

Baltimore Kinetic Sculpture Race

www.KineticBaltimore.com

May 7, 2022

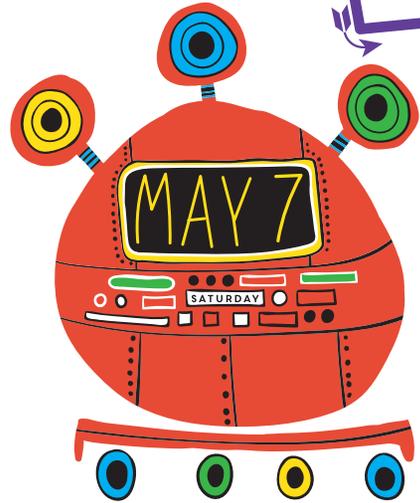


Map by Tom Jones 4/23
 The Kinetic Sculpture Race is produced by the **American Visionary Art Museum** www.AVAM.org 410-244-1900

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 ceremony & LeMans, start onto Key Hwy | | 1:15–3:15 | Patterson Park Obstacle Course: Sand, Mud, & Observatory Time Machine 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 the Inner Harbor, down President, 240° around the National Katyń Memorial, 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, benign time-travelers, or other sub-calamitous conditions.

8:00–9:30 Pre-Race Panic: You can see sculptures in unsullied glory, but don't disturb the Kinetinauts—they're busy! See "Getting to AVAM".

9:30–9:59 Opening Ceremony: Kinetic oratory, dancing and singing, reigniting the eternal kinetic 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. Sister O'Blivion sounds the gong to initiate the Le Mans start as pilots and pit crew scamper down the steep grass of Federal Hill to their vehicles parked along Covington Street. They ride off down Francis Scott Key Highway with a police escort.

10:02–10:20 Federal Hill Park: Battery Avenue is very steep climbing Federal Hill. Anyone can make a sculpture; this is when you realize the human-powered part is hard. Some sculptures break down before they get this far (seriously). After a loop through the park against the city skyline, 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 to see sculptures on Fort, Lawrence, or Key.

10:15–11:30 Through the Inner Harbor, Harbor East & Fell's Point: The sculptures pass landmarks in the Inner Harbor and Harbor East, including circling most of the way around the [National Katyrí Memorial](#).

Tip: Park two hours for free in Whole Foods' relocated garage on Eden 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, and finding street parking gets more challenging every year. Get food from [Absolutely Perfect Catering](#) and [Miss Twist](#).

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

1:15–3:00 Patterson Park Sand & Mud & Observatory Challenge: 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 [HarborQue](#), and [Miss Twist](#) at the mud and from distinctive Dawgs on a Roll at the sand. Witness the Time Machine challenge atop the hill at the Observatory.

3:30–4:45 Back to AVAM for the Finish: Lombard Street is steep downhill so sculptures fly through Butcher's Hill, Washington Hill, and Little Italy back to the Inner Harbor. 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 [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. Finding late parking will be especially challenging due to the nearby 7pm Orioles game.

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, and can't get out to push or pull (especially at the water exit, sand, or mud). Each ACE-seeking team has a gold license plate and a merciless ACE judge watching their 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.

Best On Ice: This award hasn't been given since 2002 when the race crossed the Patterson Park ice rink. The Frog won.

Engineering: Awarded to the most ingenious technical design tackling the rigors of the race.

Golden Dinosaur: Awarded to the most memorable breakdown, or the first team to break down. Created by Laurence J. Peter who's also known for the Peter Principle.

Golden Flipper: The "most interesting" water entry.

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

Next-to-Last: The penultimate finisher.

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

Sock Creature of the Universe: Each sculpture must have a homemade sock creature (HSC); this award goes to the best.

Speed: Fastest team, after any time penalties.

Spirit of the Glorious Founder: The team, person, or other entity Embodying the mindset of Hobart Brown.

