducing the company's multimedia, sign language, downloadable, podcast and cell phone tours. She also directed Antenna's sales in France from 2006-2007, and worked with the Travel Channel's product development team. Ms. Proctor served as program chair for the Museums Computer Network (MCN) conference 2010-2011, and has co-organized the Tate Handheld conference among other gatherings for cultural professionals. She also manages *MuseumMobile.info*, its wiki and podcast series, and is Digital Co-editor of *Curator: The Museum Journal*.

**Tuesday, December 9. Luncheon with Guest Speaker: Upstairs at noon; Lunch at 12:15.**

Architect **Steve Ziger**, of Ziger/Snead Architects, will discuss the adaptive reuse project that became the Baltimore Design School. The school opened in the fall of 2013. With less than \$19 million budgeted for construction, the Baltimore-based firm transformed the four-story, 115,000-square-foot building into a middle school and high school to serve students in fashion, architecture and graphic design programs. The building dates back to 1914; first a machine-shop to serve Crown Cork and Seal Company, the inventor of the bottle cap, and later the school became a factory for the men's suit designers Lebow Bros. in the 1950s. The building was shuttered in 1985, and was a blight on its neighborhood. Renovations to the abandoned building focused on creating spaces that would not only teach students what good design looks like, but also how design can encourage students to articulate themselves and to think critically about the world in which they exist. Mr. Ziger remains connected to the school, serving as Vice Chair of the Board of Directors.

**Wednesday, December 10. Luncheon with Guest Speaker: Upstairs at noon; Lunch at 12:15.** Authors of **Drone Art: Baltimore, Terry and Belinda Kilby**, will tell us how they began designing, building and flying small, unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV), or drones in 2010. They will share how their aircraft designs and ariel photography business has evolved. They will speak about the legal status of the commercial use of small UAVs, their many beneficial applications and how they foresee drones being allowed to 'work' in US airspace in the future. A powerpoint presentation will let us see what drones can do.

**Thursday, December 11. Holiday Luncheon: Noon.** The Club will host a **Holiday Buffet Luncheon**. Members are encouraged to invite guests for a festive buffet featuring a special menu, décor, and music of the season. Plan early to join us for the festivities and sign up quickly. We welcome members and guests, up to 75 for this lovely celebration. Marilyn Tabb & Rosemary Fetter have volunteered to play the piano for singing or listening of holiday music. (If you arrive a bit early, the bar upstairs, as usual, is open with soft drinks and wine.)

**Monday, December 15. French Table: 12:00-1:00.** Join other Club members for an hour of conversation and lunch, *en français* with a little English, but mostly French. You don't have to be fluent to enjoy the hour -- come listen and speak when you wish. Please sign up in advance.

**Tuesday, December 16: Luncheon with Guest Speaker: Upstairs at noon, Lunch at 12:15.** *Jewelry Empowering Women: A Yemeni Story* Retired senior Foreign Service Officer **Marjorie Ransom** has collected and studied Yemeni traditional silver jewelry over the last 35 years. Her book *Silver Treasures from the Land of Sheba: Yemeni Regional Jewelry* was published by American University in Cairo Press this year. Ms. Ransom lived twice as a U.S. diplomat in Yemen in a career that took her to India, Iran, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Lebanon, the United Arab Emirates, Syria, and Egypt. Wearing a traditional Yemeni dress and jewelry, she will present photographs and share her knowledge of the country, its geography and history, the different

influences affecting the creation and production of jewelry, the source of the silver, and the significance of jewelry to the economy and society. Additionally, she will highlight the achievement of the Yemeni Jewish craftsmen who produced the finest jewelry and embroidery. Yemen, united only in 1990, is of strategic importance in today's Middle East, and this talk will enlighten us in an area of the region's material culture. This is an opportunity to learn more about an exotic and colorful land.

**Monday, December 22. Current Events Discussion: Lunch and Discussion at noon.**

Please join us as we contemplate and try to understand the issues of the day with the help of articles by respected thinkers. Come and bring your informed views and your sense of humor.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Tuesday, January 6. Luncheon with Guest Speaker: Upstairs at noon; Lunch at 12:15.**

**Dr. Holly Taylor – Ebola and the Ethical Issues Raised in Treatment and Research** It seems that the more Ebola is in the headlines, the more confusion is generated. A shifting response from government and health officials, successes and failures in American medicines treatment procedures and protocols have raised both scientific disagreements and questions about the ethics of treatment and research efforts. Dr. Holly A. Taylor, PhD, MPH is an Associate Professor in the Department of Health Policy and Management, Bloomberg School of Public Health and a Core Faculty member of the JH Berman Institute of Bioethics. With her primary interests in research ethics, local implementation of Federal policy relevant to human subject research, HIV/AIDS policy, and qualitative research methods, she is eminently qualified to speak with us about the ethical issues raised in research and treatment of this dreaded and often-misunderstood disease.

