

## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE September 19, 2022

Contact: Abby Becker, District Manager

Phone: 410-929-4362

Email: abecker@centralbaltimore.org

## The Ynot Lot in Station North Arts District Will Move to a New Location

We are saying goodbye to our beloved Ynot Lot, an outdoor venue space located in the heart of the Station North Arts District (SNAD), at Charles Street and North Avenue.

SNAD, a program of the Central Baltimore Partnership (CBP), has operated and managed the Lot since its creation in 2014. The Ynot Lot has been transformed into a beloved community space with mature trees, benches for relaxation designed by local sculptors, dusk-to-dawn string lights, and a stage for performances. Equally important, the Lot captures the cultural and artistic spirit of the Arts District and Baltimore and serves as a hub for social justice movements: Black Live Matters, LGBTQ+ rights, Baltimore Cease Fire, Harm Reduction, and AAPI solidarity.

Throughout the year, Station North rents the space for a nominal fee to major festivals, first-time event programmers, artists, and community members who program events including the Baltimore Pride Festival, Maryland Film Festival, Ratscape, Love Groove, the Baltimore City Health Department's National Overdose Awareness Week, Farm to Stoop food and resource distribution, Nu Luv Fest, and many more.

In a typical year, the Lot hosts over 100 events, ranging from small concerts and fashion shows to food giveaways and family gatherings. With the lease ending on September 30, Central Baltimore Partnership is working hard to identify a long-term home for the Ynot Lot along the Charles Street corridor in Station North.

"The Ynot Lot has been an invaluable treasure for the Station North Arts District. It has not only been a genuinely, intentionally, inclusive performance and event space, it has also been a hub for building community and a site for service to our most vulnerable community members. We are committed to finding another central site that can fulfill these key goals and we welcome input into this process," said Central Baltimore Partnership Executive Director Ellen Janes.

The Central Baltimore Partnership is working with the Friends of the Ynot Lot, a group of neighbors and community members who have acted as stewards for the 6,000-square-foot space, to conduct the search.



The Ynot Lot is managed by Station North Arts District, a program of the Central Baltimore Partnership.

Since 2014, SNAD has made \$60,000 in capital improvements to the Ynot Lot. Generous underwriters include: BGE, The Cheng Family, The City of Baltimore, the France-Merrick Foundation, Gensler, Johns Hopkins University, The Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development, The Neighborhood Design Center, North Avenue Marketplace and Mike Schecter, Urban Land Institute, PNC Bank, and The William G. Baker, Jr. Memorial Fund.