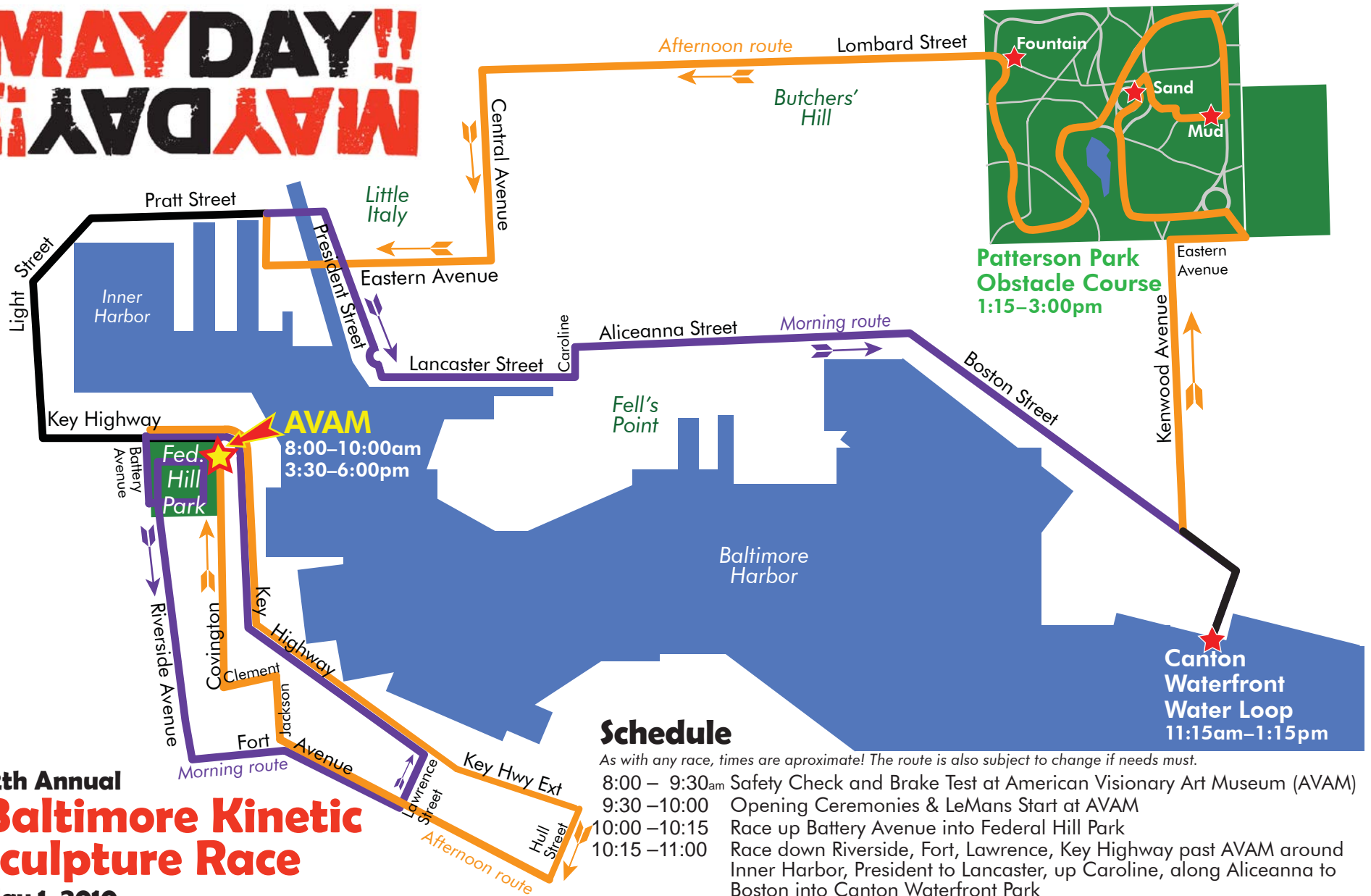


# MAYDAY!! MAYDAY!!



## 12th Annual Baltimore Kinetic Sculpture Race

May 1, 2010

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), 800 Key Highway, [avam.org](http://avam.org).

