

# ROAD TRIPPING

New Museum of African-American History, Met Breuer among attractions in D.C., Philadelphia and New York

BY STEPHANIE CITRON | For The Baltimore Sun

September's falling leaves aren't simply signs of the end of summer. They mark the reawakening of our northeastern cities from their lazy summer respite.

The crisp-air days are a great time to take a trip and explore what another city has to offer in the way of music,

theater, art, talks, film and festivals.

You needn't venture far. We've selected some of the most intriguing events and activities a short drive away, in D.C., Philly and New York.

Once you arrive, there's no need to rush — we've even found some hotels offering enchanting arts-related packages.

## WASHINGTON, D.C.



### 'NO MAN'S LAND,' AN EXHIBITION ABOUT WOMEN, BY WOMEN

Unconventional painting and sculptures that explore both imagery of the female body and the process of making ground this exhibit featuring works by more than 35 female artists from five continents. The 58 pieces, intended to challenge the perception of women's work and body image, are as distinctive as the artists themselves, who represent a range of generations, cultures, disciplines and politics. Running Sept. 30-Jan. 8. The National Museum of Women in the Arts, 1250 New York Ave. NW. \$10. 202-783-5000, nmwa.org

### GRAND REOPENING OF THE EAST BUILDING OF THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

Visitors will encounter new exhibits along with a reconfiguration of the NGA's permanent collection within the 12,000 square feet of new galleries, a rooftop sculpture garden and renovated original spaces, when the National Gallery of Art reopens its exhibition spaces Sept. 24. An installation featuring the work of American artist Barbara Kruger will be on display in the new Tower Galleries. The roof terrace is home to a series of sculptures, including "Hahn/Cock," the colossal blue sculpture of a cockerel by Katharina Fritsch. Fourth Street and Constitution Avenue. Free. 202-737-4215, nga.gov

### THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE

Once President Barack Obama cuts the ribbon Sept. 24, the long-awaited National Museum of African-American History and Culture officially opens. Three days of opening festivities begin Sept. 23 on the National Mall, with free musical performances by world-renowned musicians, oral histories, storytelling, dance and drum circles, and more. Entrance to the museum on opening weekend is free but requires timed passes, available through the website and via telephone. 14th and Constitution Avenue NW. 844-750-3012, nmaahc.si.edu

### LIBRARY OF CONGRESS NATIONAL BOOK FESTIVAL

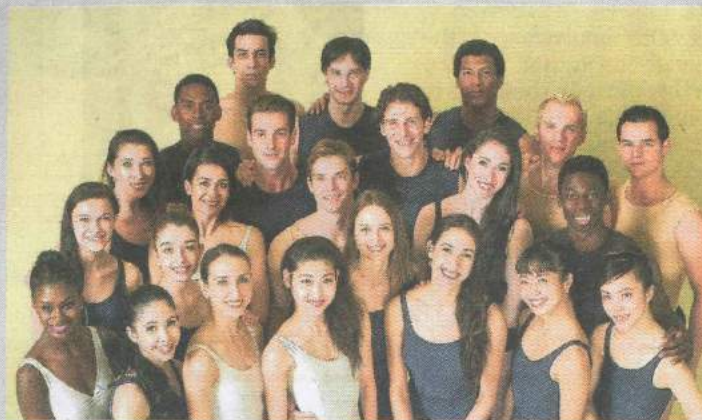
Stephen King, Bob Woodward, Diane Rehm and Newt Gingrich are a few of about 120 authors, illustrators and poets making appearances and hosting presentations here. This will be the first bookfest under the new librarian of Congress, Carla Hayden, formerly of Baltimore's Enoch Pratt Free Library. Dozens of stages and pavilions offer programs, presentations and books dedicated to practically every genre of literature. 9 a.m.-10 p.m. Sept. 24. Washington Convention Center, 801 Mount Vernon Place NW. Free. 888-714-4696, loc.gov/bookfest



The National Museum of African-American History and Culture

**THE WASHINGTON BALLET**

The Washington Ballet is turning 40, and celebrating with a gala featuring an all-star cast of performers. The program, narrated by new director Julie Kent, previously a principal ballerina at American Ballet Theater, will present works of trailblazing choreographers Choo San Goh and Septime Webre and others from the Washington Ballet's repertoire, and will include a look back at the triumphs of its first 40 years. 8 p.m. Sept. 30, The Kennedy Center, Eisenhower Theater, 2700 F St. NW. \$40-\$500. 202-362-3606, [washingtonballet.org](http://washingtonballet.org)



DEAN ALEXANDER

*Info: For a full listing of fall arts events and places around D.C., go to [washington.org](http://washington.org)*

**NEW YORK CITY**

EMILE WAMSTEKER

**BROADWAY BEYOND 'HAMILTON'**

Don't despair just because your sweetie won't shell out hundreds for a seat to "Hamilton." Broadway is exploding with new productions. Highly anticipated shows include "The Front Page" (starring Nathan Lane and John Goodman), "The Cherry Orchard" (starring Diane Lane) and "Les Liaisons Dangereuses" (starring Janet McTeer and Liev Schreiber). If you're feeling lucky, sign into the Broadway Direct Lottery, and you could score the best seats in the house for nearly nothing ([lottery.broadwaydirect.com/](http://lottery.broadwaydirect.com/)). But to be guaranteed a seat, purchase tickets online. [nyc-go.com/broadway](http://nyc-go.com/broadway)

**OPEN HOUSE NEW YORK**

Planners, designers, builders and preservation folks lead free tours and talks in places like the Arsenal, Carnegie Hall, Google's Chelsea offices, Roosevelt Island's Four Freedoms Park and Brooklyn Bridge Park. This weekend offers doors unlocked to otherwise-restricted, interiors and exteriors of NYC's most intriguing buildings and landmarks. Yes, it's maddening that the list of venues isn't complete until just before the event, but check the website for those requiring reservations. Oct. 15-16. [ohny.org/weekend/overview](http://ohny.org/weekend/overview)



KERRY JAMES MARSHALL

The Met Breuer's inaugural exhibit "Mastery" opens in October.

