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LIGHT CITY

A FESTIVAL OF LIGHT, MUSIC AND INNOVATION

SAVE THE DATE:
Labs@LightCity Returns with New Speakers, Fresh Format and
Pay What You Can Ticketing April 18-21, 2018

Baltimore, MD (December 13, 2017) – The **Baltimore Office of Promotion & The Arts** announces the return of **Labs@LightCity**, the daytime programming of Light City, a festival of light, music and innovation. Labs@LightCity features seven innovation conferences at the **IMET Columbus Center Wednesday, April 18 through Saturday, April 21, 2018**. Celebrating its third year in 2018, Labs@LightCity is one of the largest and most unique social innovation conferences in the United States. **New speakers for 2018** include celebrity chef **Art Smith**, CEO of Crisis Text Line and former CEO of Do Something Inc. **Nancy Lublin**, Art-Activist and former professional football player **Aaron Maybin**, artist and owner of Fix Baltimore **Keith "K.C." Cooper** and renowned artist and former NFL player **Mateo Blu**. **New this year**, Labs@LightCity introduces "Pay What You Can" ticketing. The new ticket model is reflective of Light City's goal to be accessible to all, regardless of ability to pay. **To register to attend Labs@LightCity**, visit <https://www.mt.cm/labslightcity>.

Also new for 2018, a fresh format featuring seven topics and a daily community collaboration lunch session. As in past years, the entire program focuses thematically on social innovation and equity, explored through the topics of **Education, Social, Green, Health, Arts & Culture, Makers** and **Food** in a compelling four-day schedule. In addition, an interactive **Design Thinking Lab** lunch takes place each day from 11:30am-1pm. The schedule is as follows:

April 18- 8am-1:30pm: **EduLab@LightCity presented by University System of Maryland**; 11:30am-5pm: **SocialLab@LightCity**

April 19- 8am-1:30pm: **GreenLab@LightCity presented by BGE**; 11:30am-5pm: **HealthLab@LightCity presented by Kaiser Permanente**

April 20- 8am-1:30pm: **CultureLab@LightCity presented by Brown Advisory**; 11:30am-5pm: **MakersLab@LightCity**

April 21- 10am-3pm: **FoodLab@LightCity presented by Visit Baltimore** with Baltimore Food Makers Marketplace by Ccreate immediately following

April 18-21- 11:30am-1pm: **Interactive Lunch: Design Thinking Lab**

Labs@LightCity is chaired by Jamie McDonald, past Light City Chair and CEO of Generosity Inc., and being shaped by a group of curators consisting of artists, activists, community leaders, executives and entrepreneurs. In each Lab, voices of both emerging and established thinkers from Baltimore and around the country will explore how we become a more just and equitable society.

The curators for Labs@LightCity2018 are Anana Kambon, Atman Smith, Beth Harber, Chip Watkins, David Fakunle, Donna Sawyer, Ed Berlin, Emma Snyder, Heidi Daniel, Jackie Bello, Jeff Cherry, Jess Solomon, Jesse Salazar, Jimmie Thomas, John Brothers, Karon McFarlane, Kathy Hornig, Khalid Smith, Kim Bryden, Lisa Akchin, Randi Vega, Raoul Edwards, Rashad Staton, Roz Healy, Shelia Goodwin, Summer Cullen, Jacquelyn Bullock and Steve Häslér. For 2018, additional speakers at Labs@LightCity include MacArthur Genius Grant winner **Joyce J. Scott**, life coach and yoga instructor **Changa Bell**, Baltimore street photographer **Kyle Pompey**, Union Square Hospitality Group's Chief Culture Officer, **Erin Moran** and Africana Studies Professor at Johns Hopkins University **Lester Spence**. Additional speakers will be announced leading up to Labs@LightCity.

In addition, Labs@Light City continues its commitment to engaging younger Baltimoreans with **YouthLabs**. Last year, YouthLabs brought a curated group of some of the most innovative speakers from Labs@LightCity into the community where they led interactive sessions with local high school students. YouthLabs returns in 2018 with new programming in partnership with youth arts advocates from BOPA's Youth Arts Council.

Labs@LightCity is produced by the Baltimore Office of Promotion & The Arts. For updates and more information, visit <http://www.lightcity.org/labs-at-light-city> or call the Baltimore Office of Promotion & The Arts at 410-752-8632. Stay connected via <https://www.facebook.com/labsatlightcity>, <https://twitter.com/LabsAtLightCity> and <https://www.instagram.com/labsatlightcity> by using the hashtag #LALC18.

Labs@LightCity is made possible by presenting sponsors BGE, Brown Advisory, Kaiser Permanente, University System of Maryland and Visit Baltimore; and supporting sponsors UMBC and Towson University.

The Baltimore Office of Promotion & The Arts is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization which serves as Baltimore City's arts council, film office, and events agency. By producing large-scale events such as Light City, Artscape and the Baltimore Book Festival, and providing funding and support to artists, arts programs and organizations across the city, BOPA's goal is to make Baltimore a more vibrant and creative city.

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