

Baltimore Kinetic Sculpture Race

www.KineticBaltimore.com
May 4, 2019



Map by Tom Jones 4/29
The Kinetic Sculpture Race is produced by the **American Visionary Art Museum** www.AVAM.org 410-244-1900

Schedule

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

Morning	8:00–9:30	Safety check & brake test at AVAM	Afternoon	1:00–1:30	Up Kenwood, Right on Eastern, Left on Linwood & into Patterson Park
	9:30–10:00	Opening ceremonies & LeMans, start onto Key Hwy		1:15–3:15	Patterson Park Obstacle Course: Sand, Mud, & Pagoda Pit Crew Challenge
	10:03–10:20	Climb Battery Ave into Federal Hill Park		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)
	10:15–11:30	Down Riverside, Fort, Lawrence, Key Hwy, around Inner Harbor, President, 360° around Katyn Circle back up to Fleet to Caroline to Aliceanna & down Boston St		4:00–6:00	Post-race recovery (dinner for racers & volunteers)
	11:15–1:00	Water Entry at Canton Waterfront		6:00–7:00	Awards Ceremony at AVAM



Race Day

As with any human-powered dash for glory, times overlap and are approximate! The race does not stop for rain, heat, cold, celestial syzygy, or other sub-calamitous conditions.

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

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

10:00 Le Mans Launchgong at AVAM. When Sister O'Blivion sounds the gong, the race starts. Pilots and pit crew scamper down the steep grass of Federal Hill to their parked vehicles and ride off down Francis Scott Key Highway.

10:02–10:20 Federal Hill Park: 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). Then 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.

10:15–11:30 Through the Inner Harbor, Harbor East & Fell's Point: The sculptures pass Inner Harbor landmarks (photo opportunities!). 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. This is the most popular spectator site. Get food from [Abso-lutely Perfect Catering](#) and [Miss Twist](#).

1:00–1:30 Up the Hill to Patterson Park: Rested racers ride rapidly.

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. Near the mud are food trucks from [Green Bowl](#), [Bistro Lunch Box](#), [Wild Thyme](#), and [Miss Twist](#).

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. Each team breaks through a huge banner on Covington Street to finish at AVAM to celebrate victory.

4:00–6:00 Dinner: You should eat. [Miss Twist](#) truck serves ice cream at AVAM. If you're clean check out [Rusty Scupper](#) seafood across the street (reservations recommended). Or walk 10 minutes' west to Light Street in [Federal Hill](#) with two dozen awesome local restaurants. Big tourist restaurants line the Inner Harbor north bank.

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.

(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 water exit, sand, or mud). Each ACE-seeking team has a salmon-color license plate and a merciless ACE judge watching every move.

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: The most interesting water entry.

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

Next-to-Last: The penultimate finisher.

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 team (after any time penalties).

21st Wheel-ality TV Award: Chosen by the Academy of Moving Television shows. This category celebrates the 21st year of racing and/or the themes of wheel-laity or television.

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 Baltimore's East Coast Championship Kinetic Sculpture Race.

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

Bush League: Sculptures that complete the entire course *except* the water, with a green license plate

Checkpoints: To prevent unauthorized short-cuts, teams have to stop at secret checkpoints.

Hobart Brown: In 1969, the Glorious Founder in Ferndale California created the first raceable Kinetic Sculpture for his son, then 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—50 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. 2019 is their fiftieth anniversary! Learn more at [KineticGrandChampionship.org](#).

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.

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

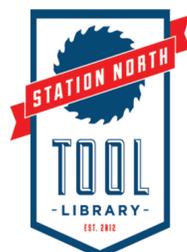
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Getting to AVAM

Parking: Street parking is very scarce on race day. You can pay at the Rusty Scupper across Key Highway, or in many nearby lots and garages. Prices vary considerably—see Parkopedia.com.

MARC and Amtrak trains: from DC, Philadelphia, and elsewhere to Penn Station, then taxi or Circulator Purple Line (below). See mta.Maryland.gov/marc-train and Amtrak.com.

Charm City Circulator: Free buses every 10–15 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 Ft. McHenry. Maps & info at CharmCityCirculator.com.

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/light-rail

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 available along some stretches (especially the purple 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 for festive kinetic atmosphere where sculptures 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:

- **Bike or roller blade:** Big human-powered sculptures aren't super-fast. If you're fit and can go 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 south of AVAM (see map) and the Station North Tool Library mobile crew.
- **Rent a Scooter:** Rent a scooter or bike using a cellphone app from li.me, bird.co, or spin.app.
- **Automobile:** Parking gets more challenging every year, so you may want to avoid parking hassles by using a ride-share app to get around. If you drive, bring lots of coins (especially quarters); many parking machines don't take cards anymore. Be sure to read parking restriction signs.