**'MASTRY': THE MET BREUER**

In March, the Metropolitan Museum of Art opened The Met Breuer (in a building designed by renowned Bauhaus architect Marcel Breuer), dedicated to art of the 20th and 21st centuries. Its long-awaited inaugural exhibition, "Mastery," opening in October, premieres 80 works by revolutionary artist Kerry James Marshall. Famed for his depictions of African-American identity in the U.S., Marshall aims to counter "stereotypical representations of black people in society." The exhibit runs Oct. 24-Jan. 29. 945 Madison Ave. 212-731-1675, [metmuseum.org](http://metmuseum.org)

ALAN KARCHMER

ture will officially open Sept. 24 in Washington.

## NEW YORK CITY

## THE CHINA INSTITUTE

Just in time for its 90th anniversary, “the nation’s oldest educational institution devoted solely to Chinese culture” has moved to new digs in Lower Manhattan, encompassing a 3,000-square-foot gallery, library and classrooms. The institute’s inaugural exhibition is “Art in a Time of Chaos: Masterworks from Six Dynasties China, 3rd-6th Centuries.” The works include painting, sculpture, calligraphy and ceramics. The exhibit runs Sept. 30-March 19. 100 Washington St., 212-744-8181, chinainstitute.org



## THE NEW YORKER FESTIVAL

Remember that college essay question about which famous person you’d most like to see in person? Here is your chance. This fest is three days of the buzziest and most intriguing leaders in the arts, politics, technology, science, media, literature, comedy and business in talks, interviews, film previews, musical performances, demonstrations and panel discussions. Pack your sneakers; the events, Oct 7-9, are dispersed in venues citywide. Tickets, on sale in September, are surprisingly accessible. festival.newyorker.com

*Info: For a full listing of autumn arts places and events around NYC, check out [www.nycgo.com](http://www.nycgo.com)*

## PHILADELPHIA



NICKY NEWMAN

The Philadelphia Fringe Festival runs Sept. 9-24.

## 20TH ANNUAL PHILADELPHIA FRINGE FESTIVAL

More than 150 avant-garde artistic performances on stages and street corners, and in galleries, parks and cabarets, debut citywide. There are juried shows, theater, concerts, dance, and song. This year the fest coincides with the introduction of The Philly Opera’s new “binge watching” format. The schedule, available online, enables audiences to select an event based on neighborhood, art discipline or date. Some events are free; some require reservations or tickets, ranging \$10-\$30. Runs Sept. 9-24. 215-413-1318, fringearts.com

## DESIGN PHILADELPHIA

Called “the largest and oldest open source design event in the nation,” this 10-day, citywide affair exhibits Philadelphia’s re-emergence as a 21st-century city shaped by design. Visitors take in tours, workshops and demonstrations that highlight architecture, fashion, furniture, multimedia and urban-planning design. Eighty-five events and 400 nationally recognized designers translate and express this year’s theme, “Home,” via spaces, images and icons. Runs Oct. 6-16. designphiladelphia.org

## ‘PAINT THE REVOLUTION’ AT THE PHILADELPHIA MUSEUM OF ART

This groundbreaking exhibition, “Paint the Revolution, Mexican Modernism 1910-1950,” provides witness to Mexico’s evolution from ancient cultural influences in the aftermath of its revolution through the avant-garde ’20s and into the politically charged era leading up to World War II. Works include murals, paintings, photographs, prints, books and broadsheets by Mexico’s famous postrevolutionary masters, including Diego Rivera, Jose Clemente Orozco and David Alfaro Siqueiros. Oct. 25-Jan. 8. 3600 Benjamin Franklin Parkway. \$14-\$20. 215-763-8100. philamuseum.org

## PHILADELPHIA OPEN STUDIO TOURS

Art connoisseurs and novices are invited into the workspaces of more than 200 established and emerging artists for an insider’s peek into how they work, and to purchase art directly from the artist. The Center for Emerging Visual Artists, sponsor of this event, says it’s the largest tour of artist studios and creative workspaces in the region, featuring sculpture, painting, ceramics, photography, textiles and more. This citywide event is so huge, it is divided geographically over two weekends; Oct. 8-9 and Oct. 22-23. 215-546-7775, philapenstudios.org



STEVE WEINIK

Philadelphia celebrates its outdoor arts scene in October.

## MURAL ARTS MONTH

An underused train trestle in Philly’s Rail Park re-emerges from the dark as a bustling public common, as its tunnels are illuminated to choreographed music. This visual and sonic mural installation is one of many vibrant events during Mural Arts Month (October). Throughout the month are open-to-the-public mural dedications, tours, bridge parties, block parties and other events, all commemorating the new murals being added to Philly’s famous, ever-growing landscape of outdoor art. October’s events are listed on Mural Arts Program website. 215-685-0750, muralarts.org

*For a full listing of fall arts events and activities in Philly: [visitphilly.com](http://visitphilly.com).*