

# Baltimore Kinetic Sculpture Race

www.KineticBaltimore.com

May 6, 2017



## Schedule

*It's a race! Times are approximate & subject to change!*

- Morning**
- 8:00-9:30 Safety check & brake test at AVAM
  - 9:30-10:00 Opening ceremonies & LeMans, start onto Key Hwy
  - 10:01-10:20 Climb Battery Ave into Federal Hill Park
  - 10:15-11:30 Race down Riverside, Ft Lawrence, Key Hwy, around Inner Harbor, President to Katyn Circle to Aliceanna, down Boston St
  - 11:15-1:00 Splashdown at Canton Waterfront

- Afternoon**
- 1:00-1:30 Up Kenwood, Right on Eastern, Left on Linwood & into Patterson Park
  - 1:15-3:00 Patterson Park Obstacle Course: Sand, Mud, & Pagoda Pit Crew Challenge
  - 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

Hosted by the American Visionary Art Museum

#kinetic



## Race Day

As with any human-powered dash for glory, times overlap and are approximate—racers are unpredictable! The race carries on in rain, shine, and all sub-calamitous conditions!

**8:00–9:30 Pre-Race:** See sculptures in unsullied glory, but don't disturb the frantic teams. See "Getting to AVAM".

**9:30–9:59 Opening Ceremony:** Kinetic oratory, lighting of the eternal flame, and Sister Euphonia O'Blivion blesses "de feet" of the Kinetinauts on the steps of the AVAM plaza.

**10:00 Le Mans Launchgong** at AVAM.

**10:01–10:20 Federal Hill:** The racers climb steep Federal Hill. (Anyone can make a sculpture; the human-powered part is hard.) Some sculptures break down before they get this far (seriously). This is a great place to photograph sculptures with the city skyline. Sculptures return shortly along Key Highway after the southern loop.

**Running Late?** From I-95 take exit 55 onto Key Highway to street parking along Fort Avenue or Lawrence Street.

**10:15–11:30 Southern Loop and around the Inner Harbor:** The sculptures pass Inner Harbor landmarks, into Harbor East, and Fell's Point. Tip: Park two hours free in Whole Foods' garage on Aliceanna Street if you get lunch there.

**11:15–1:00 Canton Waterfront:** Sculptures go down the ramp into the harbor. Watch unseaworthy sculptures sink. There's street parking in the surrounding neighborhood. This is the most popular spectator site. Get food from [Absolutely Perfect Catering](#) and [Miss Twist](#).

**1:00–1:30 Up the Hill to Patterson Park:** This goes quickly, and you don't want to miss...

**1:15–3:00 Patterson Park Sand & Mud:** The mud is on a slight hill—easier for spectators, harder for racers. There's street parking around the park perimeter. There *might* be food trucks. Need help? [Station North Tool Library](#)'s Kinetic Fixit Crew (KFC) are ready for easy & major repairs—even welding—in the circular pavilion near the sand.

**3:30–4:45 Back to AVAM for the Finish:** Kinetinauts are exhausted and sculptures spread out down Lombard Street in Butcher's Hill back through the Inner Harbor. Fort Avenue on the southern loop usually has open street parking. Each team breaks through a huge banner on Covington Street to finish at AVAM.

**4:00–6:00 Dinner:** You should eat. [Miss Twist](#) truck serves ice cream at AVAM. If you're clean check out [Encantada](#) atop AVAM or [Rusty Scupper](#) seafood across the street (reservations recommended). Ten-minutes' westward walk to Light Street in [Federal Hill](#) with two dozen diverse local restaurants. Big tourist restaurants line the Inner Harbor north bank. Late parking may be challenging for 7pm Orioles game.

**6:00–7:00 Awards Ceremony:** Just from spectating, you'll be exhausted—imagine how the racers feel! Cheer on the winners in the AVAM Sculpture Barn.

## (Some) Kinetic Awards

**ACE:** The highest race challenge is the ACE. ACE pilots can't swap or have forward propulsion assistance at any time, can't get out to push or pull especially at the water exit, sand, or mud. Teams going for ACE have green license plates and a dedicated ACE judge mercilessly enforcing all rules.

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

**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 first to break down.

**Golden Flipper:** Most interesting water entry.

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

**Next-to-Last:** Award for penultimate finish.

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

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

**Speed:** Fastest (after any time penalties).

**2017 Weiner Award:** Award for most profoundly fulfilling the theme of this year's race.

**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 is founder and sponsor of this East Coast Championship Kinetic Race.

