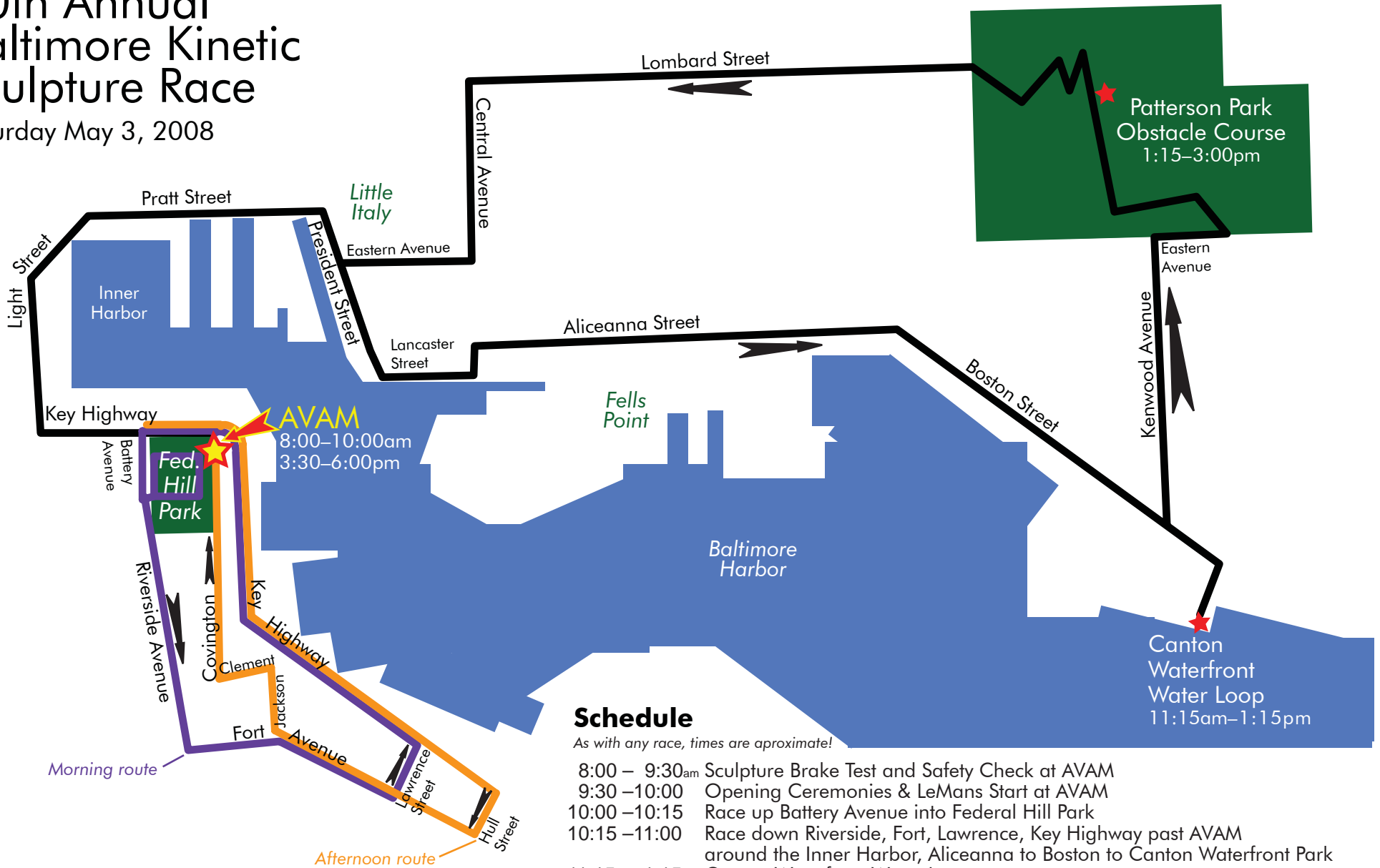


# 10th Annual Baltimore Kinetic Sculpture Race

Saturday May 3, 2008



## Schedule

*As with any race, times are approximate!*

- 8:00 – 9:30<sup>am</sup> Sculpture Brake Test and Safety Check at AVAM
- 9:30 – 10:00 Opening Ceremonies & LeMans Start at AVAM
- 10:00 – 10:15 Race up Battery Avenue into Federal Hill Park
- 10:15 – 11:00 Race down Riverside, Fort, Lawrence, Key Highway past AVAM around the Inner Harbor, Aliceanna to Boston to Canton Waterfront Park
- 11:15 – 1:15<sup>pm</sup> Canton Waterfront Water Loop
- 1:00 – 1:30 Race up Kenwood to Patterson Park
- 1:15 – 3:00 Patterson Park Obstacles—Sand, Mud, Pagoda Climb and Fishing for the Glorious Founder Challenge
- 3:00 – 4:30 Race down Lombard, Central, Eastern, Pratt, Light, Key Highway, Hull Street, Fort Avenue, Jackson, Clement, and up Covington Street to the finish line at AVAM (finishers may begin arriving as early as 3:30)
- 4:30 – 5:00 Post-Race Recovery & Dinner
- 5:00 – 6:00 Awards Ceremony at AVAM

For photos and information about past and future races, visit [KineticBaltimore.com](http://KineticBaltimore.com).

The Kinetic Sculpture Race is hosted by the American Visionary Art Museum (AVAM), [www.avam.org](http://www.avam.org)

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## Race Day

*As with any human-powered dash for glory, times overlap and are approximate—racers are unpredictable!*

**8:00–9:30 Pre-Race Activity:** Early at AVAM you can see the sculptures in their original unsullied glory. Watch the racers, but don't disturb them! Parking is tight. The only free option is to hunt for street parking, but be prepared to walk. There is a paid garage at the Rusty Scupper restaurant across the street from AVAM. You can also park in one of many garages on the north side of the Inner Harbor and walk around.

**9:30–10:00 Opening Ceremonies & Start:** There are kickoff speeches and telepathic monk Joe Wall blesses "de feet" of the Kinetinauts. There will also be a memorial for Hobart Brown. Best seen up close.