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### Schedule

*As with any race, times are approximate! The route is also subject to change if needs must.*

- 8:00 – 9:30<sup>am</sup> Safety Check and Brake Test at American Visionary Art Museum (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 Inner Harbor, President to Lancaster, up Caroline, along Aliceanna to Boston into 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 Obstacle Course: Sand, Mud, Fishing in the Fountain
- 3:00 – 4:30 Race down Lombard, Central, Eastern, Pier 5, Pratt, Light, Key Highway, turn left at traffic light to stay straight on Key Highway extension, across railroad tracks, Hull Street, Fort, Jackson, Clement, and up Covington to the finish line at AVAM (finishers may begin arriving as early as 3:30)
- 4:30 – 5:00 Post-Race Recovery (dinner for racers & volunteers)
- 5:00 – 6:00 Awards Ceremony at AVAM

## 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. Best seen up close. AVAM has a Kinetic fundraiser breakfast at Mr. Rain's Fun House on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor—but on Friday the last tickets were sold out.

**10:00–10:15 Federal Hill:** The racers climb steep Federal Hill. (Anyone can make a sculpture; it's the human-powered part that's hard.) Some sculptures break down before they make it this far. This is a great place to photograph sculptures with the city skyline. Sculptures return shortly along Key Highway after the southern loop. **Tip:** If you arrive late for the start, head straight to Fort Avenue or Lawrence Street where parking is easier and crowds are thin.

**10:15–11:00 Through the City! Southern Loop and around the Inner Harbor:** The sculptures pass through the Inner Harbor and Fell's Point. **Tips:** Park in the Whole Foods garage on Aliceanna free for 2 hours if you get lunch there. Or eat at the Baltimore Urban Gardening with Students (BUGS) Farmers Market at Caroline and Lancaster (runs 10am–1pm; see bugsprogram.blogspot.com).

**11:00–1:15 Into the Harbor! Canton Waterfront Park Water Entry** at the Korean War Memorial: The sculptures go down a ramp, through the water, and exit the other side. If any sculptures are unseaworthy, watch them sink. Use street parking nearby, as sculptures fill the park's lot. This is the most popular spectator site. Food vendors may be here.

**1:00–1:30 Up the Hill! Race to Patterson Park:** The race goes near some delis and a Safeway. But this segment goes quickly, and you don't want to miss...

**1:15–3:00 Sand and Mud! Patterson Park Obstacles:** Some sculptures get stuck. The mud is on a hill—easier for spectators to see, harder for racers. Kinetinauts also Fish in the Fountain. There's lots of street parking around the perimeter of Patterson Park.

**3:00–4:30 Back to the Finish Line:** Kinetinauts are exhausted, so sculptures are more spread out. The Key Highway Extension and Fort Avenue are uncrowded and parking is easy. Each sculpture breaks through a huge banner along Covington Street to finish at AVAM.

**4:30–5:00 Dinner:** You should eat, because you'll be exhausted. If you're clean, consider Mr. Rain's Fun House in AVAM (open all day except 4–5:30pm; happy hour 5–7pm), the Rusty Scupper (across the street from AVAM) and Little Havana (south on Key Highway). There's also a Subway a bit south on Key Highway, good local restaurants along Light Street in Federal Hill, and tourist food around the Inner Harbor.

**5:00–6:00 Awards Ceremony at AVAM:** Even as a spectator, you'll be tired—imagine how the racers feel! Cheer on the winners in the AVAM Sculpture Barn.

## 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 can't get out to push or pull the sculpture forward—*especially* at the water exit, sand, and mud. Those going for ACE have bright orange tags and are closely watched by ACE judges to ensure they follow all the rules.

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

**AVAM:** The landmark American Visionary Art Museum on the south side of the Inner Harbor; sponsor of the Race.

**Best Pit Crew:** Each sculpture requires a support crew, and this award goes to the best decorated or supportive.

**Checkpoints:** To prevent unauthorized shortcuts along the racecourse, Kinetinauts are required to stop to have their passports stamped by race officials.

