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### TFA NEWS IN BRIEF

Governor Larry Hogan Announces New Driving Tour, Declares 2018 the “Year of Frederick Douglass”

Governor Hogan Kicks Off FeBREWary Maryland Craft Brew Month

Lt. Governor Boyd K. Rutherford Kicks Off Black Restaurant Challenge, Part of Maryland’s Winter Restaurant Weeks Lineup

Last Chance to Register for Maryland Tourism Day, February 16

OTD Attends Annual Great American Outdoor Show

February 22 is Maryland Arts Day, Register Now

Join Us for a Network to Freedom Nomination Workshop

### IN THE NEWS



### Governor Larry Hogan Announces New Driving Tour, Declares 2018 the “Year of Frederick Douglass”

On February 13, Governor Larry Hogan declared 2018 as the “Year of Frederick Douglass” in honor of the 200th anniversary of the birth of Frederick Douglass, “The Father of the Civil Rights Movement.” The governor was joined by descendants of Frederick Douglass, Lt. Governor Boyd K. Rutherford, and county and state officials. Douglass was born in Talbot County, Maryland, and his birthday is celebrated, both nationally and in Maryland, on February 14. There will be events, celebrations and commemorations occurring around the state throughout the year, including the February 14th groundbreaking of the new Frederick Douglass Park on the Tuckahoe in Talbot County.

During the ceremony, Governor Hogan announced the introduction of the new, 131-mile Maryland driving tour, Frederick Douglass: Following in His Footsteps. “Frederick Douglass’ contributions to our state and nation transcend race, gender, nationality, and religion, and his powerful legacy of self-

## UPCOMING EVENTS

determination and empowerment continues to inspire to this day," said Governor Hogan. Follow these links [to the driving tour](#) and [our events page](#), and share your own Year of Frederick Douglass experiences on social media using the hashtag #FrederickDouglass.

*Pictured: (Left to Right) Lt. Governor Boyd K. Rutherford; Kenneth B. Morris Jr, Co-Founder & President, Frederick Douglass Family Initiatives; Nettie Washington Douglass, Co-Founder & Chairwoman, Frederick Douglass Family Initiatives; and Governor Larry Hogan. Photo credit: Anthony DePanise*

## TFA NEWS IN BRIEF

### Governor Hogan Kicks Off FeBREWary Maryland Craft Brew Month

In celebration of Maryland Craft Beer Lovers Month in February, Governor Larry Hogan issued a proclamation and offered an official toast on February 1 at the Federal House Bar & Grille in Annapolis to kick off FeBREWary. FeBREWary is a partnership between the Brewers Association of Maryland and the Maryland Office of Tourism, a division of the Maryland Department of Commerce, that showcases breweries across Maryland hosting special love-themed events, launching new beers, and offering unique culinary pairings.



"Pint by pint, craft beers continue to benefit Maryland through economic impact and vitality," said Governor Hogan. "In 2016, Maryland craft brewers generated more than \$637 million in economic output and supported more than 6,500 jobs. FeBREWary is a way for us to raise a glass to Maryland brewers by celebrating this growing industry and encouraging visitors and residents alike to experience the breweries, ale houses, and brew pubs across the state." [Follow this link to WMAR TV's coverage](#), including video of the toast, and [head here, to Vistmaryland.org](#), for FeBREWary events, hotel packages, beer releases and more.

*Pictured: Governor Hogan celebrates FeBREWary with OTD staff and tourism partners.*

### Lt. Governor Boyd K. Rutherford Kicks Off Black Restaurant

## Challenge, Part of Maryland's Winter Restaurant Weeks Lineup

It's a great time to be a foodie, with lots of great restaurant weeks on the menu for February. Enjoy seasonal specials, prix fixe menu options, good times with friends and selections from amazing Maryland chefs. Follow these links to [Baltimore's Black Restaurant Challenge](#) running now through Feb. 25; [Calvert County Restaurant Week](#) running Feb. 16-25; [Havre de Grace Restaurant Week](#) running Feb. 19-25; the [Maryland Chili & Beer Festival](#) in Glen Burnie, Feb. 24; Annapolis Restaurant Week running Feb. 25-March 3; and [Frederick Restaurant Week](#) set for March 5-11.



