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Rotary Centre for the Arts in Kelowna’s Culture District Offers Three Unique Summer Art Workshops

(Kelowna, BC) - As we emerge post-pandemic, the Rotary Centre for the Arts (RCA) is offering three unique art workshops for the community this summer for creatives that include a Teen Songwriting Workshop, a Stand-Up Comedy Intro Workshop, and an Emerging Choreographers Workshop.

Andrew Stauffer, Community & Education Program Coordinator for the RCA says, “As a multidisciplinary art space, we are committed to offering unique courses in a variety of disciplines. Each of these programs provides an opportunity for participants to bring their own creation to life, whether it’s a comedy routine, a song, or a choreographed dance.”

Freedom Arts Teen Songwriting Workshop

This summer, write a song in a five-day program that focuses on self-expression through song writing. This program is designed to engage, empower, and connect youth in a group collaboration, duo, or as solo performers. Through the process of songwriting, participants will creatively express their ideas and develop live performance skills. The program runs for five days from July 19 - July 23, 2021, from 4:30 pm to 7:30 pm.

Angela Roy, Songwriting Instructor, comments, “With the support of guest artists, teens and young adults can learn and explore basic aspects of songwriting, song arrangements, music genres, and lyrical approaches, as well as basic stage and sound techniques”.

Founder of Expression, Freedom Arts Programs, and Barefoot Caravan band, bilingual artist-educator, and recipient of the Prime Minister Award of Excellence, Angela has performed and taught throughout western Canada, Central and South America. She has worked for over a decade offering artists in residency programs to schools such as rhythm, dance, and songwriting programs, and has toured the festival circuit with her band. She has been featured on CBC TV RADIO, CHBC, Shaw TV, and the BC Co-op Radio station.

Emerging Choreographers Workshop

The Emerging Choreographers Workshop is a two-part workshop dedicated to mentoring dancers in the Okanagan who are interested in creating their own work. The workshop is designed in a way that the dancer is gently guided to explore their own artistic voice, gaining tools on how to create movement that translates into their own solo work. This workshop is for mature dancers ages 13+; dancers of at least an intermediate level with training in any style. The workshop is offered July 12-15 and September 11 and 12, 2021.

Lead Dance Educator, Melissa Sorge, says, “We are looking forward to bringing a new initiative to dancers in the Okanagan, where they can study their own movement patterns to create choreography unique to themselves. With this workshop, we hope to create a space for dancers to continue their artistic and professional growth in the Okanagan.”

Stand-Up Comedy Intro Workshop

Join a judgment-free community interested in exploring and honing their comedic skills. This workshop develops individual comedic performance skills together by writing and workshoping material for the stage. The series runs for four weeks, every Tuesday from 6 pm to 8 pm, July 6 - 27, 2021, and August 10 - 31, 2021.

The workshop is led by Kelowna comedian Kate Belton, who has been performing stand-up comedy since 2015 when she started in Vancouver and instantly developed a love for the art form. Kate comments, “If you’re always told you should try stand-up, or that you’re the “funny one” in the group, this class is for you”.

Kate has performed in comedy clubs across the country, showcased at Yuk Yuk’s in Vancouver, and recorded her first comedy album in Winnipeg in October 2019. Kate hosts the popular Cool Ranch Comedy show at Fernando’s, which brings in headlining comedians from all over Canada. Kate comments, “If you’re always told you should try stand-up, or that you’re the “funny one” in the group, this class is for you”.

For a full listing of teen and adult art workshops offered at the RCA this summer visit rotarycentreforthearts.com/learn

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About the Rotary Centre for the Arts

Located in the heart of Kelowna’s Cultural District, the [Rotary Centre for the Arts](http://rotarycentreforthearts.com) is a multidisciplinary visual and performing arts centre. The RCA continually strives to improve the economic, cultural, and social quality of life in the community by fostering participation in, and appreciation of the arts. As a world-class venue celebrating creative expression through diverse art forms and disciplines, the Rotary Centre for the Arts is a unique City of Kelowna facility in which individuals of all ages and backgrounds come together to share in the excitement of strengthening art and culture in the Okanagan. The Rotary Centre for the Arts respectfully acknowledges that it is located on the unceded, traditional territory of the syilx (Okanagan) people.