
DC★BLACK

Theatre & Arts Festival

June 25 - July 5, 2019

Theatre • Film • Music • Dance • Art



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WELCOME MESSAGE



From the very beginning **Building Bridges Across the River's THEARC Theater** has been the home of the DC Black Theatre & Arts Festival. It is because of this extortionary partnership that we have grown to be one of the nation's most sought after festivals of arts. Each year we host nearly 30,000 faithful theatre goers, playwrights, actors, family, and friends who make the pilgrimage to the Nation's Capital to participate in this extraordinary celebration of Black Art.

The DC Black Theatre & Arts Festival is a 10-day Multidisciplinary Arts Festival celebrating extraordinary stories by people of African descent. Each year the Festival offers an impressive menu of more than 150 provocative and ground breaking performances, by local East of the River and national Artists, Writers, Filmmakers and Musicians.

Leading the 2019 DC Black Theatre & Arts Festival as our gala event will be **LETTERS FROM ZORA** starring Vanessa Bell Calloway - winner of the 2014 NAACP Theatre Awards. **LETTERS FROM ZORA** is an authentic multi-sensory experience of an extraordinary woman who defied the social conventions of the day and lived a life of her own creation.

It is our distinct privilege to partner once again with the Building Bridges Across The River as we continue to entertain, enlighten and educate the communities east of the river, and beyond.

Nana Malaya Rucker
Board Chair



MEET THE TEAM



Nana Malaya Rucker

Board Chair



Crys Brown

President of Culture Arts Center



Glenn Alan

Executive Director



Dejuan Mason

Director of Community Engagement

MEET THE TEAM



LaToya Grant

Gala Chair



August Bullock

Director of New Works



Mary Kinnard-Brown

Director of One Act Battle



Stephanie Kelly

Festival Director

MEET THE TEAM



Jennifer Petticolas

Ambassador Coordinator



Empress J.

Special Events Coordinator



Cody Jones

Artistic Director



Lisa Kinnard

Festival Photographer



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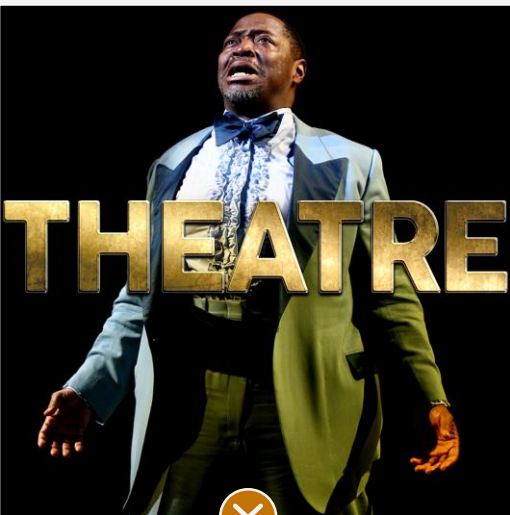
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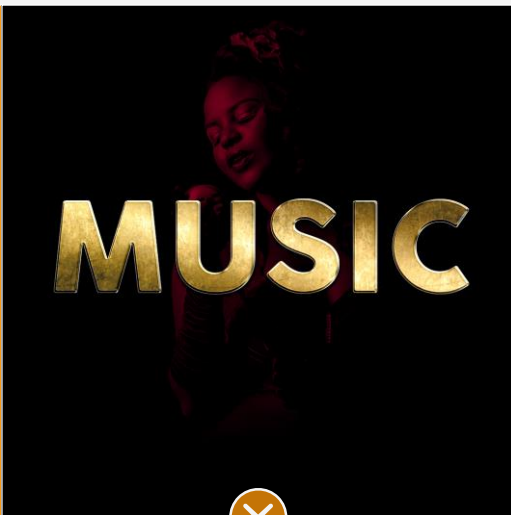
HOW THE FESTIVAL WORKS

June 25 - July 5, 2019

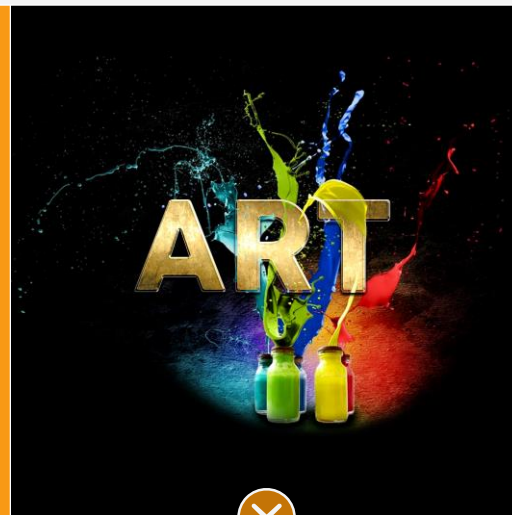


We offer different 6 film categories:

- Feature Films
- Documentary
- Student Films
- Web Series
- Short Films
- Music Videos



Festival brings together choreographers, performers, educators and students in a cooperative community to study, perform and create. Artists share their knowledge and inspiration through workshops, jams, discussions, informal showings and performances.

