



Baltimore Sister Cities
baltimoresistercities.org

2025

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

ANNUAL REPORT

BUILDING BALTIMORE'S
GLOBAL NEIGHBORHOOD

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Walking tour of historic Koreatown landmarks in Baltimore



Photo: Xiamen FAO

Baltimore Symphony Orchestra musicians and President/CEO went on tour in China, including a concert in Xiamen



Photo: Cristina Murphy

Morgan State University and Baltimore Department of Planning urban design study trip to Rotterdam



Egyptian treats at Pratt Library



Sia Kamara Barbara (Baltimore-Gbarnga) at WE-CARE site in Liberia



Photo: Xiamen FAO

Xiamen Vice Mayoral delegation at Baltimore City Hall



Ukrainian pottery exhibition



Baltimore Scouts in Kawasaki for the 40th edition of the two-way exchange



Photo: Our Neighbor Miss Yae, via BKSCC

Annual film program with classic Japanese films at Towson University

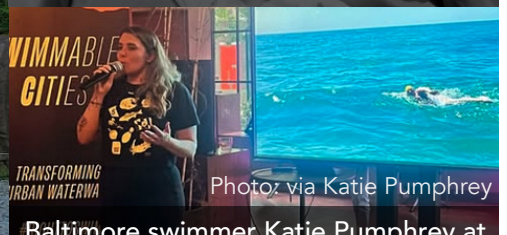


Photo: via Katie Pumphrey

Baltimore swimmer Katie Pumphrey at Swimmable Cities Summit Rotterdam

BSC Annual Membership Meeting & BSC Board Leadership Election

Conducted annual general membership meeting to vote for directors of the board, approve 2024 report and 2025 plan, and celebrate our volunteers. Followed by first BSC board meeting of the year, to elect the Vice President, Secretary and alternate board representatives for BGSCC and BGSCC, and approve the 2024 financial report and 2024-2025 budget.

**FEB
25**

Asian American, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander Month (AANHPIM)

Annual event that celebrates Asian and Pacific Islander cultures and the contributions of their communities to Baltimore. Our Asian sister city committees (Changwon, Kawasaki, Xiamen) collaborated on the *Veiled Forms* exhibit for Asia North festival.

MAY

ABOUT US

Baltimore Sister Cities (BSC) is a non-profit, volunteer-run organization that aims to promote mutual economic development, educational, cultural, health/environmental and other cooperation and exchanges between Baltimore City, Maryland, and its international Sister Cities.

BSC is composed of Sister City Committees dedicated to managing these relationships. BSC's activities are designed to benefit the City, its residents and the business community by supporting the Mayoral Initiatives of the City and the goals of the Sister Cities International (SCI) organization.

baltimoresistercities.org



Baltimore presentation by Hosea Chew at China-U.S. Sister Cities Conference

Baltimore/Maryland Delegation to China

Representatives from BSC, BXSCC, Maryland Department of Commerce, and Montgomery County attended the 7th China-U.S. Sister Cities Conference in Hangzhou city in China, which included forums on educational exchanges, urban innovation and development, sustainable urban practices, and sister cities exchange case studies; and a performance by the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. The delegation also visited Xiamen to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Baltimore-Xiamen sister city relationship.

OCT

WTCI Annual Maryland State of the Ports

BSC supported World Trade Center Institute (WTCI) by promoting and participating in the event.

**DEC
3**

BSC Outreach Events

May 24–25 – Artscape: BSC table

April 10 - Baltimore AAPI Night

Aug 21 – Johns Hopkins University (JHU) Democracy Day Community Engagement Fair: BSC table

Sep 27 — Baltimore's annual Ukrainian Festival: BSC table

Oct 16 — Visit Baltimore's Annual Meeting at R.House



Chinese dragon dancers at Baltimore's Asia North festival



Baltimore Sister Cities table at Baltimore's Ukrainian Festival



ENOCH PRATT *free* LIBRARY

Enoch Pratt Free Library (EPFL) is Baltimore’s public library system. In 2025, under the leadership of its President and CEO Chad Helton, EPFL embarked on a new collaboration with Baltimore Sister Cities, including three research trips to our sister cities and several special activities in Baltimore. Goals include initiating knowledge exchanges with overseas libraries and planning for a new international library summit to be hosted by EPFL.

