

POE BALTIMORE

10

Years of  
Celebrating  
Edgar Allan Poe

2013 ~ 2023



*10th Anniversary Yearbook*



## A NEW CHAPTER FOR POE HOUSE



In 2012, the tiny house museum at 203 North Amity Street, the last surviving home in Baltimore where Poe and family are known to have lived, was in danger of closing for lack of funding. A new plan was enacted to save the museum and keep Poe's chamber door open to visitors. Previously operating under the auspices of Baltimore City, a new non-profit, **Poe Baltimore, Inc.**, was formed to steward operations. Its Board, Staff, and Volunteers would work solely to fund, maintain, and interpret **The Edgar Allan Poe House & Museum** for visitors and tourists from around the world. After brief closure for exhibit design, Poe House was re-opened to the public in 2013.



For a decade, Poe Baltimore has continued to celebrate Poe's legacy in Baltimore and beyond. The museum is open weekly for tours. Thousands of visitors darken our doorstep year-round, to visit Poe's house and attend programming in-person and online. Thousands more travel to Baltimore every October for **The International Edgar Allan Poe Festival & Awards**, two days of books, music, performances, and exhibits, in the shadow of Poe House. We look forward to welcoming thousands more in the years to come!





## IN LOVE WITH OUR VOLUNTEERS

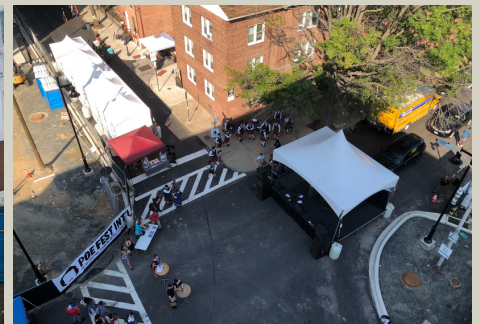


Since the beginning of Poe Baltimore's tenure as stewards of The Edgar Allan Poe House & Museum, **volunteers** have been the lifeblood of our museum operations and programs. From museum tour guides to city-wide bus tours, poetry readings to promotional videos, stuffing envelopes to re-enacting Poe's first funeral, painting walls to sculpting lifelike copies of corpses, this wonderful corps of individuals—and partners & spouses—have contributed to a gamut of projects. Often for no more pay than a t-shirt or a pint of RavenBeer, they donate their time and talents.

United in a shared love of literature, poetry, and Poe, volunteers give selflessly to keep our chamber door open to visitors and celebrate Poe's legacy in Baltimore & beyond. Love evermore to our Poe House volunteers, past, present, and future!



## CHANGING VIEWPOINTS



Despite the transformation from a once-duplex into a museum and shrine, we are quite proud that Poe's home in Baltimore is preserved, intact. Were Poe to once again cross the threshold at Amity Street, he would feel quite at home—likely surprised to walk into his own giftshop, but nonetheless familiar.

Inside looking out is another story. The view from the garret window has changed drastically. We now enjoy a lovely "Poe Park" where visitors walk along a path of engraved pavers donated by fellow Poe fans. And each year "Poe Square" is transformed into the site of the **International Edgar Allan Poe Festival & Awards**.



## KILLER PROGRAMMING



**Programming** can be a challenge at Poe House, as the precious historic site is a scant 620 square feet! Nonetheless, visitors have a variety of events, publications, exhibits, and on-line offerings to explore, and even a mobile app to guide them to other "Poe Places" in Baltimore City. Over the years Poe House has hosted a full spectrum of programs, from plein-air and film events, to Maryland author series, to thought-provoking discussion sessions. When the pandemic in 2020 pushed museum tours into the virtual realm, other events followed: an in-person mystery weekend turned into our very first virtual event, a **'House of Usher' 60th Anniversary Watch Party** and **Writing Workshop with Victoria Price**.

These days most Poe House program offerings are still hybrid events, with live and recorded discussion series, grave-side chats, and exhibits. Programming continues to grow, and with it opportunity to welcome ever more people to Poe's House in Baltimore, including participants from around the world who might otherwise not had the chance to darken our chamber door. Look for details about Virtual Membership in 2024!



## POE, PINTS, AND POETRY



**MAY 18TH 2017**  
5PM-9PM

PERFORMANCE BY  
**ONEY KELLEY**  
PERIENCE

PROCEEDS TO  
**ST POE HOUSE**

**FREE ADMISSION**  
**VIP PACKAGE**  
INCLUDES BEER STEIN  
DISCOUNTED DRINKS ALL NIGHT  
TWO FREE ADMISSIONS TO POE HOUSE  
PLUS MYSTERY BAG OF POE GOODIES