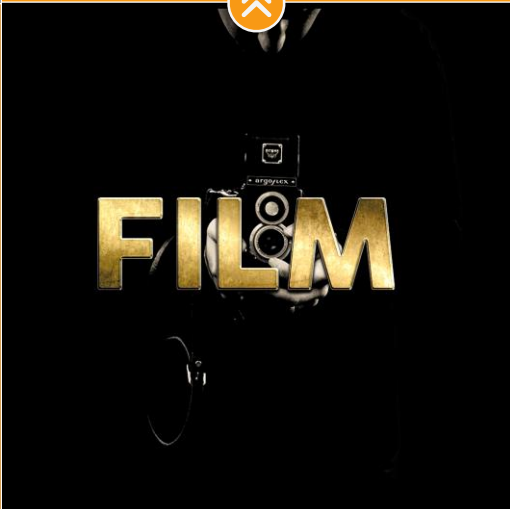


Over **300** plays are submitted each year

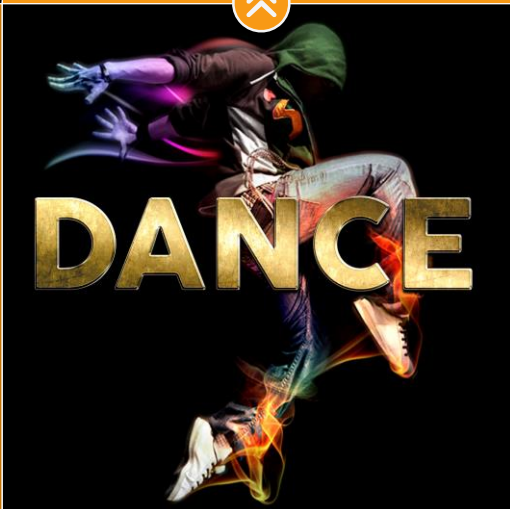
Only **50** full-length plays are selected

30 One Act plays

30 New Works Readings



The Festival brings a truly unique cultural experience that combines not just national headlining music performers, celebrates, and homegrown musicians. Sit among them in the intimate venues, meet them in restaurants, or on the street.



Visual Art is the cornerstone of DC culture. The DCBTAF is committed to giving local artists the opportunity to share, hone and mature their work on a world stage. Our goal is to reach people of every race, gender, and culture with a message of hope and inspiration.

THEATRE

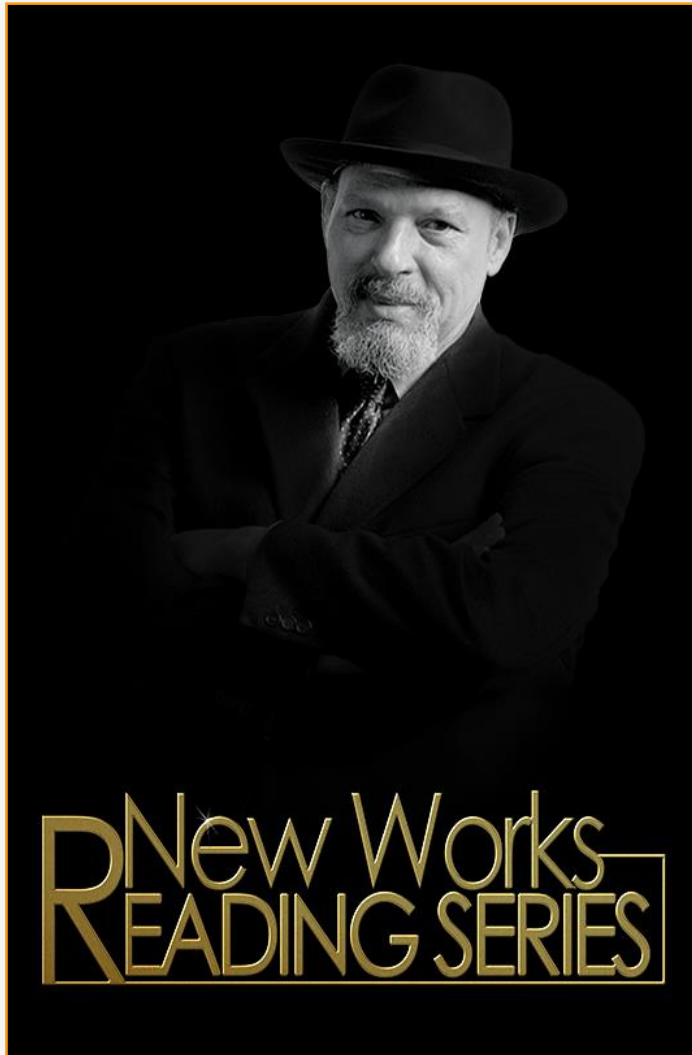


The DC Black Theatre & Arts Festival's full-length plays are divided into **3 groups; Traditional, Urban and Gospel Stage Plays**. Over 380 plays are submitted this year for the festival season, of which, only 50 full-length plays were selected.

The DC Black Theatre & Arts Festival holds fast in its commitment to provide quality theatre to all people, while maintaining a balance of richness and variety. So whether you enjoy the works of August Wilson or Tyler Perry the DC Black Theatre & Arts Festival has something for everyone.



THE NEW WORKS READING SERIES



The New Works Reading Series is designed to feature new and developing works by both emerging & established artists and serves as an incubator for dramatic works.