**Wednesday, January 7. Luncheon with Guest Speaker: Upstairs at noon; Lunch at 12:15.** Join us for a 30 minute documentary *The Building of a Sanctuary* about the institutional history of our own Sheppard and Enoch Pratt Hospital. The film was a major impetus to founding a museum at the hospital, as well as a self guided walking tour of the grounds. **Bonnie Katz**, Vice President, Business Development and Support Operations, will describe the changes at Sheppard and update us on its health system.

**Thursday, January 15. Luncheon with Guest Speaker: Upstairs at noon; Lunch at 12:15.** Our new and updated club website will be premiering soon! Join us for a walk through the new website and learn how to navigate the pages and make reservations with our webmaster Julia Cole of JETWeb Studio. Bring your laptop, tablets, or other devices with you for an interactive event, and Julia will answer your questions. If time allows she will also discuss social media and their differences.

**Monday, January 26. Current Events Discussion: Lunch and Discussion at noon.** Please join us as we contemplate and try to understand the issues of the day with the help of articles by respected thinkers. Come and bring your informed views and your sense of humor.

**Monday, January 26. French Table: 12:00-1:00.** Join other Club members for an hour of conversation and lunch, *en français* with a little English, but mostly French. You don't have to be fluent to enjoy the hour -- come listen and speak when you wish. Please sign up in advance.

**Thursday, January 29. Luncheon with Guest Speaker: Upstairs at noon; Lunch at 12:15.** **Dr. Ellen Silbergeld** holds a PhD in Environmental Engineering from John Hopkins University where she is a Professor in Epidemiology, Environmental Health Sciences and Health Policy and Management. Her research and professional activities bridge science and public policy and she is well known for her work on problems associated with the large chicken farms along the eastern shore of Maryland. She has received numerous awards, including a lifetime achievement award from the

Society of Toxicology, the Barsky Award of the APHA and a MacArthur “genius” award. She will talk to us about the connections between worker health and food safety that she addresses in her forthcoming book: *Aiming for the Heart – the connections between worker health and food safety*. In addition to talking about agriculture and food safety, she will share with us some surprising facts about Maryland history and the Chesapeake Bay.

**Thursday, February 5. Luncheon with Guest Speaker: Upstairs at noon, Lunch at 12:15.** Please join **Marian Feldman, Professor of Art and Near Eastern Studies at Johns Hopkins** for a talk on *Cultural Heritage, Looting and Antiquities – A Discussion of the Current Situation in Iraq*. The protection and preservation of cultural heritage has always been a concern for archaeologists working in the Middle East, but with the breakdown of stable forms of government in many countries, the situation has become critical. In this presentation, she will review some of the recent events in Iraq, including the looting of the Iraq Museum in April, 2003, the subsequent systematic looting of archaeological sites, and the current iconoclastic actions of ISIS, and will provide a big picture account of the role of cultural heritage in contemporary politics.

**Wednesday, March 11. Luncheon with Guest Speaker: Upstairs at Noon; Lunch at 12:15.** **Kurt L. Schmoke** was appointed as the University of Baltimore’s eighth president in July last year, bringing to the University a wealth of experience in public service, a lifelong concern for higher education, and a record of talented leadership. President Schmoke served as Baltimore’s mayor from 1987-1999. After serving as dean of the Howard University School of Law in Washington, D.C., (2003-2012) he was appointed general counsel for Howard and also served as the institution’s interim provost. As Baltimore’s mayor, Kurt Schmoke initiated innovative programs in housing, education, public health and economic development, and in 1992, President George H. W. Bush awarded the National Literacy Award to President Schmoke for his efforts to promote adult literacy. A Yale graduate, a Rhodes Scholar, a public servant and educational leader, Kurt Schmoke will talk with us about the goals, challenges and opportunities he sees for the University of Baltimore.

## **AROUND THE CLUB**

### **WELCOME NEW MEMBER:**

**Susan Morseth** is the Director of Philanthropy for the American Civil Liberties Union of Maryland and also both board member and member of the new resident company of the Pumpkin Theatre. Somehow she also manages to be an exhibit guide for the Aquarium and pursue her interests in fashion, history and astronomy.