Trip to Egypt JUNE

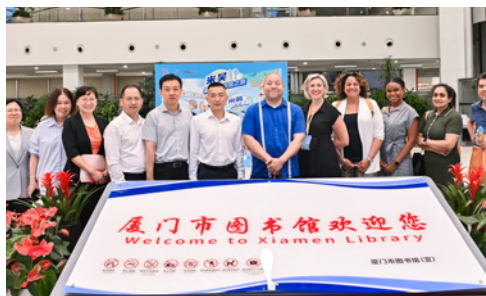
EPFL representatives (President/CEO, Chief Financial Officer, Chief of the State Library Resource Center, and an Archivist) visited Cairo and Alexandria in Egypt. In Cairo, the group visited Cairo and Ain Shams Universities. These visits were arranged by the Egyptian Cultural and Educational Bureau in Washington, D.C. The group also visited historical pyramids. In Alexandria, the group had two days of visits to the Bibliotheca Alexandrina (BA). There were tours of the library’s extensive collection and small museums on the first day, followed by lunch and conversations with BA staff on the second day. While in Alexandria, the Baltimore-Luxor-Alexandria Sister City Committee (BLASCC) hosted the group for dinner at the Greek Club overlooking the Mediterranean Sea.



EPFL at a lunch in Alexandria in Egypt, hosted by BLASCC

Trip to China JULY

EPFL representatives visited Xiamen in China, facilitated by Baltimore-Xiamen Sister City Committee (BXSCC). The program included meetings with the Xiamen Library leadership and librarians, visits to Xiamen Museum and Xiamen University, and a Welcome Ceremony at the Jimei branch of Xiamen Library for EPFL and Baltimore Youth Ambassadors. They met Xiamen city leaders, a book publishing company, and an American Chinese author. They also attended some of the cultural activities in Xiamen that were part of the Baltimore Youth Ambassadors’ itinerary.



EPFL visit to the Jimei Branch of Xiamen Library



Woodblock printing demonstration at the Jimei Branch of Xiamen Library

Trip to Japan AUGUST

EPFL representatives visited Kawasaki in Japan, facilitated by Baltimore-Kawasaki Sister City Committee (BKSCC). They met with Kawasaki municipal officials, library staff and administrators, cultural institutions, and museums, in preparation for an international library summit that EPFL is planning in the future. They also visited Tokyo; site visits included Waseda International House of Literature (Haruki Murakami), a beautiful modern library.



Waseda International House of Literature in Tokyo, Japan



Baltimore-Xiamen Exhibition

**APR
TO
MAY**

Enoch Pratt Free Library (EPFL) and BXSCC collaborated to create an exhibition at the Central Library about Baltimore and Xiamen's 40-year sister city relationship, in four display cases. Exhibition included photos of Xiamen, copies of the original sister city agreement, examples of student and professional exchanges over the years, information about Baltimore Sister Cities and activities held annually by BSC's Asian sister committees to celebrate contributions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders to Baltimore.



In April, a delegation led by Xiamen Vice Mayor Zhuang Ronliang, including representatives from Xiamen Port Authority and Xiamen Foreign Affairs Office, visited Baltimore. While in Baltimore, the group toured the exhibition at the Central Library and met EPFL's leaders.



Meeting with Amsterdam Delegate

APR

While a delegation of city planners and community planners from Rotterdam and Amsterdam were visiting Baltimore for a week-long program in April 2025, a member of the delegation from Amsterdam met with EPFL's leadership to learn about its "Library of Things" lending service and other programs.

EPFL Book Exchange with Xiamen

OCT

BXSCC celebrated the 40th anniversary of the Baltimore-Xiamen sister city relationship in late October in Xiamen. The agenda included the presentation of books on behalf of Baltimore's Enoch Pratt Free Library (EPFL) to Xiamen Municipal Library (Jimei Branch).

Bennett Library / Liberia

Baltimore-Gbarnga Sister City Committee (BGSCC) helped connect Bennett College (HBCU in the U.S.) to contacts in Liberia for an initiative related to the themes of the BSC collaboration with Enoch Pratt Free Library.