*Pictured: Lt. Governor Boyd K. Rutherford and Casey Jenkins, Maryland Tourism Development Board member, kick off Baltimore's Black Restaurant Challenge. Photo Credit: Joe Andrucyk & Pat Siebert*

## Last Chance to Register for Maryland Tourism Day, February 16

Meet your legislators, network with tourism professionals, and share stories about tourism's impact on Maryland's economy at the industry's annual advocacy event. Don't miss this once-a-year opportunity to support Maryland tourism. [Follow this link to register today.](#)



## OTD Attends Annual Great American Outdoor Show

OTD and partners showcased Maryland's rich portfolio of hunting and fishing assets at the annual Great American Outdoor Show in Harrisburg, PA, last weekend. "This is the single largest consumer event dedicated to fishing, hunting and outdoor traditions in the nation," said Rich Gilbert, travel trade sales manager, OTD. "And for many of our partners, this event can make or break their year. So through our participation in events like this, we are directly supporting our partners."



## February 22 is Maryland Arts Day, Register Now

Maryland Arts Day is the largest annual gathering of

arts professionals in Maryland. With more than 500 participants, representing every county in the state and Baltimore City, this statewide arts advocacy event connects artists, educators, administrators, volunteers and trustees with lawmakers from every legislative district in Maryland. Maryland Arts Day needs your participation to show strong support for the arts in Maryland and the impact they have on the economic and cultural vitality of the state. [Follow this link for more info and to register.](#)



## Join Us for a Network to Freedom Nomination Workshop

The Maryland Office of Tourism and the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Program are hosting a series of “Network to Freedom” workshops this spring. The workshops will inform attendees as to the benefits of Network to Freedom membership; help attendees write successful nominations for sites, programs and facilities; and the use of archival collections to uncover Underground Railroad stories.



With renewed interest in the Underground Railroad and OTD’s Underground Railroad enhanced marketing and promotion program on tap for 2018, now is the perfect time to get your sites included in the Network to Freedom. Workshops are scheduled for Wednesday, February 21 in Baltimore, and Wednesday, March 21 in Hughesville. [RSVP here](#), or contact Anne Kyle ([anne.kyle@maryland.gov](mailto:anne.kyle@maryland.gov) or 410 767-0696).

## IN THE NEWS



***Atlas Obscura* Features Baltimore’s “Small Foods Party”**



**Industry Leaders Gather to Support MD Tourism**



**Ocean City Named One of 25 Best Beaches for Toddlers in the USA**



**The Inn at Chesapeake Bay Beach Club One of *MSN.com*’s “14 Loveable Last Minute Valentine’s Day Getaways”**



**Baltimore Artist Makes National Splash With Michelle Obama Portrait, according to *The Baltimore Sun***



- >
Berlin One of MSN's 20 Best Small Towns for Valentine's Day
- >
Hagerstown & Washington County Top Mid-Atlantic Valentine's Day Destination
- >
OTD Provides Advertising Grant to Somerset County Tourism, says *Crisfield Times*
- >
*The Star-Democrat Online* Gives "Thumbs Up" to New Frederick Douglass Park
- >
*Baltimore Beat* Talks February's Black Restaurant Challenge
- >
Politicians Discuss Easing Brewery Restrictions according to *WBAL-TV Online*

### ***Maryland Minute***

Each week, the *Maryland Minute* provides highlights and insights on this weekend's events around the state. *Maryland Minute* is featured on CBS radio stations in Baltimore and Washington, D.C. and on Baltimore's WBAL-AM 1090.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS



**NOW THRU**

2019

### **The Year of Frederick Douglass, Statewide**

2018 marks the 200th anniversary of the birth of Frederick Douglass, statesman, civil rights pioneer, and American hero. Throughout the year, Maryland will be marking Douglass's remarkable accomplishments and singular life with celebrations and events. To find out more, [visit our Frederick Douglass events page](#).

**FEBRUARY**

16-25

### **Maryland RV Show, Timonium**

The largest outdoor RV Expo in the Mid-Atlantic returns to the fairgrounds with more than 1,000 RVs on display. [Get the details on our website](#).

**FEBRUARY**

### **Seaside Boat Show, Ocean City**

The #1 indoor boat show on the shore returns to Ocean City featuring more

**16-28**

than 350 boats plus electronics, dock builders, fishing gear and more. [Follow this link to our events calendar for more information.](#)

**FEBRUARY**

**17-18**

### **Oakland Winter Fest**

Enjoy illuminated ice sculptures, carriage rides, amazing dining and more. [Find out more at visitmaryland.org.](#)

**FEBRUARY**

**24**

### **Deep Creek Dunk, Oakland**

Take an icy dip in Deep Creek Lake to raise funds for Maryland Special Olympics. [Get the details at visitmaryland.org.](#)

**FEBRUARY**

**25**

### **International Bullriding, Westminster**

Top IBR bull riders battle, plus the Little Wrangler Rodeo for the kids. [Find out more on our website.](#)

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