

COMMUNITY

MPT Presents Third Annual HBCU Week September 5–11

Special program lineup places spotlight on historically Black colleges and universities

By PRESS OFFICER
MPT

OWINGS MILLS, Md. (Aug. 23, 2022)—Maryland Public Television (MPT) will again celebrate historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs) in September during its third annual HBCU Week, a slate of programs sharing informative and inspirational stories about HBCUs and the people who attend, graduate, administrate, and advocate for these important institutions of higher learning.

During the week of September 5–11, MPT will deliver more than 22 hours of content exploring the past, present, and future of HBCUs in the statewide public TV network's viewing area and throughout the United States.

HBCU Week offers stories of sacrifice, courage, innovation, and hope found in the archives of these important American institutions. This year, MPT will expand its coverage beyond history and education to present films covering HBCU contributions to the arts, music, and sports. Highlights include special one-hour episodes of Direct Connection and State Circle, a profile of former Morgan State University student Calvin Tyler, an evening of music-related programs, and a day of sports culminating with "The Battle for Greater Baltimore" football game between Morgan State University and Towson University.

Viewers can find more information about HBCU Week offerings and view trailers for upcoming programs at mpt.org/hbcu. Throughout the

week, audiences are encouraged to contribute to the conversation on social media using the hashtag #HBCUWeekMD.

HBCU Week is part of the statewide network's Standing Against Racism: Fostering Unity Through Dialogue initiative. MPT began this long-term initiative in 2020 to stimulate thoughtful discussion and increase understanding of race-related issues in communities across Maryland. More information and resources are available at mpt.org/racism.

In Title III of the Higher Education Act of 1965, Congress defined an HBCU as a school of higher learning that was accredited and established before 1964 and whose principal mission is the education of African Americans. Today, more than 100 HBCUs educate nearly 300,000 enrolled students. The six HBCUs in MPT's viewing area are Bowie State University, Coppin State University, Howard University, Morgan State University, University of the District of Columbia, and University of Maryland Eastern Shore.

HBCU Week is sponsored by Bowie State University, the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA®) 2023 Basketball Tournament, and STEM City USA.

Maryland Public Television (MPT) is a statewide, public-supported TV network and Public Broadcasting Service member offering entertaining, educational, and inspiring content delivered by traditional broadcasting and streaming on TVs, computers, and mobile devices. Visit mpt.org.

we are and will be dust, Work by Danny Varillas, to Open at The Pallet Rack

Opening Reception: Saturday, Sept. 3, 2022, 5–7 p.m.

Closing Community Party with Hands-on Natural Dyeing and Screenprinting: Saturday, Oct. 1, 2022

Exhibition on View: Saturday, Sept. 3–Saturday, Oct. 1, 2022

By PRESS OFFICER
Material Things

NORTH BRENTWOOD, Md. (Aug. 25, 2022)—Material Things presents *we are and will be dust*, an exhibition of new, handwoven works by Maryland-based artist Danny Varillas.

we are and will be dust will be on view in The Pallet Rack, an experimental gallery space at Material Things, from September 3 through October 1, 2022. An opening reception, free and open to the public, will be held on Saturday, September 3, from 5 to 7 p.m. A closing community party, featuring communal natural dyeing and screenprinting with the artist, will be held on Saturday, October 1, time forthcoming.

In *we are and will be dust*, Varillas focuses on the idea that all plants, animals, and humans are linked in a complex pattern of energy exchange. All living things eventually die into each others' lives, and then live into each others' deaths. The soil that living things return to is one that is full of death, but also fully alive. Fungi, bacteria, and microorganisms restore decayed matter for the next organism to be born into—they lay to rest and also rise. This natural model is a complex but perfect regenerative system. Referencing microscopic qualities of living soil, Varillas' work dwells on this magnificent system where all things are poetically connected in an indefinite cycle of exchange.

Materially, work in *we are and will be dust* combines fibers naturally dyed by the artist with traditional floor loom weaving and digital TC2 Jacquard weaving—a process involving a computer-controlled loom that is manually-operated. Varillas often manipulates the natural dyed fibers in his work using unconventional materials like bleach and spray paint, as a way of examining tensions between the natural and unnatural, the pure and impure, and the residual consequences of human interference in nature. One such point of contention that Varillas has started to study is the impacts, byproducts, and coping strategies associated with pest species.

