



***Pride of Baltimore II* Fact Sheet**
March 2023

On April 30, 2023 we will celebrate the 35th anniversary of the launch of *Pride of Baltimore II*.

Over the past 35 years, *Pride II*, has sailed more than 275,000 nautical miles, visiting 200 plus ports in 40 countries serving as an ambassador for the state of Maryland.

Pride Inc's mission is to promote historical maritime education, foster economic development and tourism, and represent the people of Maryland in every port she visits.

Each sailing year we spend part of the season locally in the Chesapeake Bay directly serving the residents of Maryland and part of the season outside of the Bay encouraging people from afar to visit our wonderful state.

In 2010 the ownership of the boat was transferred to Pride of Baltimore, Inc by the state of Maryland.

State funding for Maryland's Star-Spangled Sailing Ambassador has varied throughout the years. In 2018 the state legislature approved funding at the level of \$500,000 per year for five years.

Pride Inc's operating budget for 2023 is \$1,438,556. The operating budget in 2019 was \$1,088,396.

The state's funding provides donors (organizations and individuals) with the confidence that their support is well placed.

In 2018, Pride Inc committed to developing a strategic plan with the goal of identifying strategies that will diversify and increase funding. We have had great success in not only identifying strategies, but implementing them as well. A few highlights include:

- New partnership with the National Park Service, Department of the Interior to provide interpretation and experiences along the Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail to under-served communities
- Grant funding went from a single grant of \$90,000 in 2018 to receiving more than \$1,319,000 in a period of four years.
- New interpretive focus on the role of African-Americans (free and enslaved) in the maritime industry, especially as privateers.
- Development and implementation of a Pride of Baltimore Junior Sailor Scholarship program in partnership with Baltimore County, serving young people of color.
- Development of a guest crew internship program for young adults of color (18-21). Planning in progress with expected implementation of pilot program in 2024 and full program in 2025.