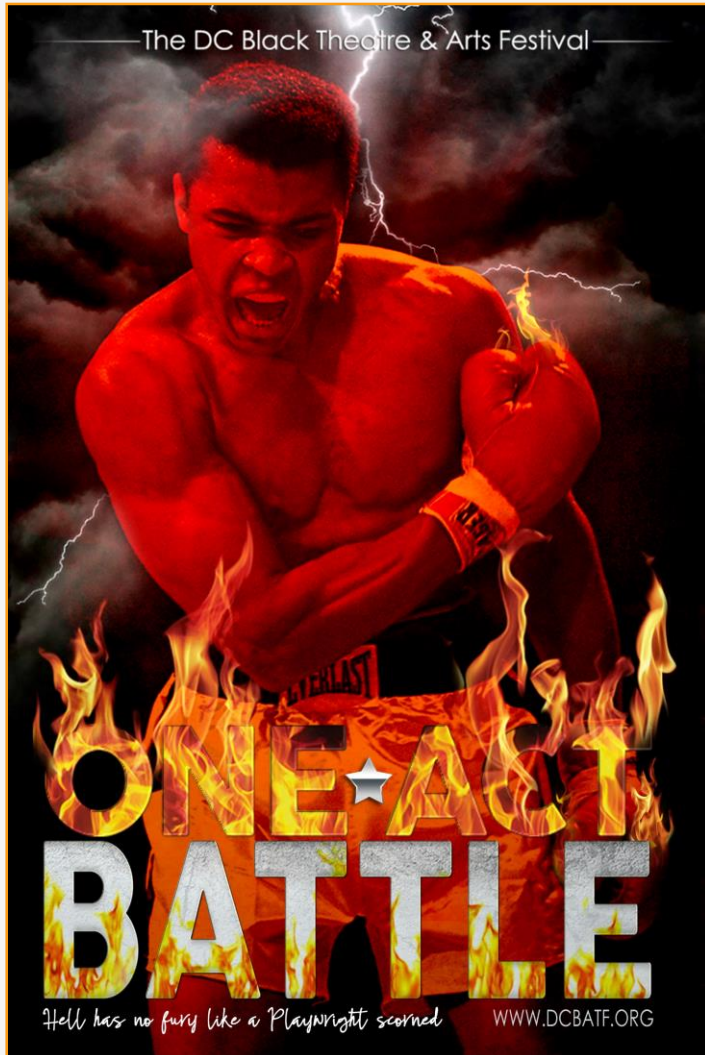
The New Works Reading Series is a forum in which the artist can see their work on stage, collaborate with other professionals, & engage audiences in an open exchange of thoughts and ideas about their work.

Attendance for this event is free, but attendees should register to reserve a seat.

Outstanding works are chosen to return for full production – back and funded by the festival.



THE ONE ACT BATTLE



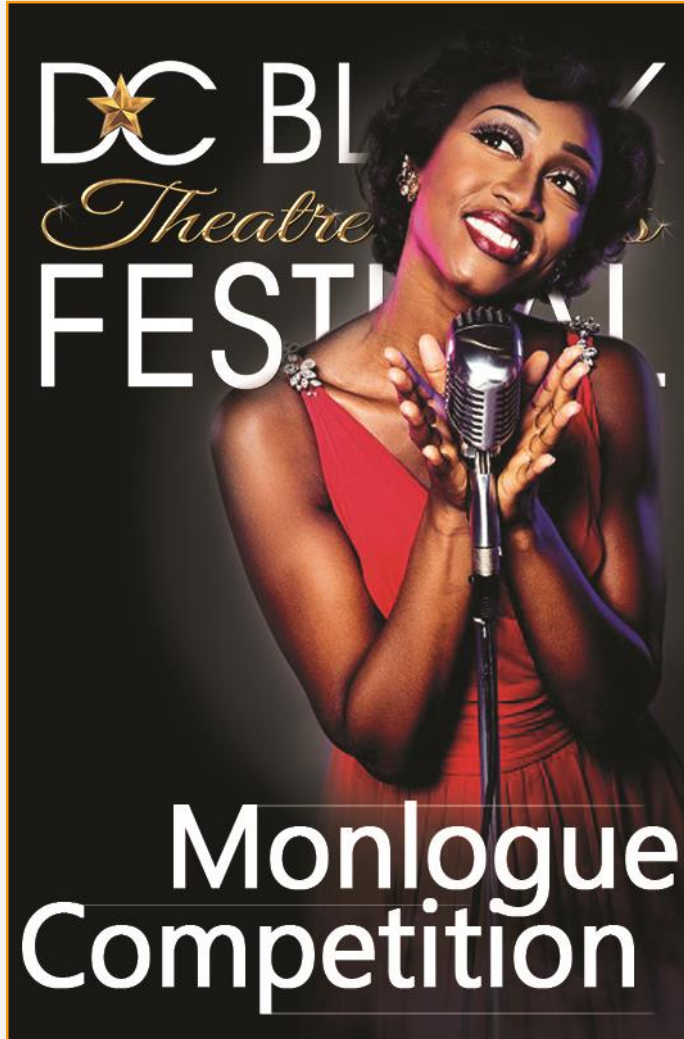
The One Act Battle is a 5 day competition divided into 4 categories; Drama, Comedy Adult Theme and Anything Goes. Each night the audience cast their votes to select the best plays of the evening. The winning play from each evening advances to the final round of the competition for the championship title.

All plays in the One Act Battle are under strict guidelines and must be under 20 minutes in length. Hosted by Petri Hawkins-Byrd.

The One Act Battle is a fan favorite – selling out every show, every night!



THE MONOLOGUE COMPETITION



The DC Black Theatre & Arts Festival is super thrilled to announce the return of the **Monologue Competition**. A 3-minute tour de force of words, actions and a little creativity! Join the hottest actors from around the country as they deliver intimate and electrifying performances and battle for the title “The DC Black Theatre & Arts Festival - Monologue Champion!”

