



7,500+ free activities
900 cities & towns
one weekend

6TH ANNUAL CULTURE DAYS WEEKEND KICKS OFF ACROSS CANADA OFFERING THOUSANDS OF FREE ACTIVITIES ON SEPTEMBER 25-27!

Inspirational Success Stories Reflect Culture Days Impact

September 17, Toronto, ON – The 6th annual [Culture Days](#) weekend celebration featuring thousands of FREE activities in some 900 cities and towns kicks off September 25-27th! Culture Days is the largest arts and culture public participation event in Canadian history. While [statistics](#) provide mounting evidence that Culture Days is having a tremendous impact on individuals and communities across Canada, nothing communicates this more succinctly than listening to these [success stories](#) first hand:



The Culture Days annual weekend celebration weaves communities together across distances, artistic practices and cultural, social and economic backgrounds. From the visionaries at [Westbank First Nation](#) in BC who used Culture Days to unite their communities and are working to revive a language once on the verge of extinction, to [Pam MacKenzie](#), a woman from a rural Ontario region with extraordinary leadership skills who single-handedly mobilized artists, groups and cultural organizations to embrace the Culture Days opportunity and host over 64 activities, spread out over a massive area (13,000 km sq)!

“These incredibly inspirational success stories are really just a snapshot of all of the wonderful results and deeper engagement that we continue to see through Culture Days, year after year,” noted **Lucille Pacey**, President & CEO at Arts Umbrella and Chair of the Culture Days National Board of Directors. “We are thrilled that the astonishing level of commitment and passion from the volunteers and participants across Canada continues to pay cultural, social and economic dividends in such meaningful ways”.

THIS YEAR’S ACTIVITIES:

[Live Aerial Painting](#) in Vernon, British Columbia; a [Daybreaker Dance Party](#) in Kingston, Ontario and a [Deep Roots Music Festival](#) in Nova Scotia are just three of over 7,500 free activities expected to be offer over the Culture Days Weekend. From urban centres to regional cities or rural communities, Canadians can participate in activities large or small. Hosted by artists and cultural organizations of all types, and in collaboration with groups, business and institutions in their local communities, activities are often designed to engage the public in arts and culture in innovative ways. You can click [HERE](#) for a highlighted list of some of these exciting activities that are scheduled to take place over the September 25-27th weekend. To explore the full range of activities, you can also visit www.culturedays.ca and search for [activities near you](#).

PLANNING YOUR WEEKEND:

Once you are ready to plan your weekend, organizing which activities to participate in has never been easier. Simply use the [Culture Days Bright Spots Schedule](#) that is back again this year due to the generous support of Sun Life Financial, through it’s award-winning Making the Arts More Accessible™ program.

“Sun Life has been a long-standing supporter of Culture Days, a national event that brings arts and culture to millions of Canadians,” said Paul Joliat, Assistant Vice-President, Philanthropy and Sponsorships, Sun Life Financial. “We are thrilled to help provide inspiring experiences across our diverse and culturally-rich country”.

ABOUT CULTURE DAYS

Culture Days is committed to reaching the goal of having all Canadians in every community declaring "I Love Culture" and making culture a daily habit.

Founded in 2009, Culture Days is a non-profit organization dedicated to building a national network of cultural connections devoted to providing Canadians with opportunities to participate in, and appreciate, all forms of arts and culture. Through an annual three-day national celebration each September, hundreds of thousands of artists and cultural organizations in hundreds of cities and towns come together and invite Canadians to participate in free interactive and behind-the-scenes activities to discover their cultural spirit and passion.

As a leading national voice for the active and engaged cultural life of all Canadians, Culture Days provides support, tools and resources to a wide variety of artists and cultural organizations to help them unite the country through engagement in culture. Culture Days produces the only National Congress on Culture in a different Canadian city each year.

Partners

Culture Days was initiated by four Founding Partners: The Canadian Arts Summit, Culture pour tous (producer of Journées de la culture in Québec), Canada Council for the Arts and The Banff Centre. National partners are Sun Life Financial and The J.W. McConnell Family Foundation. National Broadcast Partner is Bell Media. National Creative Partner is BT/A. National Engagement Partner is the Canada Council for the Arts. Official Hotel Partner is Fairmont Hotels and Resorts. Federal Government support is provided by the Department of Canadian Heritage.

Provincial Partners are: Government of British Columbia, Government of Alberta, SaskCulture, Government of Manitoba, Manitoba Arts Council, Government of Ontario, Ontario Arts Council, Ontario Trillium Foundation, Government of Québec, Government of New Brunswick, Government of Nova Scotia, Government of Prince Edward Island, Government of Newfoundland & Labrador, Newfoundland and Labrador Arts Council and the Government of the Northwest Territories.

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