



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **EMP COLLECTIVE OPENS NEW ARTS SPACE IN DOWNTOWN BALTIMORE**



Photo by Devon Rowland



Photo by Carly J. Bales

**BALTIMORE, MD** – EMP Collective is eager to announce the grand opening of our new art space in downtown Baltimore, **EMP**.

On October 7, 2011, **EMP** will kick open its doors at 306 West Redwood Street with a gallery show by visual artist Nolan Cartwright. Stillpointe Theatre Initiative's new musical, *Shovel in the Dirt*, will debut on October 14. A free, weekly writing workshop, *Cans n Drafts*, will begin on October 25 and will continue on every Tuesday at 7pm thereafter.

EMP Collective is a non-profit dedicated to producing multi-media events through collaboration with artists from all backgrounds, across artistic media. EMP Collective hopes to nourish emerging artists with its new flexible incubator space, **EMP**.

This new multi-use arts venue is comprised of a rotating art gallery for developing artists that doubles as a rehearsal and performance space for theatrical and musical events, experimental collaboration, workshops, and film screenings.

EMP Collective's collaborative multimedia project, *Night Sweats*--an immersive dive into irrational fears--will open at **EMP** in January 2012. Upcoming events include gallery exhibitions by artists Craig Horky, Sara Barnes, Sara Moore, and Joshua Mikel.

**EMP** is located in the historic Faust Building in Downtown Baltimore. **EMP** is made possible by the generous efforts of The Downtown Partnership of Baltimore's *Operation Storefront*, which awarded grants to landlords, artists, non-profits, and entrepreneurs in an effort to revitalize Downtown..



## **ABOUT EMP COLLECTIVE**

Founded in 2010, EMP Collective is a mixed-media arts nonprofit uniting artists from different disciplines to create new works that challenge the traditional expectations of both audience and artist. EMP Collective's inaugural devised multimedia show, *WE'RE ALL GONNA DIE!*, debuted in Baltimore's Station North Arts district in January 2010. Revolving around apocalyptic themes, EMP Collective incorporated its "deadpan but curveball sense of humor" (*Baltimore City Paper*) into the collaborative work of writers, dancers, filmmakers, musicians, actors, and visual artists of *WE'RE ALL GONNA DIE!* Earlier this year, EMP Collective presented its second collaboration zeroing in on shared experiences of rejection and humiliation, (*...and you're just not good enough*), to Washington audiences.

## **ABOUT OPERATION STOREFRONT**

Operation Storefront is a revitalization initiative from The Downtown Partnership of Baltimore created to match local small businesses and arts organizations with vacant and underused commercial spaces in downtown Baltimore at significantly reduced rates. Over 100 organization proposals were whittled down to a dozen recipients, including EMP Collective, in January 2011. Operation Storefront not only connects these organizations with vital space opportunities but also provides up to \$10,000 in start-up capital in order to realize their winning proposals. With the help of Operation Storefront, local organizations are lighting up long-neglected spaces and bringing life back into them and the area.

## **ABOUT DOWNTOWN PARTNERSHIP OF BALTIMORE**

Downtown Partnership of Baltimore, is a non-profit corporation creating a more vibrant downtown community for businesses, property owners, residents, and employees. Through its many initiatives, Downtown Partnership improves Downtown's quality of life by increasing investment, retaining business, solving transportation challenges, improving parks and greenspace, and creating workforce development opportunities. For more than 25 years, these programs have been good for Downtown and good for Baltimore.

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