**10:00–10:15 Federal Hill:** The racers climb up steep Federal Hill. (Anyone can make a sculpture; it's the human-powered part that's hard.) Some sculptures don't make it this far. This is a great place to photograph sculptures with the city skyline.

**10:15–11:00 Through the City! Southern Loop and around the Inner Harbor:** The sculptures pass through Baltimore's tourist district. You can grab a snack at Whole Foods at the corner of Fleet & Exeter.

**11:00–1:15 Into the Harbor! Canton Waterfront Park Water Entry** (at the Korean War Memorial): The sculptures go down a ramp, into and through the water, and back the other side. If any sculptures are utterly unseaworthy, watch them sink. There's abundant street parking nearby. This is the most popular spectator site in the entire race.

**1:00–1:30 Up the Hill! Race to Patterson Park:** The race goes near some delis and a Safeway. If you didn't pack a lunch, this could be a good time to eat lunch. But this segment of the race goes quickly, and you don't want to miss...

**1:15–3:00 Mud and Sand! Patterson Park Obstacles:** The mud is on a hill—easier for spectators, harder for racers. The sand is back, too, with bleachers for spectators. There's also a Pagoda Climb and a Fishing for Hobart the Glorious Founder Challenge. You'll find plenty of street parking around the perimeter of Patterson Park.

**3:00–4:30 Back through the Inner Harbor to the Finish Line:** Some of the surviving Kinetinauts are exhausted, so the sculptures are more spread out. Each breaks through a huge banner at AVAM to finish.

**4:30–5:00 Kinetinaut and Volunteer Dinner:** You should eat, because you'll be exhausted too. For \$10, a limited number of spectators can join the fun and buy a dinner wristband at AVAM's front desk. If you're clean, the Rusty Scupper (across the street from AVAM) and Little Havana (south on Key Highway) are fancier. There's also a Subway a bit south on Key Highway, and many tourist options around the Inner Harbor.

**5:00–6:00 Awards Ceremony at AVAM:** Even as a spectator, the day will leave you tired—imagine how the racers feel! Come cheer on the winners in the AVAM Sculpture Barn and see who wins the awards.

