

## Culture Days returns with new, month-long format

**Sept. 23, 2020** — From the history of the Welland Canal to a vibrant and growing arts scene, there is no shortage of culture to celebrate in St. Catharines.

So much so that this year it will take a whole month to celebrate as Culture Days returns. The City is once again gearing up to participate in the Canada-wide celebration of arts and culture, that this year will expand from its traditional weekend-long format to encompass a whole month, from Sept. 25 to Oct. 25.

Every year communities across Canada participate in Culture Days, featuring hands-on activities inviting the public to participate in the cultural landscapes of their communities. This year will be no different, albeit with the introduction of more online events, and physical distancing measures for in-person events.

In St. Catharines a host of in-person activities are planned across the month, including, collaborative murals, painting, portrait drawing, print making, illustration, and textile / knitting workshops and activities.

For those who prefer to take in the city's unique cultural community online everything from drama games to improv to community play development to steel drum music to shadow puppets will be offered online.

On top of that the FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre and TD Niagara Jazz festival are will both offer series of free online performances and concerts, alongside the Foster Festival, Carousel Players, Chorus Niagara Children's Choir, and Essential Collective Theatre.

"Culture in our city is so diverse a month is hardly enough time to truly showcase how diverse and vibrant our community is," said Acting Supervisor of Cultural Services Kathleen Powell, adding, "with that said this year's expanded Culture Days lineup is a chance to take in the breadth of our cultural landscape, with events and activities for all ages, preferences and backgrounds. It's a chance for everyone, no matter who they are, to participate in the unique culture of their city."

This year the City is taking a focus on social diversity and inclusion in its lineup with featured LGBTQ2+ artists, special interest group participation and explorations of cultural traditions.

A complete lineup and further details can be found at [www.stcatharines.ca/CultureDays](http://www.stcatharines.ca/CultureDays). New activities will be added throughout the month so be sure to check back for updates.

**Contact:**

Kathleen Powell

Acting Supervisor, Cultural Services

[kpowell@stcatharines.ca](mailto:kpowell@stcatharines.ca)