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**BALTIMORE SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS TO PRESENT
WORLD PREMIERE PRODUCTION AS PART OF
"IMAGINED WORLDS" PROGRAM, APRIL 17 & 18**

Nationally recognized artists collaborate on commissioned, mixed media project

Baltimore, Md. (December 17, 2014) – Imagination comes to life on stage as Baltimore School for the Arts (BSA) presents the world premiere of an interdisciplinary work, "Codex," on April 17 and 18, 2015, as part of "Imagined Worlds". The program, featuring 3-D video mapping, dance and live music, will also include student-created performances.

"The entire production is edgy and innovative, and the creative process has provided our students the opportunity to work alongside four artists at the forefront of creative work in NYC," said Dr. Chris Ford, Director of the Baltimore School for the Arts. "The team of artists and BSA students has worked together across art disciplines to develop something unlike anything we've done at the school before."

BSA alumnae **Nadia Sirota** ('00), producer, and **Katherine Fisher** ('97), choreographer, are working with composer **Marcos Balter** and art director **David Title** to create the groundbreaking piece, "Codex," inspired by Luigi Serafini's cult classic, *Codex Seraphinianus*. These nationally recognized young artists have been working, firsthand, with BSA students in developing "Codex," which tells the story of a set of twins combined by a conjurer, later released by a beautiful and mysterious priestess.

Based on the imaginary world created by the Italian artist, architect and designer Serafini, the 20-minute "Codex" features original orchestral and vocal music and dance as well as 3-D projection mapping, transforming BSA's Schaefer Ballroom into a spectacular sight.

In addition to "Codex," students will perform five short pieces in "Imagined Worlds." Created in the Center for Collaborative Arts & Technology (C-CAT), the student work will combine traditional artistic practice with state-of-the-art technology. The C-CAT opened at BSA earlier this year and is designed to inspire students to work across disciplines. Modeled on modern business incubators, the C-CAT features 16

workstations equipped with computers with advanced software from all arts-related fields. Both the technology, and the layout of the space itself, is specifically designed to foster collaborative work and link student experiences with the working world.

"At BSA, we provide our students with extraordinary academic and arts training to prepare them for success as creative adults," said Dr. Ford. "'Imagined Worlds' brings BSA students in contact with some of the leading young artists of today as well as providing space for them to collaborate and explore current technology in the arts."

Sirota, Fisher, Balter and Title will continue to visit the students over the course of the next four months to conduct workshops, to stage the production and to lead rehearsals.

Performances will take place on April 17 at 7:00 p.m. and April 18 at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at www.bsfa.org. Ticket prices are \$10 for students/seniors and \$15 general admission.

ABOUT BALTIMORE SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS

Baltimore School for the Arts is a nationally recognized public arts high school that provides its students with intensive pre-professional training in the arts in conjunction with a rigorous academic curriculum. BSA graduates go on to the most selective arts and university programs nationwide and achieve prominence in theater, film, music, dance and visual arts. Additionally, BSA's highly acclaimed TWIGS program offers free after-school arts instruction to 700 city elementary and middle school children from schools across Baltimore, as well as other outreach initiatives to thousands more. Founded in 1979, the school is celebrating its 35th anniversary this year as an integral and vibrant part of Baltimore's educational and cultural communities.

Baltimore School for the Arts, where the arts change kids' lives.