**Barnacle:** A human who rides on a sculpture but doesn't provide propulsion.

**Bush League:** Sculptures that complete the entire course *except* the water entry.

**Checkpoints:** To prevent unauthorized shortcuts, teams stop at secret checkpoints.

**Hobart Brown:** In 1969, the Glorious Founder created the first raceable Kinetic Sculpture in Ferndale California and spread Kinetics around the world. We miss his boundless enthusiasm.

**Kinetic Chickens:** Volunteers who make the race possible and answer spectators' questions.

**Kinetic Grand Championship:** Our Baltimore race is a qualifier for the Grand Championship in Humboldt County, California—42 miles for 3 days over Memorial Day Weekend. Sculptures cross 2 miles of Humboldt Bay, a swampy slough, and down a huge sand dune called Dead Man's Drop.

**Kinetic Kops:** Officers issue tickets to sculptures when they 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.

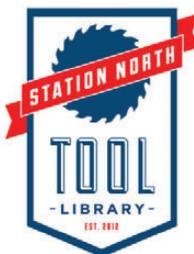
**Le Mans Start:** Pilots & pit crew wait atop Federal Hill; at the gong, they run down to their vehicles.

**Volunteers:** Folks who have a lot of fun and make the race happen! Sign up at [KineticBaltimore.com](http://KineticBaltimore.com).

## Kinetic Sponsors



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## Getting to AVAM

**Parking:** Street parking is scarce on race day. You can pay to park at the Rusty Scupper Marina just across Key Highway, or various lots and garages to the west and north. Prices vary considerably—see [Parkopedia.com](http://Parkopedia.com) for details.

**MARC and Amtrak trains:** run from DC, Philly, and elsewhere to Penn Station, then taxi or Circulator Purple (below). See [mta.Maryland.gov/marc-train](http://mta.Maryland.gov/marc-train) and [Amtrak.com](http://Amtrak.com).

**Charm City Circulator:** Free pleasant buses every 15 minutes 9am–9pm! 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 Ft McHenry. Maps & info at [CharmCityCirculator.com](http://CharmCityCirculator.com). Also see .....

**Light Rail:** Take a train to Camden Yards, a pleasant 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. Light Rail meets Amtrak at Penn and BWI stations. See [mta.Maryland.gov/light-rail](http://mta.Maryland.gov/light-rail)

## Attractions near AVAM

1. **AVAM:** The American Visionary Art Museum hosts intuitive, self-taught work by artists compelled to create. Exhibitions change annually. Now showing "YUMMMM! The History, Fantasy, and Future of Food". The gift shop is amazing. Open 10am–6pm: [AVAM.org](http://AVAM.org)
2. Other Baltimore events this weekend include **Maryland Film Festival** [MDFilmFest.com](http://MDFilmFest.com) and **FlowerMart** [FlowerMartMD.org](http://FlowerMartMD.org). Many more events are at [Baltimore.org](http://Baltimore.org)
3. **Maryland Science Center:** Exhibits about dinosaurs, health, space, and physics; IMAX and planetarium, mini golf for kids. Open 10am–6pm Saturdays: [MDSci.org](http://MDSci.org)
4. **National Aquarium:** Sharks, rays, jellyfish, dolphins, Australian Outback, and tiny colorful poisonous frogs. Buy advance tickets ASAP to enter 9:00am–7:30pm: [Aqua.org](http://Aqua.org)
5. **USS Constellation** (1797 frigate), **USS Torsk** (1944 submarine), **USCGC Taney** (1936 cutter), **7-Foot Knoll Lighthouse**. Open 10am–5:00pm: [HistoricShips.org](http://HistoricShips.org)
6. **Urban Pirates:** Reserve ahead at [UrbanPirates.com](http://UrbanPirates.com) for "Family Adventure" or adult "Bring Your Own Grog" cruises.
7. **Baltimore Museum of Industry:** 1910 pharmacy, 1886 bank, steam tugboat, historic vehicles, WWII flying boat bomber. 10am–4pm: [TheBmi.org](http://TheBmi.org)
8. **Fort McHenry:** in 1814 this star-shaped fort inspired our national anthem. 2 miles south of AVAM down Francis Scott Key Hwy and Fort Ave; 9am–5pm [nps.gov/fomc](http://nps.gov/fomc)
9. **Charm City Food Tours:** Buy advance tickets for Fell's Point, Federal Hill, Little Italy, Lexington Market, or Mount Vernon: [BaltimoreFoodTours.com](http://BaltimoreFoodTours.com)