About Danny Varillas

Danny Varillas (he/him) is a multidisciplinary artist and designer from Rockville, MD. He experiments across media in printmaking, textiles, and graphic design to explore ideas around culture, language, and the agrarian and craft roots of his own family history. Most recently, Varillas has used hand-weaving, natural dyeing, and sewing to create intricate works that reference the recognizable and microscopic qualities of natural processes. His background in digital design has led to an interest in connections between traditional weaving and modern computer technology, and a respect for interplay between the handmade and the automated.

In his design profession, Varillas focuses on brand identity for the art and cultural sec-

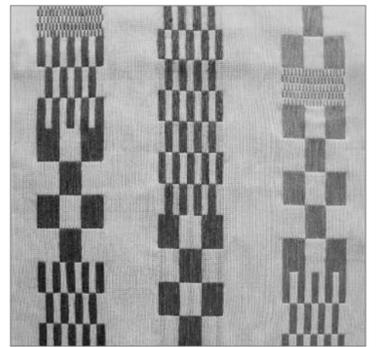


PHOTO COURTESY MATERIAL THINGS

ANAPHASE, 2022, handwoven linen and silk, hand-dyed with madder root, indigo, and marigold, 13 x 25 in.

tors. He currently works with the internationally-recognized design studio, Pentagram. Varillas received his B.F.A. in graphic design from the Maryland Institute College of Art in 2019.

Material Things is the creative workspace of Francisco Rosario and Katie Aldworth, plus many others who make this creative community possible. Material Things is located at 4531 Rhode Island Ave, North Brentwood, MD 20722. Visit materialthingsstudio.com and @materialthingsstudio. The Pallet Rack is a 24 sq.-ft. exhibition space inside Material Things. Exhibit can be viewed Fri. 5–8 p.m., Sun. 12–3 p.m., or by appointment.

Pryor Named to Reese's Senior Bowl Watch List

By JOLISA WILLIAMS
Bowie State University Athletics

BOWIE, Md. (Aug. 25, 2022)—Bowie State University redshirt senior defensive lineman Joshua Pryor was named on Wednesday to the 2023 Reese's Senior Bowl Watch List.

The 74th annual game is scheduled to take place February 4, 2023 at Hancock Whitney Stadium at the University of South Alabama in Mobile, Ala. Game time is slated

for 2:30 p.m. ET on the NFL Network.

The Reese's Senior Bowl is the nation's most prestigious college all-star game, as it annually serves as the first step of the NFL Draft process. The Reese's Senior Bowl showcased 40 percent of the entire 2022 NFL draft class, including 45 of the top 100 players.

Pryor, who has already earned numerous preseason accolades, returns to anchor the Bowie State Bulldogs defense that ranked

nationally a season ago.

In 2021, Pryor finished with 73 total tackles (42 solo), a team-high 12 quarterback pressures, six sacks (sixth in CIAA), and a conference third-best tackle-for-loss total (20.5). The preseason All-CIAA honoree garnered attention from NFL scouts throughout the 2021 season and has had a few scouts come out during this season's fall camp.

No. 8 Bowie State opens the 2022 season on Saturday, Sept. 3 against No. 16 New Haven. Kickoff is set for 1 p.m. from Bulldog Stadium and fans can stream the game live on the Bulldog Sports Network.

Visit www.bsbulldogs.com.

Kaiser Permanente Opens New, Next Generation Medical Center in Prince George's County

West Hyattsville Medical Center to serve more than 26,000 Kaiser Permanente members, expanding access to high-quality health care in Prince George's County

By PRESS OFFICER
Kaiser Permanente

ROCKVILLE, Md. (Aug. 22, 2022)—Kaiser Permanente, the region's largest integrated, nonprofit, health system, today opens the new 48,000-square-foot West Hyattsville Medical Center. This state-of-the-art facility expands access to award-winning health care in Prince George's County, offering on-site primary care services including adult and family medicine, a newborn care center, obstetrics and gynecology, and pediatrics. The new medical center will also offer an unparalleled array of primary medical care services, including pharmacy and laboratory. The facility will serve more than 26,000 members each year.

"We are pleased to add another new facility to serve the members of Prince George's County with the opening of the West Hyattsville Medical Center," said Ruth Williams-Brinkley, regional president, Kaiser Permanente. "This modern facility combines the top-quality care in the nation with design and technology that improve convenience and experience for patients. This new facility and the care our members will receive inside is another example of Kaiser Permanente's ongoing commitment to invest in the health of all Prince George's County residents."