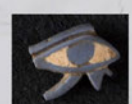
A Baltimorean in Egypt



A Baltimorean in Egypt: The Cohen Collection at the Johns Hopkins Archaeological Museum

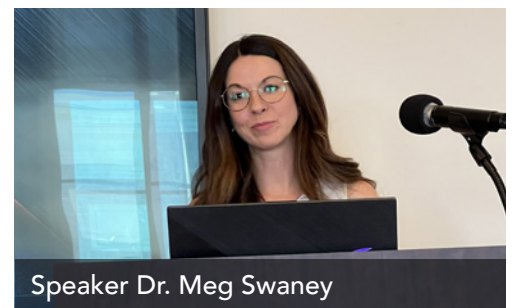
with
Asst Curator Dr Meg Swaney

Enoch Pratt Free Library
400 Cathedral St. Baltimore, MD
Arts Room, 2nd Floor
Saturday, September 13
Noon - 1:30pm
Light food provided
FREE
RSVP davoljon@gmail.com
or text 240-606-7079



BLASCC hosted a special event at Enoch Pratt's Central Library with Assistant Curator Dr. Meg Swaney of the Johns Hopkins University Archaeological Museum, and Egyptian cuisine. Dr. Swaney gave a presentation about "A Baltimorean in Egypt", highlighting how Mr. Mendes Israel Cohen of Baltimore, a banker who fought at Fort McHenry in the War of 1812, traveled to Egypt in 1832, collecting 689 artifacts. Mr. Cohen is believed to be the first person to fly an American flag on the Nile River, and his collection is now in the Johns Hopkins museum.

**SEP
13**



BSC Officers

President

John Facelo
2024 – 2025 Term

Vice President

Nancy Taylor
2025 – 2026 Term

Treasurer

Jay Gordon
2025 Term

Secretary

Toni Latimore
2025 – 2026 Term

ASSISTANTS

Assistant Secretary

Kimberly Bossie

Grants Manager

Gislin Dagnelie

Digital Coordinator

Dalton Adams

BSC Board Members

Mayor's Office Representative

Nina Themelis
2024 – 2025 Term

Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs (MIMA) Representative

Masuma Lonczak
2025 – 2026 Term

Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC) Representative

William Cawthern
2024 – 2025 Term

BCSCC Representative

Michelle Lee
2025 Term

BGSCC Representative

Luana Kiandoli
2024 – 2025 Term

Sia Barbara Kamara (Alternate)

2025 – 2026 Term

BKSCC Representative

Victoria Minka
2025 – 2026 Term

Michael Young (Alternate)

2025 – 2026 Term

BLASCC Representative

Jon Davol
2024 – 2025 Term

BOSCC Representative

Karina Mandell
2024 – 2025 Term

BRSCC Representative

Gary Davison
2024 – 2025 Term

BXSCC Representative

Hosea Chew
2025 Term

Xin (Cindy) Wang (Alternate)

2024 – 2025 Term

Baltimore City Grant Challenges

Baltimore city government typically provides a yearly reimbursement to Baltimore Sister Cities to help cover its operating expenses. Due to changes in the city's payment processes and other challenges, **Baltimore Sister Cities did not receive the anticipated funding from 2022, 2023, 2024, and 2025.**

The lack of funding support from the city constrained our activities.

Total Assets

AS OF DEC 31, 2025

BSC, Inc.	– \$ 1,400.63
BCSCC	\$ 1,992.21
BGSCC	\$ 635.31
BKSCC	\$ 14,237.52
BLASCC	\$ 6,696.12
BOSCC	\$ 5,633.35
BRSCC	\$ 10,230.09
BXSCC	\$ 26,655.60
TOTAL	\$ 64,679.57

Total Deposits in 2025

\$66,529.49

For funds raised by each Sister City Committee: See each committee's section in this report.

VOLUNTEER HOURS

Over **4,000** hours in 2025

14 board members
as of Dec 31, 2025
14 voting | **0** non-voting

7 board meetings
7 executive team meetings
2 finance committee meetings

**HAUNTED KOREAS
Dreaming Unification
Protest Peace**

[more info](#)



The Asian Arts & Culture Center at Towson University hosted *HAUNTED KOREAS Dreaming Unification Protest Peace* exhibition, featuring Mina Cheon’s series of “Unification Dream” paintings, a new perspective on the flags of a unified Korea. Each of these paintings is a powerful peace protest, shedding light on the intricacies of communication, love, and a shared vision of a harmonious future for North and South Korea. Mina Cheon (PhD, MFA) is a global Korean new media artist, scholar, and educator who divides her time between Baltimore, New York, and Seoul, Korea. The Opening Reception and Artists Talk on Feb 22 was co-sponsored by BCSCC and the Korean American Foundation – Greater Washington.

