



The 3 most beautiful days in September!

Montréal, May 5, 2008 – What will be the three most beautiful days this coming September? For thousands of arts and culture enthusiasts the answer is obvious. They have marked their calendars with Friday 26, Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 of September: dates of the Journées de la culture 2008!

“For close to 12 years, at the end of each September thousands of artists, craftspersons and cultural workers have gathered to propose the Journées de la culture, a unique event in North America,” states Louise Sicuro, and she further emphasizes: “They invite us to join them in interactive activities, free of charge, that they have specially prepared for us. An invitation not to be missed!”

This year 350,000 to 400,000 persons are expected to heed the call throughout Québec. They will storm the studios, theatres, museums, libraries, art schools and other sites that will open their doors and provide a glimpse behind the scenes.

The public is thus invited to partake in cultural and artistic activities in order to discover the know-how, creativity and passion of thousands of Québec artists, craftspersons and cultural workers.

Youth

The youth section of the Journées is back. It will take place mainly on Friday with the participation of school groups. Teachers are invited to join their students in the activities.

The Intercultural Encounters

The Journées offer an exceptional opportunity to shine the spotlight on Québec’s artistic and cultural diversity. This year, the event once again proposes the *Intercultural Encounters*, a special program that highlights the contribution of immigrant and Aboriginal artists in the context of the Journées de la culture.

Last year, no less than 200 artists in 6 Québec regions responded to the call (Capitale-Nationale, Centre-du-Québec, Chaudière-Appalaches, Mauricie, Montreal and Outaouais).

Art at Work

For their part, companies and institutions are invited to the second edition of *Art at Work*, a program that welcomes professional artists into the workplace to create collective works in collaboration with employees.

The works produced are donated to the companies and may be unveiled during the Journées de la culture. Molson Canada, Plastiques Gagnon from Saint-Jean-Port-Joli, TD Meloche Monnex, Ubisoft - Studio de Québec and Ville de Laval have already confirmed their participation.

Free Shuttle Service

In Montréal, the free shuttle service will once again be operating to provide access to over twenty cultural sites on Saturday and Sunday from 11 AM to 5 PM. A shuttle service will most probably also be made available in Longueuil and in some other cities.

Online Program

The site www.journeesdelaculture.qc.ca will give access to the full program as of the month of August. It will allow for quick keyword-based searches to uncover the activities that are bound to stimulate an interest.

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