The new West Hyattsville Medical Center, which is located at 5620 Ager Road, replaces the current Prince George's Medical Center and is one of 35 Kaiser Permanente medical centers in the Mid-Atlantic. The West Hyattsville Medical Center is one of six new next-generation medical centers opening in the Mid-Atlantic region between 2021 and 2022 and the fourth new Kaiser Permanente medical center in Maryland. In 2021, Kaiser Permanente's opened the Bowie Fairwood Medical Center, also in Prince George's County, as well as Friendship Heights, in Montgomery County. The new Lutherville-Timonium Medical Center in Baltimore County opened in January 2022. Two additional new facilities are scheduled to open later this year in Caton Hill (Woodbridge) and Springfield, Virginia.

"We are proud to provide our patients with the highest quality care in the nation," said Richard Mc-

Carthy, MD, executive medical director for Kaiser Permanente. "Our physicians focus on providing care that is convenient and comprehensive for every patient. As a result, research shows our patients live six years longer than other patients. The West Hyattsville Medical Center allows us to expand our exceptional care to more patients in Prince George's County. Our new state-of-the-art facility is designed to support our collaborative, integrated care model."

West Hyattsville offers convenient features and innovative technology for both patients and the care team. Patients at West Hyattsville and other new Kaiser Permanente facilities are welcomed with living room and café-style seating. The facility's patient exam rooms include exam tables that measure weight, and large screens in the rooms to allow for virtual appointments and education. Kaiser Permanente patients at West Hyattsville and other locations can connect with their physicians and care teams in many convenient ways, including through telephone, video appointments and secure messaging. More than 85 staff and physicians will care for patients at the West Hyattsville Medical Center. The facility is expected to have 40,000 visits per year.

The new West Hyattsville Medical Center offers patients convenient access to parking in a 3-story parking garage with electric car charging stations and reserved parking for expectant mothers. West Hyattsville Medical Center is also located near bus transit and the West Hyattsville Metro station.

Continuing Kaiser Permanente's longstanding commitment to sustainability, the West Hyattsville Medical Center earned LEED® Silver certification from the U.S. Green Building Council. The LEED rating system is the foremost program for buildings, homes, and communities that improve environmental and human health performance. The building achieved LEED certification for implementing practical and measurable strategies and solutions to achieve high performance in sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection, and indoor environmental quality.

The award-winning care provided at the new West Hyattsville Medical Center and the 35 other Kaiser Permanente facilities across Maryland, Wash-



PHOTO COURTESY KAISER PERMANENTE

The new West Hyattsville Medical Center, which is located at 5620 Ager Road.

ington, D.C., and Virginia helps the more than 800,000 Kaiser Permanente members in the Mid-Atlantic live longer, healthier lives. The integrated care provided by the Kaiser Permanente care team leads to earlier detection and better treatment of heart disease, stroke, and breast cancer, resulting in lives saved among its members each year. In fact, recent data shows that Kaiser Permanente members live six years longer than other patients.

Kaiser Permanente's Mid-Atlantic region is the only health plan in the nation to receive a 5 out of 5 rating for both its Medicare and commercial plans in the National Committee for Quality Assurance's (NCQA) Health Insurance Plan Ratings for 2021–2022. In addition, 2021 marked the 10th year in a row that the health system's Mid-Atlantic region received 5 out of 5 stars from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services for its 2021 health plan. The West Hyattsville Physician Site Lead, pediatrician Dr. Rennie Thomas, has been named a top doctor by Washingtonian magazine.

Kaiser Permanente is committed to helping shape the future of health care. We are recognized as one of America's leading health care providers and not-for-profit health plans. Founded in 1945, Kaiser Permanente has a mission to provide high-quality, affordable health care services and to improve the health of our members and the communities we serve. We currently serve almost 12.5 million members in 8 states and the District of Columbia. Care for members and patients is focused on their total health and guided by their personal Permanente Medical Group physicians, specialists, and team of caregivers. Our expert and caring medical teams are empowered and supported by industry-leading technology advances and tools for health promotion, disease prevention, state-of-the-art care delivery, and world-class chronic disease management. Kaiser Permanente is dedicated to care innovations, clinical research, health education, and the support of community health. For more information, go to about.kp.org