JAN 14 – MAR 25

Asia North Festival during Asian American, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander Month (AANHPIM)

BCSCC participated in Baltimore’s Asia North Festival, an annual festival celebrating AANHPIM that is coordinated by Towson University’s Asian Arts & Culture Center. BCSCC and the Korean American Foundation – Greater Washington hosted a Koreatown walking tour with tour guide Sein Kim and MC Rosa Park, showcasing Charles North neighborhood’s Koreatown history and Korean cuisine, followed by a book talk and reception with Ginger Park and Frances Park, the authors of *Suka’s Farm*, a book inspired by their father’s boyhood when Korea was occupied by Japan.

MAY

The Synesthesia Show Peabody x MICA

[more info](#)

Synesthesia Show 2025: Differentiation was presented by Synesthesia Spectrum, the collaborative initiative between the Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA) and the Peabody Institute of Johns Hopkins University. Synesthesia Show, now in its third year, is a platform for interdisciplinary collaboration between artists and musicians in Baltimore. The exhibition was directed by Dooree Kang (BCSCC, MICA), and Yoonjung Lee (Peabody). BCSCC supported the reception.

OCT 11-18

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

3 members as of Dec 2025

3 Regular | **0** Associate

0 committee meetings in 2025

2025 FUNDRAISING GOAL

\$1,000

TOTAL FUNDS RAISED IN 2025

\$155

including fundraising, donations, & membership dues



Walking tour of historic landmarks in Koreatown



Book talk with authors Ginger Park & Frances Park

Young African Leaders (Mandela Washington Fellowship)

University of Maryland Baltimore County hosted a cohort of Young African Leaders (Mandela Washington Fellowship), empowering emerging leaders across Africa through leadership training, networking, and community impact. BGSCC and Maryland Sister States helped sponsor a community running event during this cohort’s visit.

JUL 19

Health, Food Security, and Environment

Healthcare — Collaborated with Cuttington University engaged with other institutions on developing initiatives to strengthen this sector, focusing on capacity building, workforce development, and sustainable healthcare systems in Liberia.

Ending Period Poverty — Continued BGSCC’s partnership with this organization, led by Eta Beta Omega Chapter of AKA Sorority. Feminine hygiene products are not easily acquired or accessible in many parts of the world. Providing these items significantly increases quality of life for girls and women.

Food as Medicine — Supported initiatives centered on food as medicine, collaborating with several major farms in surrounding areas on pilot programs to promote nutrition, wellness, and preventative health approaches.

African Environmental Watch International — Participated in AEW’s Climate Literacy in Action conference at University of Maryland College Park, supporting youth engagement and workforce development in environment and engineering.

African Diaspora Global Engagement

Partnered with African Diaspora Alliance and Kenyan Diaspora Alliance. Participated in National Business League’s 125th Anniversary Celebration, and in Atlantic Council’s convening with Macky Sall, former president of Senegal and past chairperson of the African Union.

Other activities

JHU Democracy Day — BGSCC Chair Luana Kiandoli represented Baltimore Sister Cities at this event that provides new students with opportunities to interact with local community organizations and to get involved with civic engagement and democratic principles.

AUG 21

Presidential Award — BGSCC Chair Luana Kiandoli received an award in recognition of her decades of volunteer service in the United States and abroad.

Wala Blegay — BGSCC strengthened civic ties through engagement with Wala Begay, a Liberian native and elected official in Prince George’s County.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

7 members as of Dec 2025
 5 Regular | 2 Associate
12 committee meetings in 2025

2025 FUNDRAISING GOAL

(None)

TOTAL FUNDS RAISED IN 2025

\$312
 including fundraising, donations, & membership dues



Mandela Fellowship panel at UMBC

BGSCC leaders at Fellowship event

BGSCC Chair & Senegal’s Macky Sall

Enoch Pratt Free Library

BKSCC assisted Baltimore’s Enoch Pratt Free Library with their research trip to Japan. See [details](#) on p4-5.



