 **Call for Entry: *POE-Zella!*
Poe Baltimore’s First-Ever Annual Benefit Art Sale
Application Deadline: December 28, 2014 @ 5PM**

**CALL FOR ENTRY: Poe Baltimore** (the new nonprofit that’s been managing and keeping the Edgar Allan Poe House & Museum open to the public between May and December since late 2013) is proud to announce its FIRST curated Exhibition of Poe-inspired contemporary artworks. We are seeking talented visual artists to exhibit in “*POE-Zella!*” featuring Poe-inspired works of contemporary art, including framed paintings, drawings, prints, photos, or any other flat 2D-work that will hang on a wall.

At its core, the exhibition will celebrate the 206th birthday of Baltimore’s renowned denizen of darkness who was born January 19, 1809. We’re aiming to feature artworks that (in some way) were inspired by Edgar Allan Poe’s life or work. That doesn’t necessarily mean work will include his visage or familiar “Poe” characters—we’ll leave the interpretation to you. Simply put, we’re looking for dynamic artworks that (at the core) represent *the visual expression of Poe’s influence on your own work as a visual artist*.

On view throughout most of January (Poe’s birth month) at Zella’s Pizzaria –one of Baltimore’s and Sowebo’s best exhibit/dining spaces— this curated exhibition will feature between one and three works by each participating artist. Their wall space is limited, so we’ll likely also offer some artists additional online auction/exhibit opportunities for works that won’t fit into Zella’s somewhat diminutive venue. (To get an idea of the space, why not visit Zella’s and also consider submitting works that aren’t immense?)

**THE FINE PRINT**:

*POE-Zella!* is designed to promote and support artists and welcomes submissions representing all career phases. As well, the sale of artists’ works will assist continued activities of Poe Baltimore, Inc. Each exhibiting artist *will choose their preferred opening bid* and *the estimated value of their artwork(s)*. For all work that sells during the auction/exhibit, the artists and Poe Baltimore, Inc. will receive a 50/50% split of the final sale price. Poe Baltimore’s share will help expand public programs and exhibitions throughout Baltimore, enhance partnerships with other venues, and lead towards increased public visiting hours at the Poe House & Museum. Exhibiting artists will also receive perks during the opening event (6-8pm, Thursday, January 8) and the Benefit Silent Auction (1-3pm, Saturday, January 17.)  Selected artists will be featured in Facebook and [www.poe.baltimore.org](http://www.poe.baltimore.org) in an effort to promote their artwork(s) and bio.

**There is no application fee to submit work, and the curator’s decision will be final.**

**ABOUT THE CURATOR**

Lisa Lewenz currently directs the Edgar Allan Poe House & Museum, where, since spring 2014, she has launched Poe Baltimore as an important emerging nonprofit. Lewenz’s other hats have included curating *Our Perfect World; Athena’s Daughters; Elzbieta Sikorska: Forest Drawings,* and numerous other exhibits at Maryland Art Place where she managed all exhibits and programs between 2003-06, and she also curated independently elsewhere. Between 2008 and 2011, as the Walters Art Museum’s Manager of Public Programs, she developed interpretative programming for every exhibition to enhance artists’ works, inviting dynamic artists like *Kryptos* sculptor, Jim Sanborn, editorial cartoonist, “Kal”, and writer Jonah Lehrer to share their ideas and lead workshops. As well, Lewenz is a practicing artist, filmmaker and writer, directing *A Letter without Words,* an award-winning Sundance & Berlin Film Festival film that screened at more than 100 worldwide film festivals. *A*wards for her works, *A* *View from Three Mile Island; Trying to Find Common Ground*; and other series gleaned two NEA Photography Fellowships, The Friends of Photography Ferguson Award, sequential Fulbright Research Fellowships in Germany, numerous Maryland State Arts Council awards, and other honors. Lewenz’s work is in public and private collections, including MOMA in NYC. She received her MFA from CalArts (LA, CA) and BFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

**WHERE?**

Zella's Pizzeria (1145 Hollins Street (adjacent to Hollins Market, Baltimore, MD 21223)
[www.zellaspizzeria.com](http://www.zellaspizzeria.com/)

