

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Creative Alliance Announces First-Ever Thematic Season: We the People
A Bold Year of Performances, Exhibitions, and Community Programs Launching January 2026

(October 20, 2025) Baltimore, MD — In a time when questions of identity and belonging feel more urgent than ever, <u>Creative Alliance</u> is launching its first-ever thematic season, *We the People*, beginning January 2026. This year-long exploration through performances, exhibitions, and community programs asks us to imagine who "we" are — as neighbors, as artists, as Baltimoreans, and as part of the ever-evolving story of America.

Across every stage, gallery, and classroom, We the People draws a bold through-line: that the arts are a living expression of who we are and who we're becoming. Each performance, workshop, and festival adds another voice to a larger conversation about home, heritage, and identity — illuminating how creativity can both honor our past and reimagine our future.

## We the People season highlights include:

- Performances: Baltimore creative storytellers take center stage in 2026 with Stoop Stories' 25th Anniversary, Mortified and Crankie Festival to remind us (The People) we thrive as a community when we share our stories and find common ground, thus sowing the seeds for today and tomorrow's artists and visionaries. The Say Sister Festival makes its return, centering the artistry of women guitarists who, through collaboration, creativity, and connection, light up our stage with a powerful and unifying sound. From Argentina's Orchestra of Indigenous Instruments and New Technologies and Korea's Sang Jaru to Unidos En El Arte, each invites us to find common ground, expand our worldview, and see ourselves and one another in new ways. The 15th anniversary of Elvis' Birthday Fight Club invites us to use satire as a vehicle for commentary on the state of the world, even embracing Americana and examining our relationship to comedy, costume and celebrity.
- Visual Arts: The visual arts programs center identity, heritage, and creative legacy through a diverse range of exhibitions and interdisciplinary projects. The season features The Goxxip Girl Collective, a dynamic showcase amplifying the voices of womxn artists and fostering empowerment through visual storytelling and cultural dialogue. The Many Americas film series invites Baltimore's filmmaking community to examine the multiplicity of American identity through nuanced explorations of culture, race, and belonging. Returning Artists-in-Residence alums Hope and Faith McCorkle present a



new multimedia installation inspired by the spirit of collaboration and creative exchange that defines Creative Alliance's residency program and its impact on Baltimore's artistic landscape.

- Education: Youth and families will engage directly with the season theme through
  programs like the Open Minds After-School Art Club, Teen Council, and CIELO
  (Creative Immigrant Educators of Latin American Origin). Students will produce original
  exhibitions, civic storytelling projects, and public art ensuring that We the People
  resonate with the next generation.
- Marquee Ball: Creative Alliance's Marquee Ball is slated to return on May 2nd, 2026, with an exciting theme to be announced soon. The biggest party in Baltimore sustains Creative Alliance's mission to make art accessible to all by nurturing artists, engaging audiences, and offering free creative programs to thousands of local students.

"Baltimore is a beautiful microcosm of culture, where all are welcome to define — or redefine — themselves," said Jason Steer, Creative Alliance Executive Director. "We invite our community to join us in shaping the America we want to see — one story, one artist, one community at a time."

To learn more about Creative Alliance and be the first to know about tickets for events in the upcoming season, the 2026 Marquee Ball theme, or keep up with the latest news and announcements, visit <u>creativealliance.org</u> and follow along on social media **@CreativeAllianceBaltimore**.

## **About Creative Alliance**

Creative Alliance builds communities by bringing together artists and audiences from diverse backgrounds to experience spectacular arts and education programs. We support area artists, promote Baltimore as a center for creative production, and advocate for cultural expression rooted in a sense of place.

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