Attractions near AVAM

1. **AVAM:** The American Visionary Art Museum hosts self-taught work by artists compelled to create. Exhibitions change annually. Now showing "Parenting: an Art without a Manual". The gift shop is amazing. Open 10am–6pm: AVAM.org
2. **Maryland Science Center:** Exhibits about dinosaurs, health, space, and physics; IMAX and planetarium, mini golf for kids. Open 10am–6pm Saturdays: MDSci.org
3. **Institute of Marine & Environmental Technology:** has their annual open house 1–4pm on race day at Pier 6 on the inner harbor next to the race route: IMET.usmd.edu
4. **National Aquarium:** Sharks, rays, jellyfish, dolphins, Australian Outback, and tiny colorful poisonous frogs. Buy advance tickets ASAP to enter 9:00am–5:30pm: Aqua.org
6. **USS Constellation** (1797 frigate), **USS Torsk** (1944 submarine), **USCGC Taney** (1936 cutter showing the evolution of battleship armor), **7-Foot Knoll Lighthouse.** Open 10am–5pm: HistoricShips.org
7. **Urban Pirates:** Reserve ahead at UrbanPirates.com for "Family Adventure" or adult "Bring Your Own Grog" cruises.
8. **Baltimore Museum of Industry:** 1910 pharmacy, 1886 bank, steam tugboat, historic vehicles, WWII flying boat bomber. 10am–4pm: TheBmi.org
9. **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
10. **FlowerMart** is May 3–4 at Mount Vernon Place, with over a century of floral history: mvpconservancy.org
11. **Strong City Baltimore Get On Up!** 1969 party 6pm at the Hoen Lithograph building: StrongCityBaltimore.org/
12. See many more events at Baltimore.org

What to Wear

Something fabulous! Many folks wear festive outfits (see below) and you should too. If you dress well, find a KineticBaltimore.com photographer (in a bright yellow shirt & feathered blue hard hat), and your photo may appear on this year's website or the *2020 Spectator's Guide!*

Tag Photos & Videos with #Kinetic

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

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

Facebook: [theavam](https://www.facebook.com/theavam)

Flickr: Tag with [Kinetic2019](https://www.flickr.com/photos/kinetic2019/) & [KineticSculptureRace](https://www.flickr.com/photos/kineticsculpturerace/)

Kinetic Forum: KineticBaltimore.com/ksr/forum



The Sculptures (4/29)