Japan Film Program

[more info](#)

This bimonthly screening series of classic Japanese films is organized by BKSCC in partnership with the Dean’s Office of Towson University College of Fine Arts and Communication (COFAC) along with the Asian Arts & Culture Center at Towson University and its Director, Joanna Pecore. 8 films were shown; “The End of Summer” was part of COFAC’s Summer at the Center Festival in June. Films hosted by Reed Hessler, Japan film collector and expert.

Asia North Festival during Asian American, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander Month (AANHPIM)

BKSCC organized these events for Baltimore’s Asia North Festival:

MAY

Veiled Forms — Open House/Fundraiser on May 9 at *Veiled Forms*, an Asian-themed exhibition and performance program at Bogus Gallery curated by Liz Faust and BKSCC member Michael Young. Artists with Chinese, Japanese, Korean and Filipino backgrounds were on display and in performance, along with foods and activities, with support from BCSCC & BXSCC.

Night in Kawasaki — Special event on May 1 held at *Veiled Forms*, featuring unique Japanese craft vendors, a live Shakuhachi performance collaboration, taiko drumming, tunes from a Japanese City Pop DJ, and more.

Annual Baltimore-Kawasaki Scout Exchange

This year, 12 Baltimore Scouts with 5 leaders visited fellow scouts in Kawasaki for a weeklong program. The scout members practiced outdoor camping activities, hiked, visited famous sites, and participated in host family stays.

JUL 18 – AUG 3

Kawasaki International Festival

BKSCC member Rob Perry created a video of Baltimore City Views to show at the Kawasaki International Festival. Baltimore and Kawasaki BKSCC members presented the video and other materials about Baltimore as a tourist destination and the scout exchange.

NOV 9

Traditional Celebrations

BKSCC held three community get-togethers that are celebrations for traditional Japanese holidays: Hanami “flower viewing” picnic in April; Japan Day/Aki Matsuri in October with Maryland-Kanagawa Sister States; and Bonenkai, a year-end celebration where BKSCC members gather at a local ramen restaurant.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

36 members as of Dec 2025
 36 Regular | 0 Associate
8 committee meetings in 2025

2025 FUNDRAISING GOAL

\$4,450

TOTAL FUNDS RAISED IN 2025

\$1,000

including fundraising, donations, & membership dues



BKSCC members at the Bonenkai celebration



Event at Asia North Festival



Kawasaki’s Falcons lacrosse team with Towson University’s Tigers team

Enoch Pratt Free Library

BLASCC assisted Baltimore’s Enoch Pratt Free Library with their research trip to Egypt, and hosted a special event at the library. See [details](#) on p4-5.



Stories to Broaden Understanding: Author Conversations

BLASCC collaborates with Montgomery County Middle Eastern American Advisory Committee and Montgomery County Public Library on this ongoing series of virtual and in-person author conversations. The 2025 edition featured authors Holly Mason Badra (*Sleeping in the Courtyard: Contemporary Kurdish Writers in Diaspora*), Zeina Azzam (*Some Things Never Leave You*), Alia Malek (*The Home That Was Our Country*).

**SEP
TO
NOV**

Other Author Events

Book event in Baltimore — Family story time and craft event organized by Karen Leggett Abouraya (BLASCC member and author of *Zamzam*) at Koshary Corner (Egyptian food) at R.House food hall.

**FEB
9**

Author Conversations at Passports DC — Hosted by the Egyptian Cultural and Educational Bureau in Washington, D.C., this event featured Egyptian American authors Rajia Hassib (*A Pure Heart*) and Pauline Kaldas (*The Measure of Distance*).