**POEINBALTIMORE.ORG**  
**PEABODY HEIGHTS**  
**BREWERY**  
401 E. 30TH ST.  
BALTIMORE, MD

**PINTS FOR POE**

**POE BALTIMORE**  
PRESENTS

**Pinto for Poe**

**MONDAY JUNE 11**  
VIP PRE-PARTY 5:30  
GAMETIME AT 7

**VIP UNLIMITED FOOD + RAVENBEER!**

SPONSORED BY  
POE BALTIMORE & RAVENBEER

**THE CAMDEN CLUB AT CAMDEN YARDS**  
133 WEST CAMDEN ST.  
BALTIMORE, MD

PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE  
EDGAR ALLAN POE HOUSE & MUSEUM

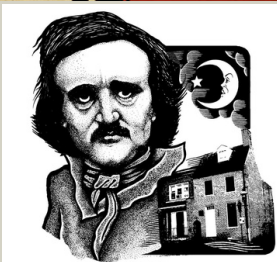
**POEINBALTIMORE.ORG**

**PINTS for POE**

**SATURDAY, MAY 25, 2019**  
3:00PM - 6:00PM

PERFORMANCE BY  
**TED**

**POEINBALTIMORE.ORG**



**2022 Pints for Poe**

**ST. PATRICK'S DAY**  
**Annabel Lee Tavern**

601 S. Clinton St., Baltimore MD  
410-522-2929

**KISS ME, I WAS IRISH**

Raffle & Prize Giveaways begin at 6PM.  
Donations and portion of proceeds benefit  
The Edgar Allan Poe House & Museum

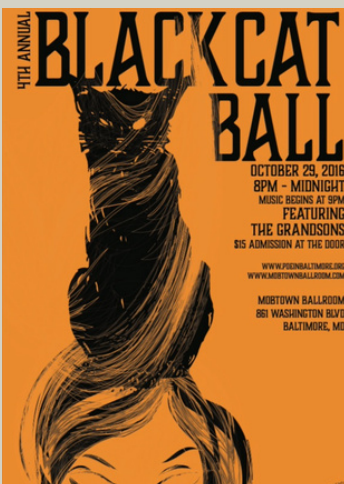
Toasting Edgar Allan Poe doesn't have to be a serious or mysterious affair: all you need is to raise a pint with Poe friends. Poe Baltimore and friends of The Edgar Allan Poe House & Museum meet every Spring/Summer to do just that with food, music, and a cold **RavenBeer**.

The original fete, "**Poe, Pints, and Poetry**," took place April 11, 2015 at Baltimore's own Peabody Brewery. Over the years, the event has moved to different locations—in 2018 we even went out to root for the home team at Camden Yards. Go POEs!

These days "**Pints for Poe**" takes over St. Patrick's Weekend celebrations at Annabel Lee Tavern for a "**Kiss Me, I WAS Irish**" good time. Be there! Get the T-shirt! And of course, raise a Pint for Poe.



## THE BLACK CAT BALL



"What could be more Halloween than black cats and Edgar Allan Poe? Nothing. That's what." Poe Baltimore's **Black Cat Ball** started as a Halloween fundraiser for Poe House at Mobtown Ballroom in 2013. By year three, it was the venue chosen by the (then named) Maryland Historical Society to announce candidates for "The Next Poe Toaster," ceremonial stand-in for the disappeared legend who paid annual tribute at Poe's grave. The event has moved to different locations and formats: a floating party aboard Raven in Inner Harbor, a Gothic Hollywood event at 1840s Plaza, even a Movie Night at the historic Charles Theatre. It became the official party of the International Edgar Allan Poe Festival & Awards in 2018. In 2023, we returned to Westminster Hall & Burying Ground to trip the feline-fantastic for a 10th Annual Event and evermore support for Poe House. **The Black Cat Ball Afterparty at Poe's Magic in the Lord Baltimore Hotel** is fast becoming our newest tradition!



## POE FEST INTERNATIONAL

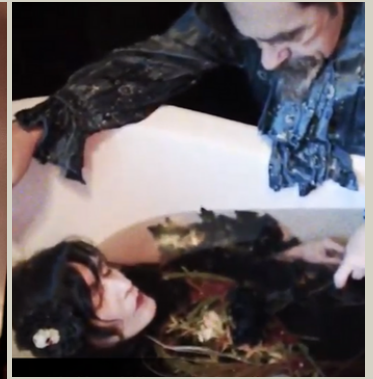
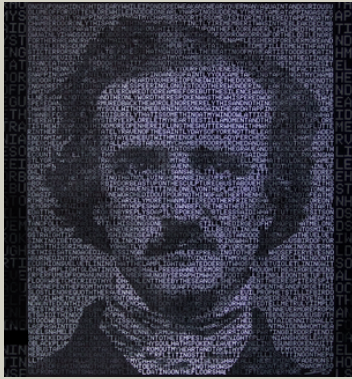


October is truly POE-tober in Baltimore, and not just because it's Halloween season. While it is true a Poe story is a great way to get in the mood, October is also the anniversary of the poet's mysterious death and burial (three times!) in Baltimore, a city that embraces Poe as an icon. We kick off Poe-tober with the **International Edgar Allan Poe Festival & Awards**, every year the weekend closest to Poe's death date, October 7th.