2022 Time Warp Award: the team most effectively conveying this year's race theme, whether sci-fi, asynchronous reprojection, or *Rocky Horror*.

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. Provides a time bonus.

Bush League: Teams completing the race except the water. There's one this year, and you can build one next year.

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, lost the first race to a smoke-emitting turtle, then spread Kinetics around the world. We miss his enthusiasm.

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

Kinetic Grand Championship: Our race is a qualifier for the Grand Championship in Humboldt County, CA—fifty miles over Memorial Day weekend. Teams cross 2 miles of Humboldt Bay, a swampy slough, and a huge sand dune called Dead Man's Drop. More at [KineticGrandChampionship.org](#).

Kinetic Kops: "Officers" issue tickets when sculptures 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 for next year at [KineticBaltimore.com](#).

Getting to AVAM

Parking: Street parking is very scarce on race day. You can park 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). MARC allows you to bring on bicycles. 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 transportation.baltimorecity.gov

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 15 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 15 miles on city streets, you'll likely keep up. Ride carefully and watch for rough roads. Bring a bike lock. If you need repairs, look for the Station North Tool Library mobile crew.
- **Rent a Scooter:** Rent a scooter or bike using an app from Li.me (green & red), Link (yellow), or Spin (orange)
- **Automobile:** Parking gets more challenging every year, so you may want to avoid parking hassles by using an app to get around. If you drive, bring credit cards and quarters for parking, and be sure to read parking signs carefully.

Attractions near AVAM

1. **AVAM:** The American Visionary Art Museum hosts self-taught work by artists compelled to create, "one of the most fantastic museums anywhere in America". Currently showing "Healing & the Art of Compassion (and the Lack Thereof!)" 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–5pm Saturdays: MDSci.org
3. **National Aquarium:** Sharks, rays, jellyfish, dolphins, Australian Outback, and tiny colorful poisonous frogs. Buy advance tickets ASAP to enter 9:00am–6:30pm: Aqua.org
4. **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
5. **Urban Pirates:** Reserve at UrbanPirates.com for "Family Adventure" or adult "Bring Your Own Grog" cruises.
6. **Baltimore Museum of Industry:** 1910 pharmacy, 1886 bank, steam tugboat, historic vehicles, WWII flying boat bomber. 9am–3pm: TheBmi.org
7. **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
8. **Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival:** a big festival dedicated to small ruminants. It's always the same weekend as the Kinetic race, SheepAndWool.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 *2023 Spectator's Guide!*

Plan Ahead!

Next year's race is May 6, 2023. Is it on your calendar?

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

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Flickr: Tag with [Kinetic2022](https://www.flickr.com/photos/kinetic2022/) & [KineticSculptureRace](https://www.flickr.com/photos/kineticsculpturerace/)

Kinetic Forum: KineticBaltimore.com/ksr/forum



The Sculptures ^(5/5)

