

Culture Days 2011 Activity Pre-registration is Well Under Way!

As of March 15, many throughout the country have put their stake in the sand and declared that they will be participating in Culture Days 2011! To date, activities have been registered in British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland and Labrador, in a wide variety of disciplines including Music, Dance, Literature, Film and Video, Culinary Arts, Visual Arts, Heritage, Multi/Interdisciplinary, Theatre and Architecture. Thanks to everyone who has already participated in the pre-registration campaign!

If you haven't already, pre-registering your activity is easy and free! Simply visit the Culture Days website, [log in or create an account](#) and submit the details for your activity. Don't worry; if you don't have all of your activity details locked down just yet, you can still pre-register your activity, simply list "TBD" in the fields where you still have to confirm your activity information. You can log back in later to update this information.

Pre-registration runs from March 15 to April 22, 2011. There are some great benefits to pre-registering your activity, including extra publicity and being featured in the national media launch later this spring.

[Pre-register your Culture Days activity today!](#)

Not sure how to pre-register? Check out this [blog post](#) for tips and tricks!

Canadian Arts Summit - Major Arts Organizations Playing a Leadership Role in Culture Days

This year's Canadian Arts Summit (CAS) will be held from April 1st to 3rd and will include a special panel and discussion about Culture Days. At the 2008 Canadian Arts Summit, in collaboration with a number of diverse stakeholders across the country, participants voted to initiate Culture Days to collectively engage citizens pro-actively in the arts and cultural lives of their communities. The Culture Days pan-Canadian movement is growing quickly and the first edition in September 2010 was, by all accounts, a major success. Many of Canada's large professional arts organizations participated in the inaugural Culture Days edition last year with innovative activities and initiative to support the movement. So, where do they go from here and what leadership role can major arts organizations continue to play in spurring on Culture Days?

During this moderated panel discussion, examples of what CAS organizations undertook for Culture Days 2010 will be shared, as well as what plans are underway for 2011 and how they see their role within their own community and with the public. The discussion will then open to the floor to hear from others about their experiences and plans for Culture Days 2011.

The panel will be moderated by the star of CBC's hit comedy, *Little Mosque on The Prairie*, Zaib Shaikh, who has worked throughout Canada as an actor, director and producer. Zaib has worked with some of the largest theatre companies in Canada including Canadian Stage, National Arts Centre, Globe Theatre, Grand Theatre and the Stratford Shakespeare Festival. When not working in film, television, theatre or radio, Zaib has traveled across Canada, and the world, speaking about the power of arts and the media as platforms for greater understanding between Eastern and Western cultures.



Upcoming Information Sessions

Every other Tuesday at 2 pm ET, until the Culture Days 2011 event taking place this year on September 30, October 1 and 2, **toll-free telephone Information Sessions are being held for anyone interested in learning more about how to participate in Culture Days 2011.** National and regional staff will answer questions and provide guidance to help you make the best of your Culture Days experience; from planning and connecting with others in your area, to promoting and presenting your activity. Hear from those who have already participated successfully and learn what others are planning - don't miss the opportunity to exchange with others who have joined the Culture Days movement!

Upcoming Sessions:

April 5, 2 pm ET - How libraries can participate in Culture Days 2011 as activity organizers, hosts or promoters

April 19, 2 pm ET - Independent artists and groups: showcasing your work during Culture Days and connecting with others in your area to create Culture Days "hubs"

[RSVP online](#) to secure your spot and receive dial-up information for these free telephone information sessions.



Recent Culture Days News and Highlights

Early birds! Meaford Museum has already started a running list of Culture Days 2011 activities: <http://ow.ly/4dGTP>

"Seen & Heard with Will McGuirk" in Durham Region and "the much ballyhooed Culture Days" <http://ow.ly/4dJSF>

Thanks Mrianichi ART Network for listing Culture Days. Great new resource for visual artists in New Brunswick: <http://ow.ly/4dJG>

Community Spotlight

The Canadian Arts Summit (read more above) has identified three ways for participating organizations to play a significant role in Culture Days: organizing exemplary participative Culture Days activities; providing community leadership; and delivering communications and promotional support for the Culture Days movement. In this edition of the Community Spotlight, read about three organizations whose activities during Culture Days 2010 showcased the impact that large arts organizations can have as leaders in the Culture Days movement.

The Rooms (St. John's, NL)

The Rooms is Newfoundland and Labrador's largest public cultural space, located in St. John's, Newfoundland. During Culture Days 2010, The Rooms opened their doors free of charge and formed an arts and culture hub for the community, hosting a wide range of activities including: [Creating Art in The Rooms Art Gallery Classroom](#), an exhibition which also featured behind the scenes tours with The Rooms' curators and staff and [Bollywood Jig](#), which featured dance performances, talks and film screenings by the members of [DanceNL](#).

Royal Winnipeg Ballet (Winnipeg, MB)

Canada's Royal Winnipeg Ballet participated in the 2010 Culture Days weekend with gusto when they opened their doors and invited the Winnipeg community to join an open house, block party extravaganza, in and around the RWB building. They organized [Dance Downtown!](#), an activity which featured live, outdoor performances, creative movement classes for children, face painting, arts and crafts, a costume and shoe try-on with the RWB wardrobe department, an inside look at a ballet class and a speaker's corner where participants could share their favourite RWB memories on video.

Luminato (Toronto, ON)

Luminato, Toronto's Festival of Arts and Creativity, showed multiple levels of leadership during Culture Days 2010 including participating in the [Uth Ink at Regent Park activities in partnership with the Playwrights Guild of Canada, \[murmur\] and Pathways to Education](#), a unique community arts program that engages youth in new play development. Luminato has also been an important Culture Days supporter in terms of the way it has leveraged its impressive communications infrastructure to endorse and get the word out about Culture Days via its promotional materials, website and social media channels.

Read this inspiring story (which appeared on the front page of the Edmonton Journal) about the many benefits of an arts-based education:

<http://ow.ly/4qrPN>



Mark Your Calendar for Culture Days 2011!

The second annual Culture Days event takes place September 30, October 1 & 2, 2011.



And start planning!

Start spreading the word and brainstorming Culture Days ideas for your organization or community. Check out the [list of activities that happened in your neighborhood in 2010](#) and talk to those who organized them; creating "cultural" hubs is a great way to collaborate and attract a large number of people to activities within your immediate vicinity. Browse the [blog](#) for tips and ideas on how to plan a great activity and get involved in 2011.



Share your Culture Days Story

Email [stories\[at\]culturaldays\[dot\]ca](mailto:stories[at]culturaldays[dot]ca) and upload your Culture Days photos to [Flickr](#). You can also post to the Culture Days [blog](#), add your comments, photos and videos to [Facebook](#) or [tweet](#) with the #culturaldays hashtag and we'll re-tweet your message.

Founders Circle



Lead Founding Visionary Partner



Founding Visionary Partner



Founding Visionary Partner



Founding Creator



Founding Donor

Media Circle



Founding Partners



Canada Council
for the Arts

Conseil des Arts
du Canada



The Banff Centre
inspiring creativity

Federal Government Support



Canadian
Heritage

Patrimoine
canadien

Inspiration



Culture Days was inspired by Journées de la culture
produced by Culture pour tous in Québec since 1997



[Forward to a Friend](#) ▶

You are subscribed as shevaughnbattle@culturedays.ca. You're receiving this because you've previously signed up to receive updates from Culture Days. If you'd like to unsubscribe, simply [click here](#).

©2011 Culture Days. All rights reserved.