**MAY
3**

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

17 members as of Dec 2025
 16 Regular | 1 Associate
12 committee meetings in 2025

2025 FUNDRAISING GOAL

\$4,000



TOTAL FUNDS RAISED IN 2025

\$951





Egyptian cuisine at Enoch Pratt Free Library with chef Aida Mady

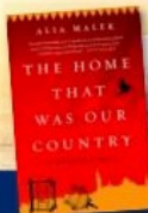

Stories to Broaden Understanding

Holly Mason Badra
 September 9, 2025
 7:00 PM–8:00 PM
 Virtual Program

Zeina Azzam
 October 21, 2025
 7:00 PM–8:00 PM
 Rockville Memorial Library
 21 Maryland Ave

Alia Malek
 November 18, 2025
 7:00 PM–8:00 PM
 Virtual Program

Author conversation series at Montgomery County Public Library

Ukrainian Pottery Exhibition & Lecture
[more info](#)

Finding Identity and Honoring Tradition Through Ukrainian Pottery exhibition at Howard County Library in Ellicott City featured pottery by Natalia Kormeluk, ceramic artist and Hood College graduate program instructor, and by resident artists from the National Museum of Ukrainian Pottery. On May 18, she gave a lecture at the exhibition. BOSCC organized and promoted this educational presentation to share the experience of creating art amid bombardments. Natalia Kormeluk teaches Ukrainian-influenced ceramic art to new creators domestically and during residencies at the National Museum of Ukrainian Pottery in Opishne, Ukraine.

MAY

Ukrainian Independence Day – Celebration and Remembrance

M&T Bank Stadium, Oriole Park at Camden Yards, and Columbia’s fountain were lit in Ukrainian colors of yellow and blue at BOSCC’s request, to remind people in Baltimore and Columbia, Maryland to celebrate and remember Ukraine.

AUG 24

Kommuna Lux Concert

Kommuna Lux, a band from Odesa, plays a mixture of heritage and modern Ukrainian music, plus klezmer, and music with an eastern European flair. BOSCC invited Kommuna Lux to perform at the 2640 Space in Baltimore, as an entertaining and fun way to exchange culture with residents of Baltimore and the surrounding area.

SEP 10

Annual Baltimore Ukrainian Festival

To celebrate the culture and heritage of Ukraine, this annual festival hosted by St. Michael the Archangel Ukrainian Catholic Church features traditional dancers, musicians, singers and other entertainment with traditional Ukrainian food and drink. BOSCC disseminated information about Odesa and raised funds at Baltimore Sister Cities’ booth.

SEP 27

Donation to Nova Ukraine

A \$3,000 donation was made to Nova Ukraine on March 23. Nova Ukraine programs provide humanitarian aid such as medical equipment/care (health), people services such as food/water and evacuation (health), critical infrastructure repairs/heaters (health, economic), strengthening democracy (culture, economic), and education.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

11 members as of Dec 2025
 9 Regular | 2 Associate
25 committee meetings in 2025

2025 FUNDRAISING GOAL

\$5,000

TOTAL FUNDS RAISED IN 2025

\$571
 including fundraising, donations, & membership dues



Natalia Kormeluk with a display of Ukrainian pottery



Ukrainian Festival in Baltimore



Kommuna Lux band from Odesa

Photo: Kommuna Lux

Baltimore-Rotterdam Architecture & Urban Design Exchanges

[more info](#)

March — Under the leadership of Prof. Cristina Murphy, students and faculty from Morgan State University School of Architecture + Planning (MSU SA+P) traveled to Rotterdam, joined by Community Planners from Baltimore Department of Planning (DOP). Community-centered design, placekeeping, and social sustainability were key themes for this trip.

MAR

April — City planners, community organizers, professionals, and researchers from Rotterdam & Amsterdam came to Baltimore to learn about methodologies and local initiatives for community-led urban development. The trip included a Neighborhood Design Center roundtable, lectures hosted by AIA Baltimore & University of Baltimore, neighborhood tours and site visits with local community leaders, discussion panels, meetings with city government.

APR

Baltimore-Rotterdam Exhibition and Artists Exchange: Part 2

[more info](#)

Walk On By is an exhibition of Baltimore and Rotterdam artists from the Black Atlantic, curated by Baltimore curator Joy Davis. Following the 2024 edition in Baltimore at Creative Alliance, the exhibition was on view at TENT in Rotterdam late March to early June 2025. The Baltimore artists, curator, and project team members traveled to Rotterdam for a cultural exchange in March 2025.