**TIMELINE**

* December 8, 2014 –Call For Entry announced
* December 29, 2014 (5pm) – Deadline for entry **via a single email to** **poebaltimoreexhibits@gmail.com**
* January 2, 2015- Artists notified of Curator’s exhibit selection (the curator’s decision will be final)
* January 5, 2015 (10am-5pm) – Artwork drop-off (Artists must bring signed loan forms and artworks, and if not possible to come at that time, must arrange an alternative delivery plan no later than 5pm January 6.)
* January 8, 2015 (6-8pm) – Opening Reception
* January 17, 2015 (1-3pm)—Poe Birthday Bash & Benefit Auction
* February 1, 2015 (10am-5pm)—Artists must pick up their work if not sold during the benefit auction. (IF not available that day, artists must make arrangements with Poe Baltimore no later than January 27 regarding their pickup time/date.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: DECEMBER 29, 2014 (5PM)

(Note: your materials must be emailed to PoeBaltimoreEXHIBITS@gmail.com

NO LATER than 5pm, Monday, December 29, 2014, subject line: “**Poe-Zella! Application**“)

Artists’ name Email

Address City, State, Zip

Mobile Website(s)

Artists’ name Email

THE FINE PRINT & SUBMISSION GUIDELINES: Due to limited wall space, we cannot accept or exhibit more than 20 medium sized works (approximately 36”w x 64” h of smaller, *with the crucial maximum dimension being the width*.)

**To apply, please submit the following items via email to** **PoeBaltimoreExhibits@gmail.com** **with the subject line**

**“POE-ZELLA! Application” no later than 5pm, Monday, December 29, 2014. There is no application fee to enter and:**

1. Please complete all contact information, providing your name, address, mobile and daytime phone number, email, and website(s)
2. Provide a PDF or Word version of your current resume (no more than 2 pages)
3. Provide a brief artist’s statement (maximum 500 words)
4. Attach 1-3 JPG images, with each labeled as follows: **FirstInitia**l**LastName\_Title\_Medium\_CreationYear** [For example: JLee\_Untitled#27\_AcrylicOnPaper\_2013.jpg (Please note: we prefer 4x6” 300dpi/medium resolution, maximum 2mgb each]

**Contact: if you have any questions, please review this call for entry and updated website details before emailing a query. Some details may be subject to change, so please verify consistent content in our email before sending this form.**

**FACTS:**

Please note: Artists who loan their work for this exhibition must acknowledge that Poe Baltimore, Inc. and Zella’s cannot provide insurance for these artworks. While both Zella’s and Poe Baltimore will oversee the exhibition, since this space doubles as a restaurant, we cannot guarantee that works will not become blemished or damaged during the exhibition. For this reason, please ensure that you either obtain your own insurance and/or frame the work behind glass to ensure it is well protected.

To learn more about the partner hosts, please visit [www.poe.baltimore.org](http://www.poe.baltimore.org) , [www.zellaspizzeria.com/](http://www.zellaspizzeria.com/) and [www.soweboarts.org](http://www.soweboarts.org)

**Poe Baltimore, Inc.** was created to fund, maintain, and interpret The Edgar Allan Poe House and Museum, and to celebrate the legacy of one of Baltimore’s most famous residents.  Dedicated to maintaining the museum as a vibrant experience for the thousands of visitors, and to enrich their experience of the city that inspired Edgar Allan Poe and his intellectual and literary heirs, Poe Baltimore is also committed to protecting, preserving and celebrating the rich history of the city, the house, and the legacy of one of our most beloved denizens. As well, it aims to honor other contemporary artists (whether rooted in literary, visual, theatrical, dance, performance, or musical fields) who also share a passion for Poe’s work and his beloved city.

**SoWeBo Arts, Inc** is a vital membership organization in Baltimore. With events, activities, networking opportunities, and a robust website, Sowebo Arts offers important benefits to artists, performers and supporters. They also invite members to make SoWeBo Arts a stronger organization by bringing energy and ideas to plan events and projects. Thankfully, SoWeBo Arts kindly turned their regularly-exhibition time slot to Poe Baltimore in order to make this exhibition possible. We’ll hope to partner in future ventures.

[**Zella’s Pizzeria**](http://www.zellaspizzeria.com/) at 1145 Hollins Street is our favorite pizza restaurant (plus a full bar) that mounts dynamic monthly contemporary art exhibitions, hung by SoWeBo Arts, Inc., a non-profit chartered to support community development through the arts. Each exhibit features an opening reception that is free and open to the public.