## What to Wear

Wear something fabulous! Many folks wear festive outfits (see below) and you should too. Ransack your attic, or head to a thrift or vintage store (like DeBois Textiles Boutique on Washington Avenue in Pigtown) for an ideal Kinetic Outfit. If you dress well, find a KineticBaltimore.com photographer (in a bright yellow shirt), and your photo may appear in this year's website coverage or the *2018 Spectator's Guide!*

## Spectate from One Spot...

Since the sculptures navigate 14 miles through the city, the easiest way to spectate is to pick a spot and watch them pass by. Parking is plentiful along some stretches (especially the blue morning and orange afternoon routes on the map). There are sometimes last-minute route changes. However, most spectators brave the crowds at AVAM, Canton Waterfront, and Patterson Park, where sculptures and spectators congregate.

## ...Or Follow Along

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

- **Free bus!** Baltimore runs buses for Tourism Day. "Loop 1" has stops at the Baltimore Visitor Center on Light Street, Canton, and Patterson Park. [KineticBaltimore.com/bus](http://KineticBaltimore.com/bus)
- **Bike or roller blade:** Big human-powered sculptures aren't super-fast. If you're fit and can ride 14 miles on city streets, you'll likely keep up. Ride carefully and watch for rough roads. Bring a bike lock. Repairs & supplies are available at [Race Pace Bicycles](http://RacePaceBicycles) 410-986-0001 at 1414 Key Highway (see map), and the Station North Tool Library Pit Stop near the sand.
- **Water taxi:** The water taxi docks at 12 spots around the harbor 10am–11pm. Adult day passes are \$14, \$7 for kids 3–10. Key stops are #4 Rusty Scupper (next to AVAM), and #16 Canton Waterfront Park. Allow an hour from #4 to #16—about right to see the start and water entry. Get map and tickets at [BaltimoreWaterTaxi.com](http://BaltimoreWaterTaxi.com) or on the boat.
- **Automobile:** You can park, spectate, then drive to the next spot. As crowds grow every year, parking has gotten much harder to find. Read signs; bring coins & credit card.

## Tag Photos & Videos with #Kinetic

**Instagram:** Follow [theavam](http://theavam) & use [#Kinetic](https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/Kinetic)

