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NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE ARTS



THE **BIG
READ**

INSTITUTE of
Museum and Library
SERVICES



VOLT

To Mark the 200th Anniversary of Edgar Allan Poe's Birth VOLT Features Signature Menus

(Frederick, MD) – In partnership with Maryland's *Big Read* campaign, **VOLT (228 North Market Street; Frederick, Maryland; 301-696-8658; voltrestaurant.com)** is celebrating the life of Edgar Allan Poe with two special menus inspired by the great writer. On Thursday, October 29th, award-winning chef and *Top Chef* Season 6 contestant Bryan Voltaggio will prepare two select menus titled *Poe's Birth* and *Poe's Death*.

The first, *Poe's Birth* menu focuses on Poe's tumultuous childhood in Boston and includes New England-inspired cuisine, while *Poe's Death* menu captures the strange and tragic end of the author's life and feature signature Baltimore dishes. In addition to Voltaggio's innovative creations, the two menus will be complemented by distinct wine pairings, as well as craft cocktails featuring absinthe, a favorite of Poe's, a notorious drinker. A portion of dinner proceeds will benefit Frederick Reads, a collaborative effort among Frederick County Public Libraries and local organizations to foster a love of reading in the community.

Poe's Birth and *Death* menus are offered in conjunction with Joshua Kane's performance of *Tales of Terror: An Evening of Horror and Hilarity* at the Weinberg Center for the Arts. Nationally acclaimed performer Kane presents his chilling one-man tribute to Edgar Allan Poe giving center stage to the authors' writings of revenge, madness and despair.

Pre-theater dinner seating is available at 5:30 p.m. and post-theater dinner seating is available at 9:30 p.m. Joshua Kane will host a post-theater reception at VOLT following his performance.

In partnership with the Weinberg Center and Frederick County Libraries, dinner guests can also enjoy discount theater ticket prices offered for a 2-for-1 price of \$25. Along with theater tickets, guests will also receive an anthology of Poe's works courtesy of *The Big Read*. To round off the evening, the Marriott hotels are offering over-night guests discounted room at all of the Frederick Marriotts.

Throughout the month of October, which marks the 200th anniversary of Poe's birth, Frederick County will host over 25 events to honor the poet as part of *The Big Read* campaign. *The Big Read* is an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services and Arts Midwest. Locally, *The Big Read* is coordinated by Frederick County Public Libraries, the Weinberg Center, and Maryland public Television. For additional information, please visit www.neabigread.org.

Theater and dinner reservations can be made by calling VOLT at 301-696-VOLT (8658). To view the full menus and pricing please visit the VOLT website closer to the event date.

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