

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Baltimore Center Stage Extends Next Act Fundraising Campaign Through December 31, 2025

BALTIMORE, MD – Baltimore Center Stage (BCS) announced today the extension of its ambitious **The Next Act** fundraising campaign through December 31, 2025. Originally set to conclude in summer 2025 with a goal of raising \$1 million, the campaign will now expand its target to \$1.5 million to support the growing vision of Artistic Director Stevie Walker-Webb and the theater’s transformative new programming.

Launched in the fall of 2024, **The Next Act** campaign has helped fund a slate of bold civic and artistic initiatives that reflect BCS’s commitment to serving Baltimore audiences in new and meaningful ways. **From the launch of the *Juvenile Justice Theater Program* to the *Lab410* residency for local playwrights, these initiatives have generated tremendous momentum**—and the community response has been clear: there is more to be done.

“The wave of support for The Next Act campaign has been nothing short of electric,” said Artistic Director Stevie Walker-Webb. “By extending the campaign, we gain the space to dream bolder, reach wider, and keep shaping a theater that mirrors the power, promise, and beauty of Baltimore.”

Funds raised through the campaign will continue to support programming that connects Baltimoreans across generations and neighborhoods—including BCS Summer Camps, the *Young Playwrights Festival*, and new work development focused on voices from the region. To date, The Next Act campaign has raised over \$832,000 toward its original \$1 million goal.

“This campaign isn’t just about reaching a number—it’s about fueling a movement,” said Ken-Matt Martin, Producing Director of Baltimore Center Stage. “Every dollar raised through The Next Act allows us to invest in programs that will uplift new generations of Baltimore’s artists, young people, and communities. Extending the campaign to \$1.5 million reflects both the extraordinary response we’ve received and the bold ambitions ahead.”

With renewed energy and expanded community investment, BCS is well on its way to meeting the \$1.5 million milestone by the end of the calendar year.

For more information or to make a gift, visit: <https://bit.ly/nextactbcs>

About Baltimore Center Stage

Designated the State Theater of Maryland in 1978, Baltimore Center Stage (BCS) provides the highest quality theater and programming for all members of our communities, including youth and families, under the leadership of Artistic Director Stevie Walker-Webb, Managing Director Adam Frank, and Producing Director Ken-Matt Martin. We ignite conversations and imaginations by producing an eclectic season of professional productions across two mainstages, developing new works by both Baltimore and national writers, engaging the community through initiatives like the Juvenile Justice Theater Program working with incarcerated youth, and serving thousands of students each year on stage and in the classroom. Everything we do at Baltimore Center Stage is grounded in our core values—Joy, Service, and Connection, with Access For All at the heart of our mission. We are deeply committed to eliminating barriers so that everyone can experience and participate in our performances, education efforts, and community work.