## Glossary of Important Kinetic Sculpture Race Terms

**ACE:** The highest challenge is the ACE. To ACE, pilots cannot trade off or have any propulsion assistance over the entire course, and not get out to push or pull the sculpture forward—*especially* at the water exit. ACE sculptures are identified by bright pink license tags.

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

**AVAM:** The American Visionary Art Museum on the south side of the Inner Harbor, sponsor of the KSR and a great place to visit.

**Checkpoints:** To prevent shortcuts along the racecourse, Kinetinauts are required to stop to stamp their passports.

**East Coast Championship:** The Baltimore Race is a qualifier for the *World* Championship in Humboldt County, California, which covers 42 miles in 3 days over Memorial Day Weekend, including a 2-mile water crossing and crashing down a huge sand dune called Dead Man's Drop.

**Engineering:** Awarded to the sculpture with the most ingenious technical design to tackle the rigors of the race.

**Golden Dinosaur:** Awarded to the most memorable breakdown or the first to break down.

**Golden Flipper:** Awarded to the sculpture with the most interesting water entry. Each year you're likely to find at least one sculpture that actually flips over in the water!

**Grand Mediocre Champion:** The top award, for the sculpture finishing in the middle (after time penalties).

**Kinetic Chickens:** Volunteers who keep the race on track, and answer questions from the public!

**Kinetic Cops:** Officers who issue tickets to sculptures when they break the rules (and sometimes when they don't). Each ticket results in a time penalty. Kinetic Cops are known to accept bribes to overlook all but ACE and safety infractions.

**Kinetinauts:** The fearless artist engineers who build and pilot sculptures.

**People's Choice:** Given to the spectators' favorite, based on a crowd survey by Kinetic Chickens.

**Sock Creature:** Each sculpture must have one; the best wins an award. This year, they're modeled after Hobart Brown.

**Volunteers:** Folks who have a lot of fun! To join for next year's race, sign up at [KineticBaltimore.com](http://KineticBaltimore.com).

### Hobart Brown 1934–2007



photo by Ellin Beltz

Hobart Brown, the lunatic genius from Ferndale, California who created and nurtured the Kinetic Sculpture movement, died November 7, 2007. You may have seen the Glorious Fonder in his top hat and overalls. His spirit lives on in Kinetic races around the world, and we will miss him. Read about his amazing life on Wikipedia.

## What to Wear

Something absurd! Lots of onlookers wear all sorts of goofy outfits (see photos below!) and you should too. This is a good time to rummage through your attic or a thrift store for the perfect Kinetic Outfit. If you have a sufficiently ridiculous outfit, find one of our KineticBaltimore.com photographers (we'll be wearing yellow shirts and giant blue hats) to take your photo, perhaps for next year's Spectator's Guide!

Check the weather forecast the day before the race—Verizon provides a free Baltimore weather update at **410-936-1212**—and plan accordingly. But remember that the race goes on no matter what the weather!

## Also on Race Day

There are other great places to visit around the Inner Harbor, including:

1. **AVAM:** The KSR sponsor, the American Visionary Art Museum is a gallery dedicated to intuitive, self-taught work by artists who are compelled to create! The current exhibit is "All Faiths Beautiful." It's a great place to spend a few hours where the race begins and ends. Open 10am to 6pm: [www.avam.org](http://www.avam.org).
2. **Maryland Science Center:** Excellent for kids, they have an exhibit about dinosaurs, interactive science exhibits, an IMAX theatre, a planetarium, and the *Bodyworlds 2* exhibit. Open 10am to 6pm: [www.mdsci.org](http://www.mdsci.org)
3. **Baltimore Museum of Industry:** Also fun for kids, with a 1910 pharmacy, an 1886 bank building, an operating steam tugboat, historic vehicles, and a prototype WWII flying boat bomber. Open 10am to 4pm: [www.thebmi.org](http://www.thebmi.org)
4. **National Aquarium at Baltimore:** A world-class aquarium, with sharks, rays, a dolphin show, an Australian Outback exhibit, and a rainforest on the roof with spectacular tiny poisonous frogs. Fun for kids and adults. There are also dragon paddleboats for rent at the adjacent pier. Buying tickets in advance is recommended. Open 9am to 5:30pm: [www.aqua.org](http://www.aqua.org).