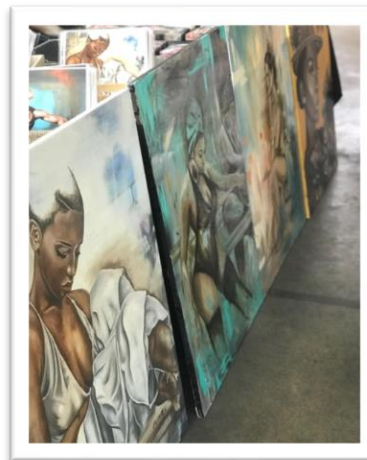
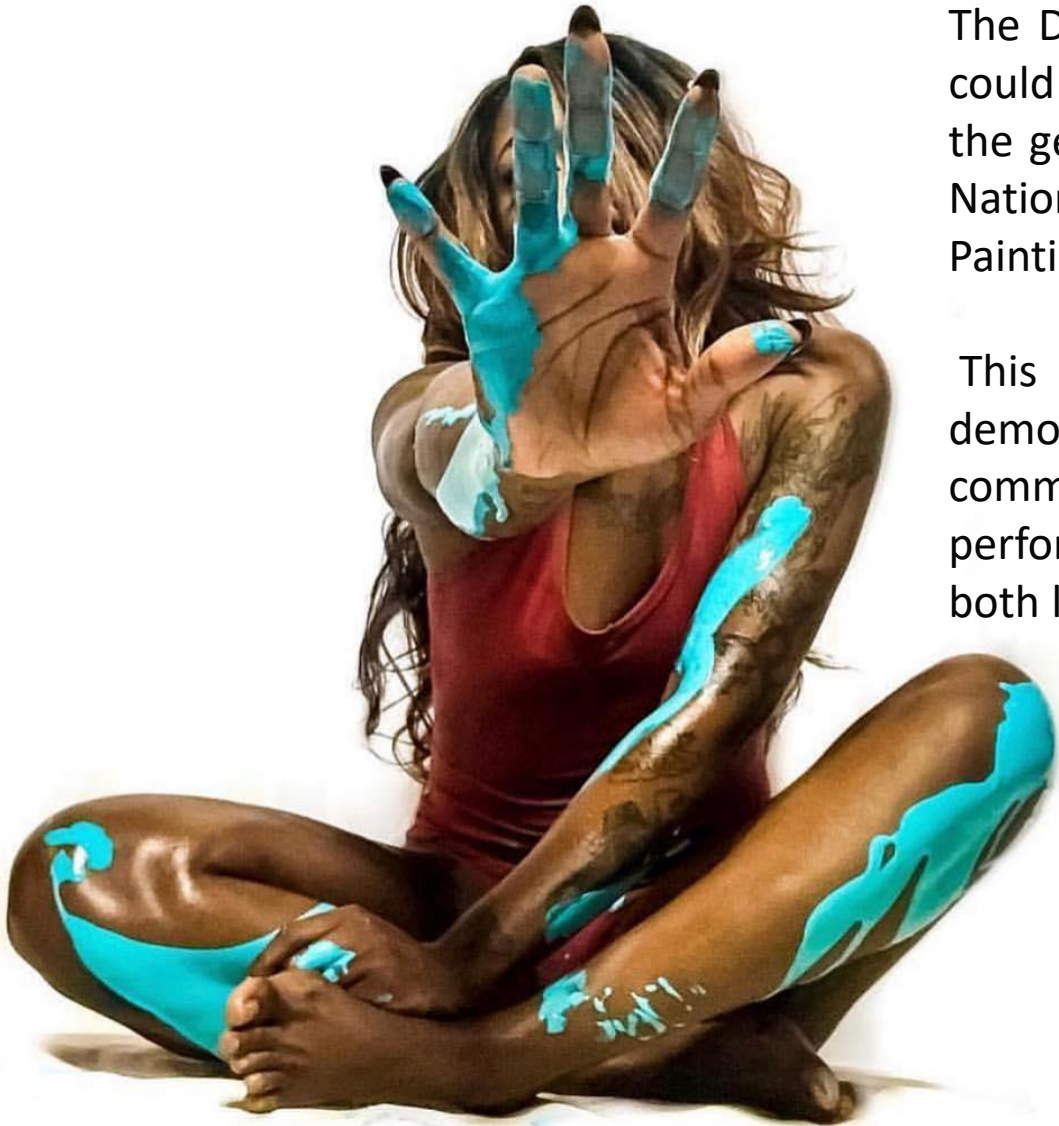
Like the One Act Battle, the Monologue Competition is a 5 day competition divided into categories and each night the audience cast their votes to select the best Actor of the evening. The winning play from each evening advances to the final round of the competition for the championship title.



THE VISUAL ARTS

The DC Black Theatre & Arts Festival was birthed from the idea they we could nurture the mind, body and spirit with the Arts. This idea has led to the genesis of a remarkable Arts & Culture community in the heart of the Nation's Capital - with over 75 artists displaying and selling everything from: Paintings, Photography, Prints, Jewelry, Clothing and Sculpture.

This year the DC Black Theatre & Arts Festival will offer live painting demonstrations from DC's top mural and street artists as well as a community paint parties for everyone and all ages. Also nestled between performing arts, will be arts openings and lectures by talented individuals both local and international.



AND INTRODUCING

DC★Black Theatre & Arts Festival

THE LYRICIST
LOUNGE

Hosted by Wanda J.



FESTIVAL WORKSHOPS

The DC Black Theatre & Arts Festival Workshops are a great way to immerse yourself in the world of theatre. Learn to build your acting skills through hands-on instruction in classes designed for beginning, intermediate & professional. Gain new skills and improve on your current ones as you learn from talented instructors. Specialty workshops and activities include; Auditioning, Acting For Film and Stage, Improv, Stage Makeup, Costumes and so much more.