**East Coast Championship:** The Baltimore Race is a qualifier for the *World* Championship in Humboldt County, California, founded by Hobart Brown, 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 see at least one sculpture that actually flips over!

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

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

**Kinetic Kops:** 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 Kops are known to accept bribes to overlook all but ACE and safety infractions.

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

**Next-to-Last:** Award for the entry that manages to finish, but with only one team even slower than it is.

**Sock Creature:** Each sculpture must have one; the best wins the **Sock Creature of the Universe** Award.

**Speed:** Award for the fastest entry completing the entire course, after accounting for any penalties.

**Volunteers:** Folks who have a lot of fun and make the race happen! If you'd like to be part of next year's race, sign up at [KineticBaltimore.com](http://KineticBaltimore.com).

## 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 the race goes on no matter what the weather!

## Also on Race Day

There are other great places to visit nearby including:

1. **AVAM:** The American Visionary Art Museum is not just the race sponsor but also a gallery dedicated to intuitive, self-taught works by artists compelled to create! The current exhibit is "Life, Liberty & the Pursuit of Happiness." AVAM is a great place to spend a few hours and see the race begin or end. Open 10am–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 and a planetarium. 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, jellyfish, dolphin show, Australian Outback exhibit, and rooftop rainforest with spectacular tiny poisonous frogs. Advance ticket purchase is recommended. Open 9am to 6pm: [www.aqua.org](http://www.aqua.org).
5. **Fort McHenry:** the star-shaped fort that defended Baltimore from the British in the War of 1812, inspiring Francis Scott Key to write our national anthem. It's open 8am to 5pm: [www.nps.gov/fomc/](http://www.nps.gov/fomc/)

## How to Get Around

Since this is a race, the sculptures move. If you'd like to see the sculptures do more than pass by, you should 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 Sand, Mud, and Pagoda Climb
- 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:

- **Electric Cars:** 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 around the harbor. Adults can 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 near where sculptures pass by are #3 Science Center, #7 Harbor East, #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 pull things together at the last minute. Be on the lookout for other sculptures! (Triskaidekaphobes should note that #13 dropped out.)