## How to Get Around

Since this is a race, the sculptures move. So if you'd like to see the sculptures do more than simply pass you, you need to move, too. Here are some options to view the race:

**Along the Route:** You can park yourself anywhere along the route, and see the excitement from the comfort of your lounge chair.

**Where the Sculptures Stop:** You can see the sculptures up close at various points while they're not actively racing. Your main options are:

- The Brake and Safety Test before the race
- Atop Federal Hill (but they don't stop for long!)
- Canton Waterfront Park Water Entry
- Patterson Park Obstacle Course
- Finish Line

**Follow along:** If you have time, this can be the most exciting way to follow the action. But you need a plan. Some means of transport are:

- **Golf carts:** AVAM uses these to shuttle VIPs. Travel in style and bring your own.
- **Bicycle or roller blades:** An excellent choice for the physically fit. The human-powered sculptures aren't particularly fast, so if you can ride or blade 15 miles, you can probably keep up. If you bicycle, bring a lock—and don't leave your bike unattended in Patterson Park.
- **Water taxi:** The water taxi docks at prominent spots on the harbor. Adults get an unlimited day pass for \$9; \$4 for kids 10 & under. Key stops are **#4 Rusty Scupper**—right across the street from AVAM, and **#16 Canton Waterfront Park**. Other stops that will take you to where sculptures will pass by include #3 Science Center, #11 Fells Point, and #14 Captain James Landing. Visit [TheWaterTaxi.com](http://TheWaterTaxi.com) or one of their stops for info.
- **Automobile:** You can spectate at a spot, hop in your car and drive to the next spot to spectate, and leapfrog the sculptures in this manner. If you can parallel park, this can be a reasonable option, and allows you to bring lots of cargo.





## The Sculptures

*These are the teams that got their forms submitted on time, but it's a Kinetic tradition that some racers get their act together at the very last minute. Be on the lookout for other sculptures!*