**MAR
TO
JUN**

Economic Development

BRSCC participated in World Trade Center Institute’s ‘Taste of Business in the Netherlands’ May 7, and Netherlands Embassy’s sessions on the ‘Stad Amsterdam’ clipper ship in Baltimore June 4 (with trade & investment, food resilience, and climate adaptation themes).

**MAY
&
JUN**

Planetary Health Research Trip to Rotterdam

[more info](#)

A Baltimore city delegation traveled to Rotterdam to attend the international Planetary Health Alliance Meeting and participate in a custom program of meetings and site visits on themes of multi-functional nature-based solutions, water storage, flood resilience, public health, and waste management. Delegation: Baltimore’s Deputy Mayors for Operations and for Health and Human Services; Director of Baltimore’s Office of Sustainability; South Baltimore Gateway Partnership; Johns Hopkins Institute for Planetary Health (JHIPH). BRSCC helped plan the delegation and look for funds to support travel costs. Netherlands Embassy & BRSCC created a custom trip program.

OCT

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

25 members as of Dec 2025
12 Regular | 13 Associate

11 committee meetings in 2025

2025 FUNDRAISING GOAL

\$33,875

TOTAL FUNDS RAISED IN 2025

\$21,738

including fundraising, donations, & membership dues



Dutch delegation in Baltimore in April



Walk On By artists at TENT Rotterdam



Baltimore Planetary Health delegation

Enoch Pratt Free Library

BXSCC assisted Baltimore’s Enoch Pratt Free Library with their research trip to China, and the library hosted an exhibition about the Baltimore-Xiamen sister city relationship. See [details](#) on p4–5.



Youth Ambassadors Student Travel Program
[more info](#)

Seven Baltimore youth participated in BXSCC’s 2025 Youth Ambassadors Program, celebrating the 40th anniversary of the Baltimore-Xiamen sister city relationship and the 45th anniversary of the Maryland-Anhui Province sister state relationship. The delegation, which also included two teachers and two parent chaperones, traveled to seven cities throughout China, including Xiamen. The Foreign Affairs Offices of both Xiamen and Anhui hosted the Youth Ambassadors, who presented citations from Baltimore city and Maryland leaders to their Chinese counterparts.

JUL

October Delegations to China
[more info](#)

BXSCC, BSC, and Maryland representatives attended the 7th Chi-na-U.S. Sister Cities Conference in Hangzhou and 40th anniversary celebrations in Xiamen in October. BXSCC and Xiamen helped send five Baltimore Symphony Orchestra (BSO) musicians to China to represent BSO, Baltimore City, and Maryland. Baltimore City Hall hosted a send-off concert on Oct 8. The Xiamen visit included a BSO and Xiamen Philharmonic Orchestra exchange; a 40th anniversary concert by BSO; site visits; and meetings with Xiamen leadership, port officials, and Shuangshi High School.

OCT

Support to Bard High School Early College (BHSEC)

Supported BHSEC Baltimore with grant funding for activities including a Mid-Autumn Dean’s Hour featuring our 2024 Youth Ambassadors; field trips to the Chinese Embassy, Chinatown, the Smithsonian National Museum of Asian Art, the National Zoo in Washington, D.C.; and a Lunar New Year celebration featuring fall Chinese language and culture awards for top students.

Arts & Culture

Supported Baltimore-area celebrations of AAPI arts and culture and AANHPI heritage month observances, including Asia North, a month-long series of events in Station North Arts District — BXSCC provided catered food for the opening reception and supported the week-long *Veiled Forms* exhibition.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

18 members as of Dec 2025
12 Regular | 4 Associate
1 Corporate | 1 Honorary

12 committee meetings in 2025

2025 FUNDRAISING GOAL

\$43,250

TOTAL FUNDS RAISED IN 2025

\$38,742

including fundraising, donations, & membership dues



Baltimore Youth Ambassadors in Xiamen in July



Welcome ceremony for Baltimore Youth Ambassadors and Enoch Pratt Free Library leadership in July



Wings of Peace

by Youcheng Lin

Baltimore Sister Cities winner in the Photography category for
Sister Cities International 2025 Young Artists & Authors Showcase



Baltimore Sister Cities



Baltimore Sister Cities

baltimoresistercities.org

2026

ANNUAL PLAN

BUILDING BALTIMORE'S
GLOBAL NEIGHBORHOOD

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