

MICHAEL E. BUSCH CENTER *for the* ARTS *at* MARYLAND HALL

In August of 2019 the Maryland Hall Board of Directors voted to establish the Michael E. Busch Center for the Arts at Maryland Hall. This unanimous vote served two purposes.

The first was to honor a man whose dedication and perseverance helped Maryland Hall become one of the premiere arts institutions in the state of Maryland. He was one of Maryland Hall's most thoughtful and dedicated advocates and helped us embrace and deliver on our mission of "Art for All."

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It all began in 1999 at the very first Arts Alive fundraiser celebrating Maryland Hall's 20th Anniversary when Mike Busch highlighted the critical needs of the 1932 former Annapolis High School building to our political, corporate, and philanthropic arts community. He turned a fun party into a serious fundraiser that established our first capital campaign. His vision for Maryland Hall's capital needs continues as his legacy today.

Maryland Hall would not be the cultural center of the region today with its vastly improved facilities for symphony, chorale, opera, ballet, gallery and education without Michael Busch. He led the charge for years of State funding and helped grow the partnership between the Anne Arundel County Public Schools Performing and Visual Arts Program and Maryland Hall.

The second purpose, **and what will drive us moving forward**, was to elevate Maryland Hall's ever growing role as the region's cultural core, convening and engaging all people in arts experiences that strengthen community. We aspire to touch all individuals in the state of Maryland regardless of location or background with enriching and inspiring arts experiences.

Maryland Hall is our home and the home of amazing artists, musicians, top regional performing arts companies, and community groups from around

the region. The Michael E. Busch Center for the Arts at Maryland Hall is the accumulation of all our programming and outreach that deliver on our goal of art for all.

Located in the capital of the State of Maryland in the viewshed of the State House dome, we strive to provide the entire state a vibrant hub of ideas, dialogue and energy. We will unite artists and communities from all corners of the region, through conversations and projects that feed our collective home. We endeavor to provide deeply meaningful educational experiences to connect learners of all types and ages inside our walls and out. We want to provide and facilitate that spark statewide.



We have already taken great stride in working toward our vision.

- This summer inaugurated the **Paul Reed Smith Music Classes**. Musicians in our region and the leader of internationally known PRS Guitars led an intergenerational, impactful and immersive music experience for participants.
- In a collaboration with Historic Annapolis and Smithsonian Associates we presented **Space Travel: Apollo and Beyond**, in which current and former NASA astronauts met on our stage to share their stories and mark the 50th anniversary of the historic Apollo 11 Moon mission.
- Coming in early Spring, we will host the **World Artists Experiences: Bridges to the World International Film Festival** in which international films and conversations will be shared to foster global and cultural understanding and peace.

To achieve all we aspire to become will require the efforts of so many people. If you would like to participate in the next phase of our growth and learn more about how you can help, visit page 35.



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