**Flickr:** Tag with [Kinetic2017](http://Kinetic2017) & [KineticSculptureRace](http://KineticSculptureRace)

**Twitter:** [@TheAvam](https://twitter.com/TheAvam)

**Facebook:** Like [AVAM](https://www.facebook.com/AVAM)

**Kinetic Forum:** [KineticBaltimore.com/ksr/forum](http://KineticBaltimore.com/ksr/forum)



## The Sculptures (5/4)

- ACE In a Pickle** is the long-awaited return of the Gottwald family of Great Falls, Virginia, who were **2009 Grand Mediocre Champion** with *Goin' Griswold*. Look for clever mini-propellers under their pickle pontoons.
- Green Slime Mold** is a 3-pilot, 5-wheeled entry from a new Vermont team demonstrating that individual gelatinous amobae join into intelligent collective slime molds.
- Cosmic Moobeams** presents the ungulate space travel from St. Casimir's Catholic School in Canton, winner of 2016's **Engineering** award for their rocker differential suspension on *Birdie the Sculpture Vulture* that handily pulled them straight through the race's biggest challenges traversing the mud and exiting the water, very impressive for their first-ever entry.
- Jake's Nightmare** is the 4<sup>th</sup> entry from the Baltimore Lab School, winner of last year's **Judges' Fill-in-the-Blank** award for *Mobile Mobile*. We aren't sure who Jake is.
- OMHS Goes Bananas** from Columbia's Oakland Mills High School is a 4-pilot entry. In 2016, they won **Worst Honorable Mention** when *OMHS Scorpion* flipped over at the water entry.
- Petal to the Metal** is a flower-powered 6-pilot entry from the veteran Takoma Park team who won 2016's **Urban Myth and Monster Award** for embodying the race theme with *Scary, Scary Night*. Look for water wheels at Canton and rumored skis for sand & mud.
- Ice Ice Huskies**, with 3 pilots, was built by a new team from Patterson Mill High School in Bel Air.
- Corny-Copia** has 2 pilots from the Dumpster Divers of Philadelphia, who have entered all 19 Baltimore races since 1999. We hope they do better than last year.
- Holy Mackerel** is the fourth entry built of recycled material by the Washington DC duo who won **2016 Grand Mediocre Champion** with *The Bees' Knees*. Hope you're in the mood for seafood!
- ACE Like Peas in a Pod** with four pilots is the first of four entries this year from the Jemicy School of Baltimore, where a class in Kinetic Sculpture Race Industrial Design provides immersion in creativity and problem-solving. Last year, their 9 entries won 7 **ACE** awards for completing the course under extra-challenging rules, and **Spirit of the Founder**.
- ACE Open Wide, Here Comes the Plane** has five pilots, also from Jemicy.
- ACE You Scream, Ice Cream!** is a 1-pilot Jemicy entry.
- ACE Doughnut Get in My Way** is the other 1-pilot Jemicy entry.
- PLATYPUS Australian Cold-Cut Sub** is the heaviest entry, with 8 pilots, 1+ human barnacles, and a Suzuki transmission, back for for its thirteenth year. David Hess' **Personal Long-range All-Terrain Yacht Proven Un-Safe** has won numerous awards, including **2005** and **2011 Grand Mediocre Champion**.
- Park School B-B-B-Bacon** is the first entry from the Park School of Baltimore, with 1 pilot. Its theme song is "Bring on the Bacon".
- Seafood's Revenge:** Inner harbor toxic water has mutated the sea creatures! Fed up with years of overfishing, litter, and pollution, they've overtaken a fishing boat, now adapted to fish for people on land. The fishermen thrown overboard haven't given up and are trying to retake their vessel. CAP Kinetic is a new team from the Patterson Park neighborhood.
- Radiolarian Special** from Team Protozoa is a class project of Richmond's Virginia Commonwealth University Department of Sculpture & Extended Media, taking the form of a microscopic radiolarian sea creature with a 1970s MGB rear axle, '67 Chevy truck steering wheel, and Suzuki motorcycle front end.
- Bush Corn Goddess** faces front and back with blue and yellow corn, and an abundance of fruit at her feet. From the Waldorf School of Baltimore who raced *Walobo* in 2012. Pit crew will be an array of butterflies, bees, fairies, and other pollinators.
- Bush Crab Sickle** is a 1-pilot entry from Mary Magenta of New Freedom, Pennsylvania.
- BEATrice the unBEATable** is a 6-pilot mixer & blender with whirling whisks, startling eyes, and flapping wings making the world's biggest smoothie. It's from the Soda Quackers of Pennsylvania who won **Best Costumes** for 2016's *Stumti the Tremendous Stork*.
- You Stay Trashy Baltimore** is inspired by the city's famous Mr. Trash Wheel and is devoted to cleaning up all this food with its signature conveyor belt, googly eyes, and oversize wheels. It's from Team 1,800 Lbs, who have won 10 amazingly diverse awards since 2007, including 2016's **Best Bribes**.
- Oatmeals on Wheels** from the Friends School of Baltimore, showing Quaker pride on oatmeal containers. Last year, they raced **Wasn't Built in a Day**.
- Fifi's Diner** is the return of AVAM's 2-pilot pink poodle race mascot serving up the daily special for 2017. Fifi has been in every race since 2001.
- SPSG cargot** features fruit loops from Baltimore's St. Paul School for Girls. Last year, St. Paul's boys and girls schools joined forces to win the prestigious **Art** award when they raced the amphibious sarcophagus *King Bal-Tut-More*.
- Tick Tock the Croc** is the friendly carnivorous 6-pilot, 35-foot crocodile relentlessly pursuing Captain Hook after Peter Pan gave him a hand. Tick Tock and the team's prior *Go Ask Alice* blue caterpillar have won an unprecedented 6 **People's Choice** awards.
- ACE Nator Racer** is the 2-pilot manifestation of the Tröegenator, from race sponsor Tröegs Brewing Company, of Hershey, PA, where they've also brewed a special Kinetic IPA.
- Kracken Calamari** is the sixth entry from the University of Maryland Baltimore County, who won **2015 Grand Mediocre Champion** with *Kracken Upcycle*.
- Bush STRAAND** from the Johns Hopkins Digital Media Center has 2 pilots and a STEM-punk theme. Look for the Jansen's Linkages on the back, which simulate organic walking motion with a simple rotary input, also seen on Strandbeests.
- What Time Is It?** with 1 pilot is sponsored by Metcalf Art and Harbor Magic Hotels, from the same people who raced *Love You Harbor* in 2015, comprised of Fifi's former chassis that had been stolen and dumped in the harbor, then salvaged into near-raceable condition.