A woman with dark hair is shown from the chest up, looking upwards and to the right. She is holding a yellow-handled makeup brush to her eye, applying makeup. The background is dark, and the lighting is focused on her face.

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HOW THE FESTIVAL WORKS

FOR THE ARTIST

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The DC Black Theatre & Arts Festival believes that there is a place for everyone when it comes to theater, to that end we are the first Black Theatre & Arts Festival to make room for both urban and regional theater. Out of necessity, our production framework is rather rigid:

- All shows must be between 45 and 90 minutes long. This time limit includes any curtain calls, shout-outs to other shows or audience discussions.
- No elaborate tech.
- No elaborate sets.
- All performances must be able to load in, set up and strike within 30-minutes.
- Projection equipment (video or still) are available.



1

The DCBTAF staff arranges space, funding ideas, training programs, marketing and community engagement.

2

Artists apply for participation, and as many as possible are selected. Those who are not immediately accepted are placed on a waiting list and notified of their acceptance if space becomes available.

3

Artists are asked to describe the sort of venue they would prefer for producing their show in the festival (stage size, technical requirements, etc.). DC Black Theatre & Arts Festival tries to make sure each show is assigned the venue that best fits what is requested. Space is limited - we can't always give a best-case scenario to our artists, but we work hard to come as close as we can.



5

DCBTAF staff compiles and reviews all applications from January to March. Artists/companies are notified in 10-days of receiving their application.

6

Upon acceptance, each artist is invited to the DCBTAF Workshop, that walks them through producing in the Festival.

7

DCBTAF staff is also available to answer any remaining questions that Artists might have. Box office payments are mailed to the artist 5 business days after the Festival.



8

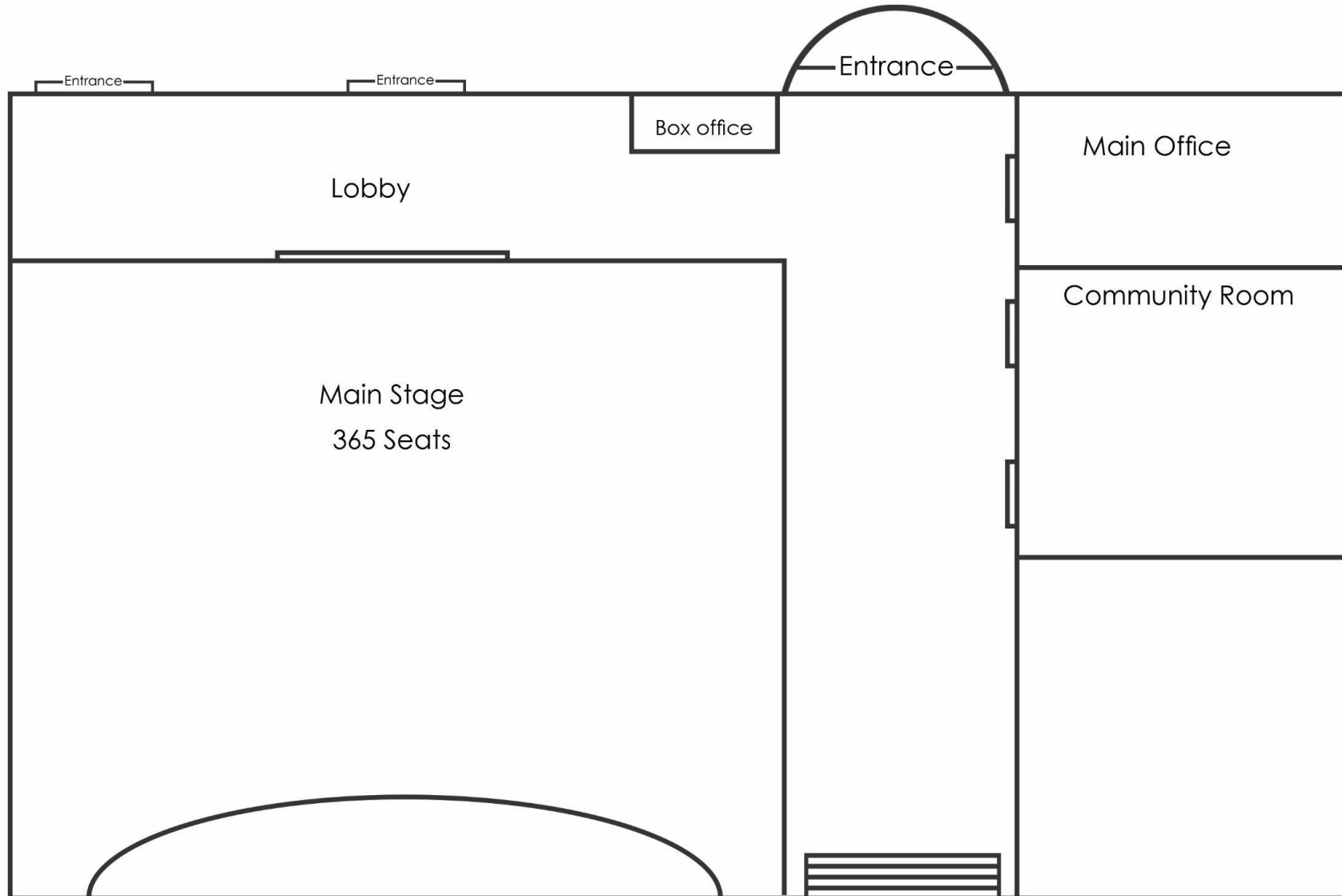
DC Black Theatre Festival is one of the only festivals that give **100%** of the ticket revenue back to the Artists. So that Artists can continue to create their Art!