1. **Cosmosaurus: Dinos in Space** features prehistoric cave people and astronauts riding dinosaurs in space. It's from the Glamorous Rats team (originally from Hamden but now international) known for creating *Fake Gnus* in 2019.
2. **Winging It!** rejoices in transformation, renewal and the return of spring's competitive kinetic racing season. It will be accompanied by a floatilla of butterflies including the endangered Baltimore Checkerspot. It has 6 pilots from the Takoma Park team that won 2019's **Spirit of the Glorious Founder** for Marys Go Round, and in 2010, 2013, and 2018 won **Grand Mediocre Champion**.
3. **Fifi: Lost in the 60s** is everyone's favorite amphibious giant French poodle transported back to the 1960s. Fifi has entered every race since 2001.
4. **Tempus Fugit** is the younger brother of Father Time. Tempi speeds through time on his hot rod motorcycle, flapping wings, blowing smoke, popping wheelies while moving from prehistoric times to a future we do not yet know. Look for Desdemona the Duck, the Soda Quackers first entry back in 2013. They're reigning **Grand Mediocre Champion** with 2019's Pandora's Hell Bent Kitchen.
5. **Time Maker** with 4 pilots is from Nova Labs in their new Fairfax location. One bicycle carries over from their 2019 entry, and this time they expect to have functional brakes.
6. **The Flintstones** presents the modern stone-age family as a kinetic sculpture. With 2 pilots, it's from the Park School of Baltimore, whose 2019 entry *Bachelorette* won the **Wheel-ality TV** award for embodying that year's theme.
7. **Ve-Fossil-Wrapper** is a velociraptor with a big sweet tooth for dime store candy, including a life-size Werther's Original. The theme song is *Walk the Dinosaur* by Was (Not Was).
8. **ACE Pinktastic** has 1 pilot, 6 wheels, 7 chains, 31 gears, and celebrates the best color ever in hopes of winning a third **ACE** for pilot Phil Smith who first raced in 2011 and whose latest entry was Oh! Snap! in 2018.
9. **Bush The Mad Ratters** is a 2-person rat, the first entry from a new Baltimore team. Their theme song is *Frontier Psychiatrist* by The Avalanches.
10. **PLATY-PUS Returns** is David Hess' colossal delight **Personal Long-range All-Terrain Yacht Proven Un-Safe** powered by 8 pilots with a Suzuki transmission and a barnacle steering in front that won 2019's **Engineering** award as *Shark Tank* and won **2005 & 2011 Grand Champion**.

Kinetic Sponsors



11. **Chronosaurus Rex** 66 million years ago, Professor Chrono-Saurus escaped the asteroid impact in her Dinolaurean, time traveling to 2020 to develop an anti-asteroid device. But ape-descendants had burned all the return-trip fuel she stashed underground millions of years ago. If the sculpture hits 22 mph, it will streak Back to the Past and save the dinosaurs! It's from Cap Kinetic of Overlea responsible for 2019's *Shark Week* that won **Best Pit Crew**. Each of the 4 pilots drives a 36" wheel with 154 gears, for a total of 562 million gear combinations.
 13. **Tröegenator** is back for a fourth year, from race sponsor Tröegs Independent Brewery of Hershey, PA. The 2-seater horned viking carries a keg in each hand, and their theme song is Led Zeppelin's *Immigrant Song*.
 14. **ACE Hold Your Horses** is the first of 5 entries this year created by students in the industrial design class at Baltimore's Jemicy School. All 5 are competing under the much stricter ACE rules.
 15. **ACE Steam Junk** from Jemicy has 1 pilot and weighs 35 pounds.
 16. **ACE Wake Me Up Before You Go Go** is also from Jemicy. You'll never guess its theme song.
 17. **ACE Disco Fever** also from Jemicy has 4 pilots and is 12.5 feet long.
 18. **ACE Light Years Ahead** is the largest Jemicy entry: 15 feet long with 4 pilots.
 19. **Big Lady** has 2 pilots, the first entry from Team Poorly Drawn Bikes formed in January 2020. This is their first minimal viable sculpture which is powered by two tricycles, a tribute to timeless beauty spanning across the eras.
 20. **Tick Tock the Croc** is the delightful 35-foot long musical crocodile from Neverland powered by 6 pilots and a sound system. Since 2014, it's won 6 **People's Choice** awards.
 21. **Pegasides Tacky Toga Party** from Sudbrook Magnet Middle School National Junior Art Honor Society is modeled after Zeus' thunderbolt chariot drawn by Pegasus, but with 2 Pegasides with rainbows, glitter, and tacky togas. Its theme song is the Wonder Woman theme by Hans Zimmer.
 22. **SP Space Cruiser** from St. Paul's School for Boys is a last-minute entry from the team that created the crab trawler *Wizard* in 2019. Their song is *Rick & Morty* by Soulja Boy.
- Honorable Mention **Dawgs on a Roll** is a human-powered kinetic barbecue grill with 6 wheels, from artist Rob Lindsay, serving up hot dogs near the sand as the race goes through Patterson Park.