



IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Harriet Lynn
410-235-4457 / hlynn@umbc.edu

**IMTAL Pre-Conference Star Spangled Museum Theatre Tour
Sunday, October 6, 2013 in Baltimore & IMTAL Global Conference October 6-10 in D.C.**

Climb on board for the *IMTAL Pre-Conference Star Spangled Museum Theatre Tour* in Baltimore, MD on Sunday, October 6, 2013. Plan on a full day of adventure, history and fun as tour participants are escorted by bus to two historic museums and one national landmark site. This one day round-trip excursion from the Holiday Inn - Rosslyn Key Bridge in Arlington, VA to Baltimore, MD is only \$99 and includes breakfast-on-the-go and lunch. Participants will view the immigrant's experience in America at the Jewish Museum of Maryland and also commemorate the 200th anniversary of the War of 1812 at Fort McHenry and the Maryland Historical Society as well as the 150th anniversary of the Civil War at both sites. It will be a day of exciting and memorable museum theatre experiences before the 2013 IMTAL Global Conference in Washington, DC from October 6 - 10, 2013.

Seating is limited and will be on a first-come first-serve basis. Payment of \$99 for the all day pre-conference museum theatre tour is due by September 10, 2013 using Pay Pal. To register visit:

<http://imtal.org/Default.aspx?pageId=1329539&eventId=707912&EventViewMode=Event>

For more information on the IMTAL Museum Theatre Tour, please visit <http://imtal.org/home>.

For more information about the 2013 IMTAL Global Conference, please visit:

<http://americanhistory.si.edu/events/imtal-2013>.

On the morning of Sunday, October 6th tour participants leave from the Holiday Inn - Rosslyn Key Bridge in Arlington, VA at 7:30 am and travel to Baltimore with a second pick up in Baltimore at 8:45 am at the Maryland Historical Society for second pickup. From there participants travel to Fort McHenry, an American national historic landmark now celebrating its 200th anniversary of the War of 1812. Here the tour group will be entertained by a talented group of Baltimore School for the Arts (BSA) high school students in the production of *Torn Asunder*. This is a collaborative effort between the BSA, the Maryland Historical Society (MdHS) and the National Park Service. Participants will see original dramatic vignettes illustrating the complexity of race relations during the American Civil War. Students and faculty from the Baltimore School for the Arts (BSA) worked together to develop scripts and produce performances. The talented students developed the themes for the plays by conducting research at the Maryland Historical Society's (MdHS) library. Tour participants can also explore Fort McHenry (the original home of the same historic American flag on view at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History) and visit the exhibit before continuing to the Jewish Museum of Maryland (JMM).

At the JMM the tour group encounters one of three living history characters from the Leo V. Berger's Immigrant Trunk Program that has been entertaining and informing audiences on the plight of former Russian immigrants who came to Baltimore with nearly nothing and started afresh in this new community. Tour participants will also have time for post-performance talks with the actor, producer/director and museum staff while enjoying lunch (vegetarian and non-vegetarian choices). Participants can also visit the third oldest surviving synagogue in the country next to the museum before boarding the bus traveling to the Maryland Historical Society (MdHS).

The MdHS is a treasure trove of history founded in 1844 and is the oldest ongoing cultural institution in Maryland. Participants will see the Maryland Historical Society Players (MDHS Players) perform living history vignettes in the War of 1812 exhibit and Civil War gallery. More behind-the-scenes conversations with actors, director and staff will be available as well as an opportunity to view the original *Star Spangled Banner* by Francis Scott Key before the group boards the bus at 3:00 pm and whisked back to the original hotel site in plenty enough time to prepare for the opening night of the 2013 IMTAL Global Conference. Don't miss this unique *Star Spangled* museum theatre day trip experience.