The inaugural Poe Fest International took place October 6 & 7, 2018. The free event has grown year-over-year as Poe fans the world over darken Poe's chamber door for two days of books, music, literature, and art. We open the gates to Poe Places in other cities, including the Poe Museum (Richmond) and the Poe Cottage (NY), even the United States Military Academy, West Point. The festival went virtual during the pandemic 2020, but since then, thousands continue to return for hybrid programs both in-person and online.



## LIVING LEGACY



Edgar Allan Poe began his professional writing career while living at Amity Street, entering a contest for Best Tale from a local magazine, The Baltimore Saturday Visitor (sic). The \$50 prize for "Manuscript Found in a Bottle" is the first money Poe received for his written work, an award that would get him noticed by the literary community. He soon began a career as an editor, a contributor to the magazines that employed him, and a writer of phantasmic tales and poetry that would change the literary world. His legacy lives on, inspiring new generations of writers, poets, and artists in every medium and genre that exists today.

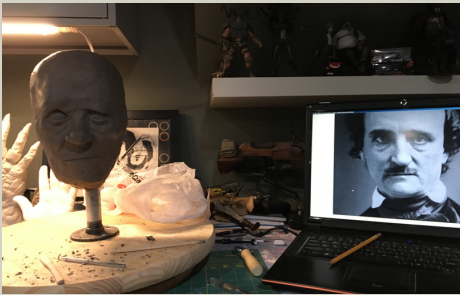
Poe Baltimore honors his legacy by presenting **The Saturday 'Visitor' Awards** for the best original and adapted works inspired by the life or writing of Edgar Allan Poe. The **call for entries opens on Poe's birthday, January 19th, and runs through May 30th**, and the contest welcomes entries from artists the world over who keep Poe in popular culture. Judges are drawn from other preeminent "Poe Places" and arts organizations such as The Poe Museum in Richmond, the Poe Cottage in New York, and The Poe Studies Association. Nominees are recognized during the festival and awarded medals at the Black Cat Ball. In 2020, **Baltimore National Heritage Area** co-sponsored a new category, **The Young Saturday Visitor Awards**, a prize for Maryland High Schoolers creating works inspired by Poe.



## THE DEATH EXHIBIT



In October each year, Poe Baltimore presents an art installation to share the strange history of Poe's death in 1849. Details from Poe's first funeral (he had two) are displayed as a candlelight vigil for Poe, including a **head and hands sculpted by local artist, Michael Davis**, and a **wood coffin custom-built by Thomas Brown Woodwright LLC**. The **original suit was designed and created by Baltimore designer Christopher Schafer Clothiers**.



The first exhibit was staged in 2018 at the historic **Carroll Mansion** by Poe Baltimore with **narrative and photo panels by Jericho Vinegar Works and Crystal Micriotti**, in a re-enactment of the gray and somber day Edgar Allan Poe was laid to rest in Baltimore. The narrative was later interpreted with **sequential art panels by Jason Strutz Illustration** when the exhibit found a new home at **Westminster Hall & Burying Ground** and became a travelling exhibit in 2021.



In 2022, death tableau was added for Virginia Eliza Clemm Poe, Edgar's wife and muse, recreating the true and macabre details of Virginia Poe's exhumation, storage, and reburial in Baltimore. It has since exhibited at historical societies in Laurel and Howard Counties and featured in the **Baltimore Sun** and **The Washington Post**. Panels have travelled to **The Poe Cottage in the Bronx, NY**, and **The Poe Museum Centennial in Richmond, Virginia**.

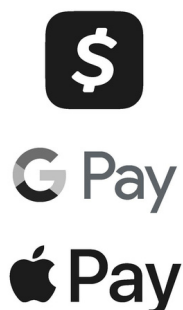






# DONATE TO SUPPORT EDGAR ALLAN POE HOUSE & MUSEUM

TEXT POEBALTIMORE  
TO 44-321



**venmo** @PoeBaltimore



## *support our mission*

If you have enjoyed this year's poetical offerings from Poe Baltimore, please consider the following options to support The Edgar Allan Poe House & Museum in Baltimore - some of them cost nothing!

Please support Poe Baltimore this and every year, and a very (un)Happy Holidays and New Year to all!

- List Poe Baltimore (501c3) as your non-profit of choice for Holiday, and End-of-year giving. One-time and monthly donations will help us keep Poe's chamber door open to visitors.
- Subscribe to our YouTube Channel. Our goal before December 31 is 1000 subscribers!
- Text POEBALTIMORE to 44-321 to set a recurring monthly gift or one time payment. Now accepting all credit cards and Apple Pay!
- Make a donation or purchase in the gift shop!
- Gift 4" x 8" or 8" x 8" personalized pavers to ensure you remain a part of Poe's legacy in Baltimore
- Share #PoeBaltimore or @PoeBaltimore on all social media and tell your networks what Poe means to you!