- Bush Cafeteria Food Boys** is a brand new team combining the Baltimore Creative Labs artist collective and Anything Wood & Metal. With 4 pilots, its theme song is *Big Pimpin'*. As a Bush-league entry, it bypasses the water entry, so it doesn't need to float.
- Fake Gnus** has 2 pilots, is 4-foot-6 inches tall, and we don't know anything else.
- Humnan Centipede** is the latest in foot-propelled flotation technology, from the creator of 2018's *Trojan Horse* and 2013's *Frednan*. Pilots will be crowd-sourced; find an open segment and hop in as long as you like!
- Park School Bachelorette** is a 1-pilot entry from the Park School of Baltimore, whose *Monster under the Bed* won 2018's **Best Bribes**—plus the **Golden Flipper** for catastrophically disintegrating on the water, leaving a floating skull.
- Shark Week** is the third entry from Team Cap Kinetic, now in Overlea, MD, who would have won Most Improved if that award existed. This is a complete overhaul of 2018's *Revenge of the Sea*—with hand-made 36-inch wheels independently driven by 4 pilots, and more ground clearance to avoid plowing sand and mud. At deadline they were still building & designing, so we have no idea what to expect.
- Shark Tank** has 2 pilots and is the fifth year the Friends School of Baltimore has entered; last year they raced *Earhart Returns*.
- NOVA LabsMobile** is 17 feet long, has 5 pilots, and is the first-ever entry from NOVA Labs and NOVA Maker Faire in northern Virginia. Their theme song is Ozzy Osbourne's *Crazy Train*.
- Mr. Trash Velocipede** is a new Catonsville team inspired by Baltimore's famous Trash Wheel family that intercepts debris in the Jones Falls river where it empties into the Inner Harbor. It has 2 pilots and is sponsored by the Waterfront Partnership of Baltimore.
- Pandora's Hell Bent Kitchen** has 8 pilots and features Pandora, a huge skeletal dragon guarding a whirling mixing bowl ridden by Devil Chef making a Devil's Cake. It's the sixth entry from the Soda Quackers of New Jersey & Pennsylvania, who have raced since 2013, and won 2017's **Engineering** award for *BEATrice the unBEATable*, also featuring a mixer theme.
- ACE EGGsistential Crisis** has 2 pilots and is the first of 4 entries created by students in the Industrial Design class at Baltimore's Jemicy School. All are competing under the much stricter ACE rules.
- ACE The Cutlery** is Jemicy's 4-pilot sculpture. Last year, each of Jemicy's 3 teams won an **ACE** award. Curiously, they spanned the gamut of kinetic time awards by winning both **Speed** (fast) and **Next-to-Last** (slow) awards.
- ACE Grillax** is a one-pilot Jemicy tricycle-based entry.
- ACE Wassssabi** is also a one-pilot Jemicy tricycle. Jemicy has entered 62 sculptures over the past 15 years, and won more ACEs than all other teams put together.
- Bush Tröegenator** returns for a third year, wisely skipping the water entry after what happened last year. It's from Tröegs Independent Brewery of Hershey, Pennsylvania. The 2-seater horned viking carries a keg in each hand, and their theme song is Led Zeppelin's *Immigrant Song*.
- Treez Nutz:** Woodland fairies, foresters, and more than a few loose nuts take to the open road beneath the canopy of Team 1,800 Lbs magical, giant tree. This team has raced every year since 2007. Their classic hand-pump draisine railroad car *Off the Rails* won 2018's **Engineering** award, and the rarely-seen concept of using arms & backs to power the massive sculpture 14 miles was described by one of its pilots as "Not as bad as I thought it would be."
- Marys-Go-Round** is a carousel piloted by 6 Marys including Mary Poppins, Mary and her little lamb, Mary Queen of Scots, Bloody Mary, and Miss Maryland. This Takoma Park team won **2018 Grand Champion** and **Pilots' Choice** with *Baltimore Wheel Estate: Location, Rotation, Flotation*.
- Trail Trekker** has 3 pilots from a new team out of Havre de Grace, who reserve the right to switch to Bush League if floating seems unwise. Their theme song is Smash Mouth's *All Star*.
- Wizard** is modeled after a king crab Bering Sea boat from TV's *Deadliest Catch*, with custom buoys and crab pots. Pilots drive with cameras outside connected to monitors inside the sculpture. This chassis won 2018's **Art Award** as *Anansi the Spider* and bears new seats, sculpture, and electronics for power steering and internal brake lights. (The rules permit onboard power that doesn't propel the sculpture.) The tower and crane are operational.
- Sky Hat** has 2 pilots from the Dumpster Divers of Philadelphia, who have come to every Baltimore Kinetic Race since the inaugural race in 1999. (They did not always finish.) Their theme song is *Puttin' on the Ritz*.
- Real Spacewives of Uranus** has 6 pilots from Team Goes to Eleven whose elegant purple alien *Spacecation* last year won **Worst Honorable Mention** for arriving hours late. This is their tenth year racing; their *Rat Rod* won **2007 Grand Champion**. The Spacewives' theme song is *Planet Claire* by the B-52s.
- Tick Tock the Croc** is the return of the fabulous 35-foot 6-pilot crocodile eager to finish eating Captain Hook. Racing since 2014, it's won an utterly unprecedented 5 consecutive **People's Choice** awards.
- Shark Tank (PLATYPUS)** is the latest sighting of the Personal Long-range All-Terrain Yacht Proven Un-Safe with 8 pilots plus 1 barnacle who steers up front. Check out their SUV transmission and wheels. This team, led by sculptor David Hess, won 2018's **Mystery & Tall Tales Award** and **2005 & 2011 Grand Champion**.
- MC Hammerhead** from UMBC is a 16-foot shark made of recycled materials, with *Can't Touch This* as their song. They won **2017 Big Weiner** for putting a giant cephalopod sea monster on the menu with *Kraken Calamari*.
- I Dream of Fifi** AVAM's iconic poodle is back in the pink direct from her magic lamp. This genie has no master. Fifi has raced every year since 2001.
- Sushi Roll!** This last-minute entry is piloted by Brett and Brian celebrating Brett's 1-year anniversary of AWAKE brain surgery at Johns Hopkins. This Alexandria team raced *Old School* in 2007, when their fish sculpture capsized in grand style.