THEARC Building #1

1901 Mississippi Avenue, SE. Washington, DC

1st Floor

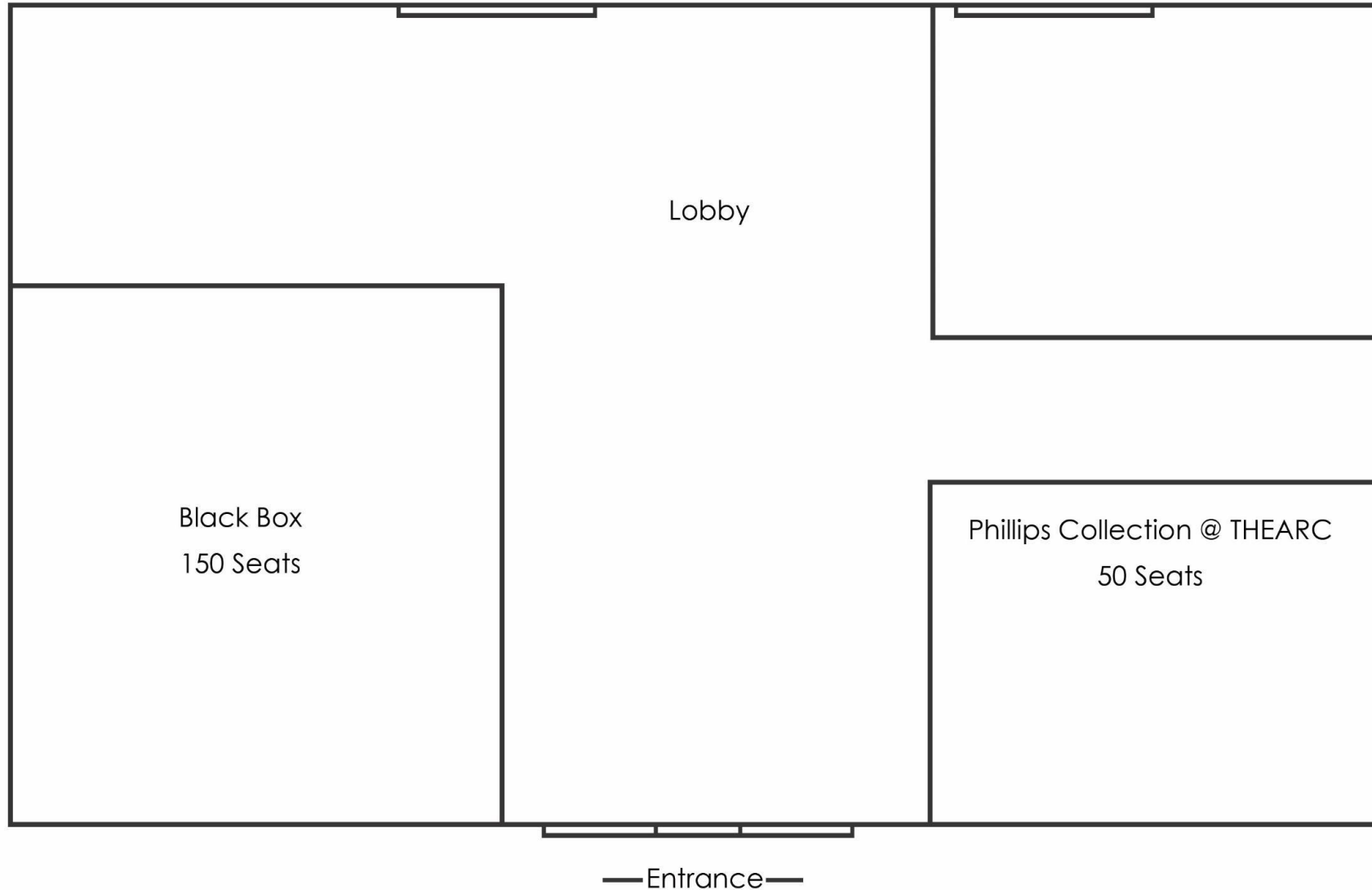


THEARC Building #2

1801 Mississippi Ave SE, Washington, DC

** ICANN Classroom in this building*

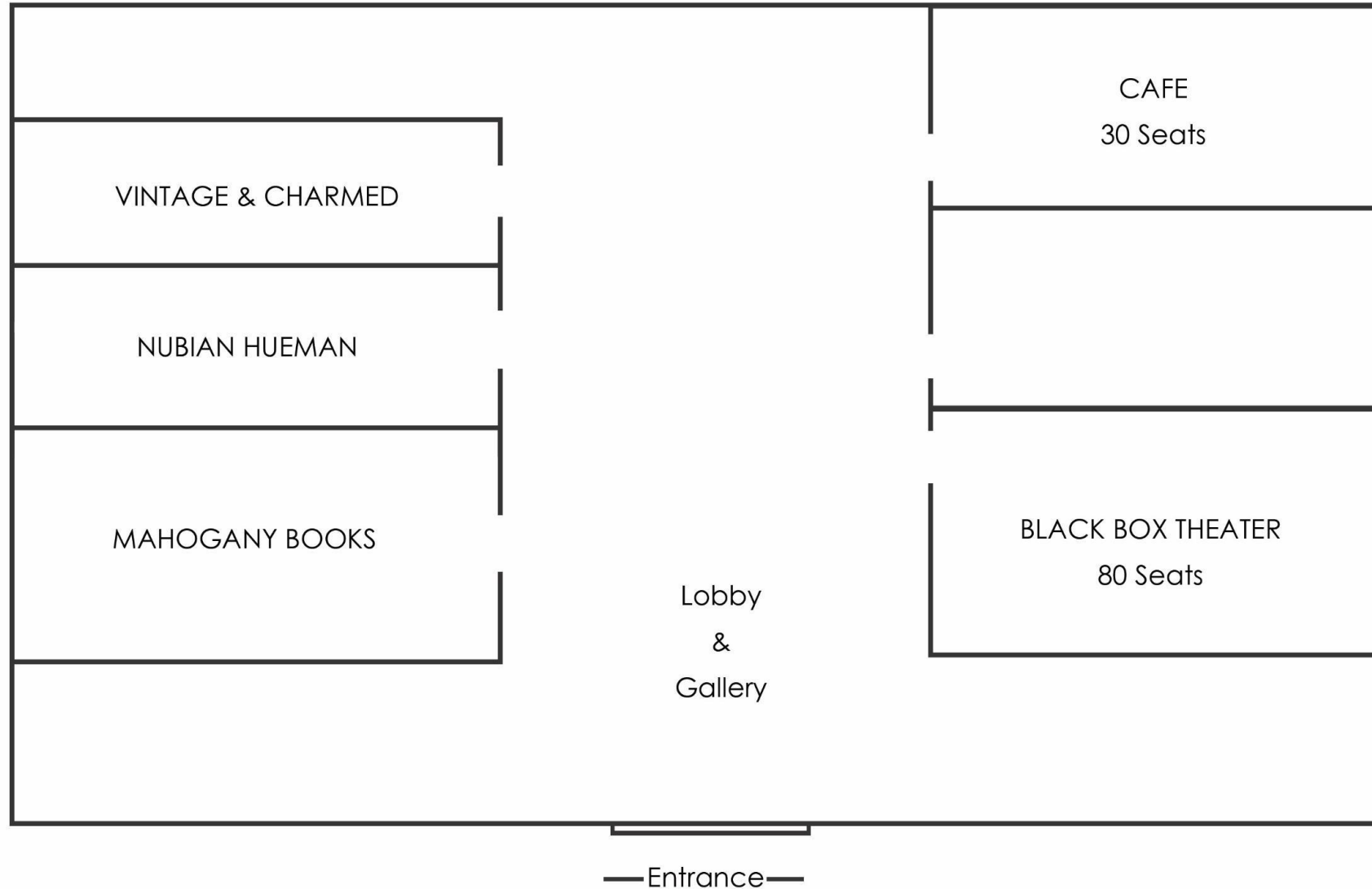
1st Floor



Anacostia Arts Center

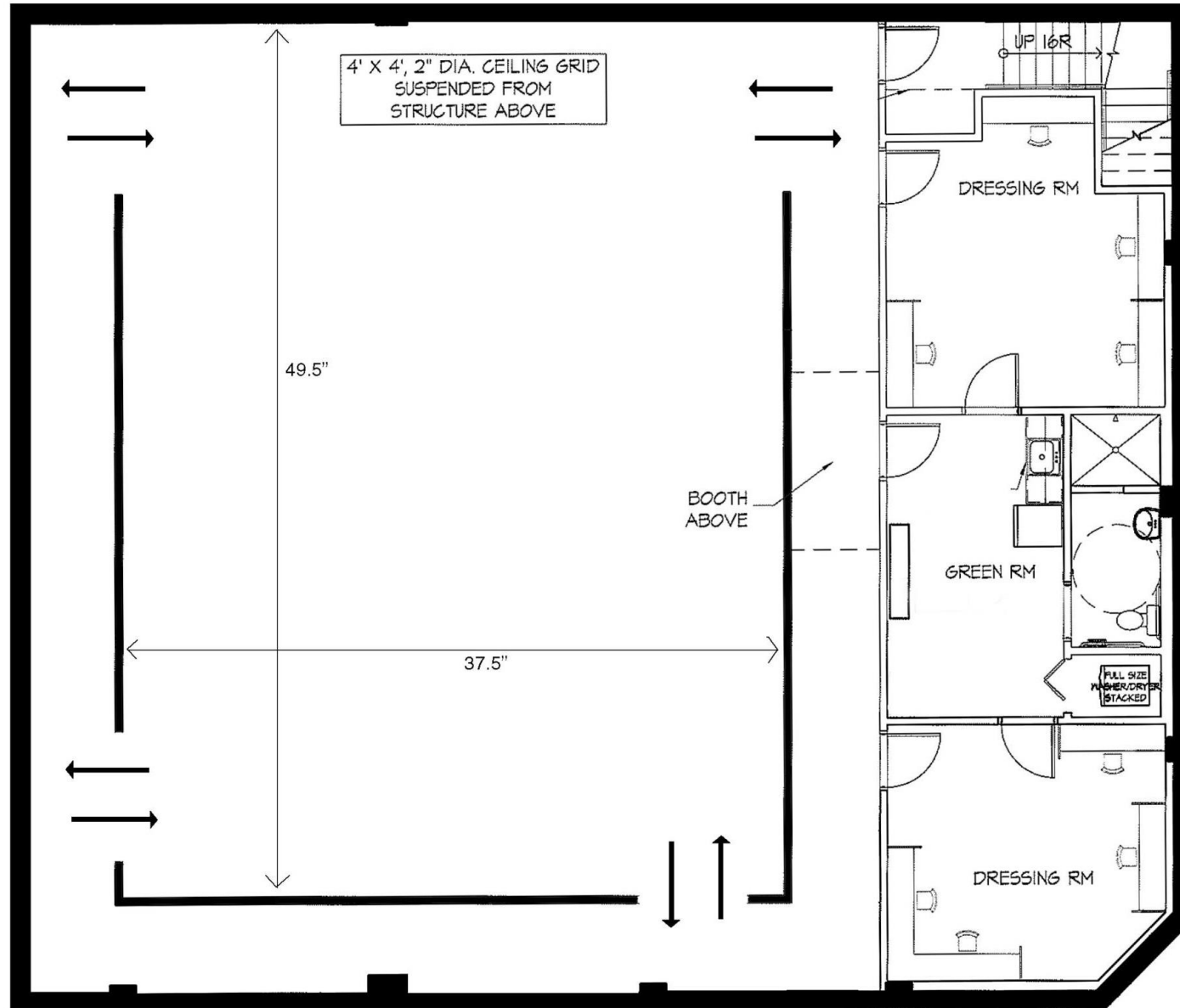
1231 Good Hope Rd SE, Washington, DC

** ICANN Classroom in this building*



ANACOSTIA PLAYHOUSE

2020 Shannon Place SE Washington, DC



CALENDAR

JUNE/JULY 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					21 (June) FESTIVAL START DATE	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	01 (July)	02	03	04 X	05	06
07 FESTIVAL END DATE						



**THE
FESTIVAL VISION
& MISSION**

June 25 - July 5, 2019

THE VISION OF THE FESTIVAL



- To collaborate and help grow local Artists and Performing Arts Organizations East of the River gain national exposure;
