

Report from the Inner Arbor Trust

January, 2017

Mary Ann Scully, President and CEO of Howard Bank, joined the board. Howard Bank, the IAT's banker, has committed \$50,000 to the Trust over the next 10 years. MS Scully is an integral part of Maryland's business community and a strong supporter of the arts.

The Chrysalis is nearing completion and the Board has made Earth Day, Saturday, April 22nd, the opening. Michael McCall, our President and CEO, has volunteered to stay on through the end of April to see the Chrysalis through its completion and opening.

Senator Guy Guzzone asked the Trust for a \$250,000 Bond Bill grant request, which is primarily for special architectural lighting for the Chrysalis. The Trust has submitted and is in the process of testifying on behalf of the request.

The IAT also requested a \$1,500,000 matching grant from Howard County, in order to complete Phase 2 of the P{ark's required development. This Phase consists of infrastructure development and improvement, including the construction of the Boardwalk path and stream restoration.

Community outreach focused on the Chrysalis has been underway for months, as Michael McCall has taken dozens of Howard County and Columbia community leaders on one-to-one, hour-long tours of the construction. Grassroots fundraising is less than three weeks old and has generated nearly \$10,000 since the first of the year, from the wood plank engraving campaign, "Get in on the Grounds Floor" (Keep in mind that Merriweather Park at Symphony Woods is the "Grounds for Celebration".)

The Chrysalis is already being booked, as the Howard County Library in conjunction with the Downtown Columbia Partnership have a bookfest planned, the Columbia Orchestra will be playing in the Chrysalis, and the Maryland Multi-Housing Association is featuring the Chrysalis in one of its events. IMA is planning use of the Chrysalis both for its festivals as well as standalone Chrysalis concerts; and, of course the Howard County Recreation and Parks will use the Chrysalis for Wine In The Woods and other County programming. The Trust looks forward to Columbia Association's programming as well.

With two SDPs approved, myriad legal agreements signed, a total of \$10 Million of funding and completion of the Chrysalis, the Trust is working toward the next phase of development and operations of Merriweather Park at Symphony Woods.

Lin Eagan

Secretary, IAT