- 1. Fish Out of Water** is a father-daughter team from Falls Church, Virginia, competing in their first race. At the application deadline, they had not designed or built it, so anything you see was very rapidly created.
- 2. ACE Kinetic hAirways** brings Bob Buerger of Frederick back for his ninth year, seeking a fifth **ACE** with a brand new transmission to prevent a repeat of last year's sculpture-eating pothole catastrophe at the water entry.
- 3. Camelot** comes from Eldersburg Elementary School, led by art teacher Denise Ovelgone. It's a castle, complete with wheeled gargoyles so heavy they will be present only at the start. Look for monks and a DaVinci airplane. Last year the team won **Best Costumes**.
- 4. Fiah Twuck** is a bright red playful tribute to firefighters. Pilots and pit crew will dispense "helpful" fire-safety tips and fireball candies while being flame-retardant. This is the 7<sup>th</sup> annual entry by the Make Believers team whose *Patapsco Queen* riverboat won the **2007 Grand Mediocre East Coast Championship** and **People's Choice**.
- 5. Otter Chaos** is a 4-wheel, 4-pilot center-articulating craft from the Gottwald family of Great Falls, Virginia.
- 6. ACE 99%Chimp** is a 15-foot long 1-pilot yellow bicycle banana fusion machine whose "intelligent design" plans to conquer the course and win a third **ACE** for Tony Walker.
- 7. ACE Nice Tots** is a bowl of tater tots, sponsored by Ale Mary's of Fells Point.
- 8. Pirate Punks** is a 2-pilot treasure chest from the Baltimore Lab School, which for their fifth year has graduated from the Kinetic Bush League to tackle the water entry.
- 9. Coca-Cobra** is from teacher Phil Brauer of Baltimore's Carver Center for Arts and Technology.
- 10. ACE Garden of Kinetic Delights** is a tribute to the religious visions of the late gothic artist "Anonymous Botched." It's a medieval cart of monsters of the unconscious exiled from the front lawn of paradise on their way to the bad part of heaven. Sponsored by Artex Fine Art Services of Landover, Maryland, 2006 champions and creators of 2007's *Attack of the Sculpturians* that won the **Speed** award and an **ACE**.
- 11. Bumpo** the elephant will be distributing Indian-themed bribes produced kinetically on-board. Bumpo is the first of AVAM's stable of four giant animal sculptures.
- 12. Frog** is AVAM's great green amphibious amphibian, piloted by Andy Hershberger.
- 13. Fifi** this year is fashioned with a Marie Antoinette-style focus on her French pedigree. Her pilot is Race Director Theresa Segreti.
- 14. Rat** returns for its sixth year, with a few engineering tweaks to make steering a bit less dangerous. It's piloted by AVAM's Joe Wall.
- 15. PLATYPUS—Personal Long-range All-Terrain Yacht Proven Un-Safe**—is the only sculpture to feature a didgeridoo this year, complementing the colossal duck-billed mammal stretching over the 9 pilots. Last year it won the **Best Engineering** award. Creator David Hess of Phoenix, Maryland ([davidhess.net](http://davidhess.net)) has been in kinetics since Baltimore's first race in 1999, when he worked on *Ruby the Dragon* which won both that first **Art** award and the **1999 Grand Mediocre East Coast Championship**. The pit crew are 9<sup>th</sup> graders from Hereford High School costumed as Australian animals.
- 16. Wilma & the WOMBATS—Wayward Outcast Musicians Battling Apocalyptic TribulationS**—comes with PLATYPUS and features 4 recumbent pilots playing 12 musical instruments. The human-powered furry blue New Orleans jazz sculpture runs on a Toyota MR2 drivetrain.
- 17. Green Racer X** is the world's most environmentally-conscious dragster from the Dumpster Divers of Philadelphia, who have been astonishing spectators since they won both **Worst Honorable Mention** and **Best Pit Crew** at the first annual Baltimore race in 1999.
- 18. When Pigs Fly** presents the theme of overcoming adversity, and comes from the César Chávez Public Charter High School of Washington, DC. It has 2 pilots.
- 19. Ben-Hur, Hon!** is a collision of a Roman chariot and modern Balmer straight out of *Hairspray*, complete with horses, beehives, and blue crabs. This team built last year's *Acme Kinetic Sculpture* featuring Wile E. Coyote.
- 20. ACE Popemobile** is a tribute to John Paul II piloted by Ross Dixon and Carolyn Black (founders of the UMBC kinetic team) ready for their third annual sculpture crash.
- 21. ACE Think Tank** embodies John Adam's character in 1776—"We're at war! We're going to have to offend somebody!" It's from the It Cain't team that won 2007's prestigious **Spirit of the Founder** award.
- 22. Rat Rod** is a tribute to the hot rod art of Ed "Big Daddy" Roth. It includes deployable exhaust pontoons, a radiator, 3-wheel drive, 4 pilots, and 5 wheels. They're the team that created 2007's *Goes to Eleven*.
- 23. Running with Scissors** is a 6-pilot, 12-foot tall sarcastic response to parenthood. The Severna Park team is new to this year's race.
- 24. ACE Viscar Boot Attempt #3** is the latest in a series. In 2004, #1 was wooden catastrophe that broke on the starting line and won **Worst Honorable Mention**. In 2007, #2 was so dangerous the pilots swapped it for another vehicle that nonetheless won an **ACE** and **Pilot's Choice**. This rendition has 4 pilots and 4-wheel drive. It's the first of three entries from the Jemicy School of Baltimore County, for college-bound students in grades 1–12 with dyslexia or language-based learning differences.
- 25. ACE Revelation** is a non-wheeled Jemicy craft made of found parts, intended to be the simplest and cheapest entry, named in homage to the quality of their creation.
- 26. ACE The Sneaky Moose** is a 1-pilot student-built remake of a 2007 Jemicy kinetic entry.
- 27. HB1-GF** is a remake of last year's *Air Farce One* entry by the Gugliuzza family of Hyattsville.
- 28. Nautical Nymph** from the University of Virginia Art Department in Charlottesville is a 1-pilot, 1-barnacle shipwreck featuring Undine, maiden of the sea, constructed with the "stitch and glue" method.
- 29. You've Got What It Takes** from UMBC features 4 pilots ready for a Polynesian vacation to celebrate their third annual entry.