- To present performances in all categories of the Arts including – Dance, Theatre, Film, Music and Art;
- To position the DC Black Theatre & Arts Festival as the crown jewel of African American Art and DC as an Arts Destination;
- To produce works of Art which speak to audiences of all ages;
- To utilize the cultural resources and educational assets of the DC Black Theatre & Arts Festival to serve as a bridge between all communities, all ages, all cultures.

THE MISSION OF THE FESTIVAL

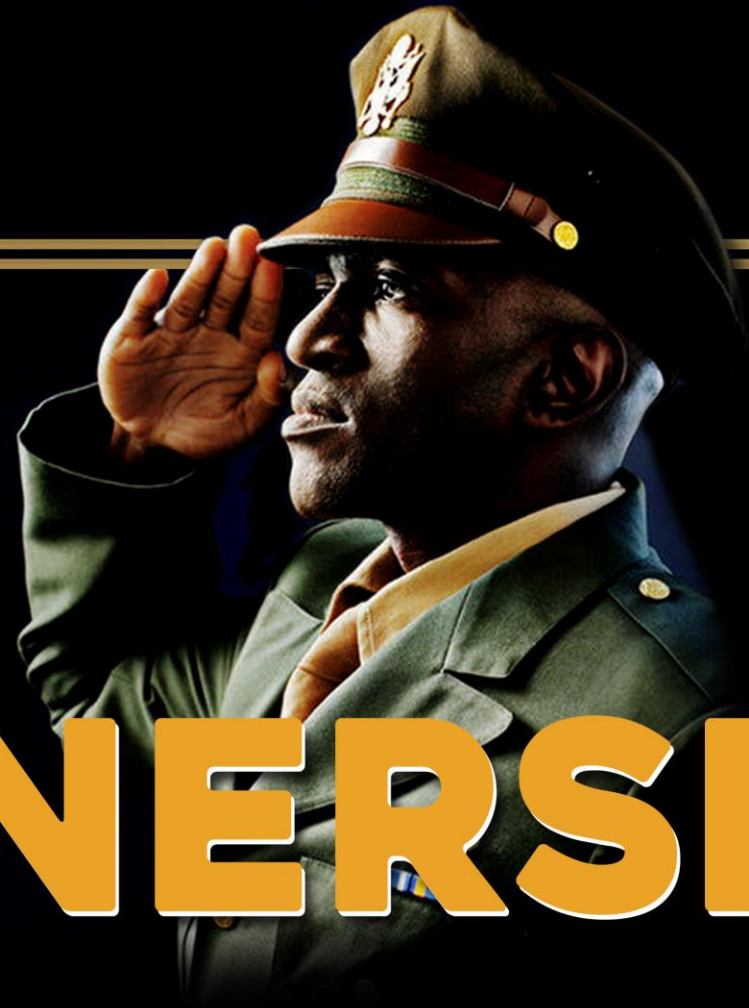
The Mission of the Festival is to create a diverse group of outstanding Artists, whose distinctive vision and voice will give an artistic identity of uncommon richness and variety to all performances, for all people.



KEY FINDINGS

- The median age of the DC Black Theatre & Arts Festival goers is 44.8 years.
- 83% are African American; while 13% are non-African American
- 62% reside in Washington, DC, 8% in Virginia, and 19% in Maryland. While 11% reside Outside of the DMV area.
- The Median household income \$48,335.
- 39% of theatergoers saw more than one performance during the festival.
- 64% of the Artists reside East of the River.





OUR PARTNERSHIPS

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THE PARTNERSHIPS

Each year, BBAR selects a group of local high school and college students to participate in a technical theater management paid internship at THEARC Theater. Students learn the fundamentals of production and stage management, participate in interactive field trips, workshops & seminars, serve as ushers during theater events and even present a production of their own! Students are selected on a seasonal/rolling basis. Ultimately, this year-round internship is aimed to help youth gain the tools necessary to obtain employment in theater management.



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