- 1. Got Milk** carries its two pilots on a journey to find milk. It's a new sculpture captained by Greg Kelly of Falls Church.
- 2. ACE Safari Attack** is from the Gottwald family of Great Falls, Virginia, winner of last year's **Grand Mediocre East Coast Championship**. This year they have an African safari theme, as they try to outrun a charging rhino in their "Land Rover."
- 3. Heavy Metal** is from Sollers Point Technical High School whose *Cheese Racer* won 2009's **Engineering** award. This year they have 4-wheel independent drive, disc brakes, and 26 speeds. Students created the entire sculpture, from machining the universal joints, crank shafts, and frame, to upholstering the seats and creating custom graphics.
- 4. Anemone Antics** comes from Bethesda with ten pilots. Extra pedal power is applied to their quadracycle to get through the sand and mud, while over 200 tentacles adorn the anemone.
- 5. ACE Going to Hell** Speak of the devil, this team from Falls Church returns for a second year tossing fireballs left and right with a new welded frame and four pilots.
- 6. Chessie** Tony Walker and friends have their 5<sup>th</sup> entry in this year's race, a 25-foot long sea monster with 99 ferocious teeth. When ice and snow were dumped into the Inner Harbor, Chessie emerged to roam the streets of Baltimore.
- 7. The Moderately Famished Caterpillar** consists of a train of 6 bikes dressed as a caterpillar; at the water they'll enter a cocoon and magically transform into a butterfly—look carefully to see their surprise flotation! From Paul Seiffert, creator of 2007's *Acme Kinetic Sculpture*, 2008's *It's Ben Hur*, *Hon*, and 2009's *Hot Beef Injection*—winner of both **Best Pit Crew** and **Worst Honorable Mention**.
- 8. ACE Scrum Roll Razer** from the Chesapeake Women's Rugby Team is decorated as a sushi boat with a challenging design combining front-wheel drive with a single rear steering wheel.
- 9. Candy Haus** shows why Hansel and Gretel couldn't resist the witch's delicious house made of candy. From the same Takoma Park team that produced 2009's *Snakehead*, this sculpture again features hundreds of plastic bottle lids.
- 10. Creature from the Landsdowne Lagoon** comes from Landsdowne High School's Student Government, Arts & Communication Academy and Engineering, Science & Info Tech Academy. It's decorated with trash removed from the school-side pond.
- 11. T-Wrecks** is a late-built entry from Crofton and is designed to be a candidate for the Golden Dinosaur award. With 3 pilots, the dinosaur sculpture shoots water from its nose and drops dino-eggs along the race route.
- 12. ACE Veke Versa Boat** is from the Jemicy School of Baltimore and is dedicated to providing habitat for the endangered, elusive, and apocryphal tree octopus. It's a rebuild of the *Viscar Boat #3* from 2008.
- 14. Twitter Jay & The Recyclists** is back for a second year. The blue bird is made of recycled grocery bags, and the chassis is rebuilt from 2009's **Golden Dinosaur**-winning design which made it through the race only by being carried. You'll be able to follow them on "hopkinsbluejay" at Twitter, or send a txt to 443-473-9307 for their sculpture's display.
- 15. Carver Cobra II** is from Baltimore's Carver Center for Arts and Technology. It's a remake of their 2008 sculpture which won **Golden Flipper** when it suffered from the Pontoon Effect and tipped over in the water.
- 16. Los Baltimuertos** is a 6-pilot Baltimore vision of the Day of the Dead as celebrated in Mexico. Those who have passed on are remembered with shrines of fruit, flowers, and gifts. It honors Baltimore's Arabbers—vendors who drove fruit and vegetable carts for over a century. This is the 9<sup>th</sup> entry from the Make Believers, led by Frank Conlan, winners of many awards over the years including 2009's prestigious **Art** award for *Happily Never After*.
- 17. The Boatercycle** by Samuel Weinberg of the Maryland Institute College of Art, is built entirely out of found and recycled material, embracing its "thrown together" aesthetic.
- 18. Mobile Media** is a massive 7-pilot rolling art installation designed and influenced by the people of Baltimore. Aric Wanveer leads the team responsible for 2009's *Voodoo Air* giant zeppelin, and *Wilma & the Wombats*, 2008's **People's Choice** winner for playing improvisational jazz throughout the racecourse.
- 19. ACE Squid Man** is a last-minute Jemicy School entry.
- 20. ACE Kraken** is another last-minute Jemicy School entry. Last year, the school's five entries each won an **ACE**.
- 21. Fifi Joins the Circus** commemorates her tenth race by celebrating the circus. Fifi is the American Visionary Art Museum's giant pink poodle, and won 2009's **Best Bribes**.
- 22. Bumpo the Circus Elephant** AVAM's pachyderm has followed Fifi and joined the circus. Bumpo has raced every year since 2003.
- 23. Circus Rat** shows that even a rat can join the circus. AVAM's Rat has also raced every year since 2003.
- 24. PLATYPUS (Personal Long-range All-Terrain Yacht Proven Un-Safe)** returns for a 6<sup>th</sup> year. Created by David Hess, the stupendous 8-pilot, 2-barnacle PLATYPUS has won numerous awards including 2009's **People's Choice** for her didgeridoo-infused jocularly. It's built with many automotive components including tires and transmission. For 2010, PLATYPUS has added drums, a barbecue grill on a swing arm, a new hat for the exciting sculpture on top, and an emergency brake. The average age of her pilots is 46.
- 25. Frog** from AVAM is back for its ninth year, the biggest amphibian to prowl the streets of Baltimore.
- 26. Big Bamboo** from Philadelphia's Dumpster Divers is the world's greenest dragster, made of hand-picked trash and home-grown bamboo. Last year their *Green Racer* won **Golden Flipper** by overturning on the water.
- 27. Go Ask Alice** with 6 pilots, hails from Mr. Rain's Fun House on AVAM's third floor, the same creators as 2009's *Air Cosmonauts*.
- 28. ACE Cabrena Octopus** is a last-minute 1-pilot entry from the Jemicy School.
- 29. ACE Calamari** is a last-minute 1-pilot entry from the Jemicy School.