

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
September 9, 2020

## **BC Culture Days Invites the Okanagan Region to Experience Arts at Home and Across Canada in Expanded Virtual Celebration**

***Enhanced arts & culture event offers more diversity, more accessibility, and more FREE events and activities hosted both in-person and online***

**Kelowna, BC—BC Culture Days** announces a month-long series of engaging, interactive events taking place throughout the **Okanagan Region**—including **Kelowna, Lake Country, and Kamloops**—and across Canada at [culturedays.ca](http://culturedays.ca) from **September 25 to October 25, 2020**. Featuring a newly expanded line-up of free activities hosted across multiple platforms, BC Culture Days offers culture enthusiasts in the Okanagan Region, and beyond, a collection of diverse content designed to suit all levels of accessibility in the midst of a global pandemic. From registered, in-person workshops and self-guided tours to livestream presentations and digital recordings, BC Culture Days' 2020 edition will explore the 'unexpected intersections' of creative connection and artistic discovery.

"Artistic expression and creative curiosity are fundamental components of the health and vitality of our communities, especially as we continue to navigate the uncertainty of a global pandemic," says **BC Culture Days Manager Nazanin Shoja**. "I am incredibly proud of the dedicated, grassroots efforts of our many participating artists and community culture leaders who, like us, believe in the transformative power of the arts. We hope that by expanding this year's celebration to a full month and opening access to events taking place locally, provincially, and nationally, BC Culture Days can foster connection, understanding, and healing for an even greater number of British Columbians this fall."

To help further support widespread community involvement within the artistic process, BC Culture Days has selected five exceptional emerging artists from across the province to act as cultural ambassadors—raising heightened awareness and boosting participation in their own communities, coupled with virtually nationwide. Ambassadors will explore their distinct art form in unexpected ways, pushing traditional boundaries to discover new cultural understandings. For full artist biographies, visit [culturedays.ca/bc/2020ambassadors](http://culturedays.ca/bc/2020ambassadors).

BC Culture Days 2020 will officially kick off with a 45-minute virtual event on **Thursday, September 24, 2020, at 4pm PST, hosted by the City of North Vancouver** and spoken word poet [Andrew Warner](#). The cultural event will feature:

- Musical performances by JUNO Award-winning singer-songwriter [Alex Cuba](#), Vancouver sister duo [Harlequin Gold](#), [North Shore Celtic Ensemble](#), and Neo Afro soul singer-songwriter [Turunesh](#);
- Dance performances by North Vancouver's [AMED Dance Academy](#), Surrey's [VanCity Dance Team](#), and Tsleil-Waututh Nation's [Children of Takaya](#);
- Indigenous welcome ceremonies by **Dennis Thomas-Whonoak** and **Gabriel George** of **Tsleil-Waututh Nation** and **Orene Askew** of **Squamish Nation**;
- Messages from **former Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture Lisa Beare** and the **City of North Vancouver Mayor Linda Buchanan**; and
- Introductory video clips from all five ambassadors.

## **Featured BC Culture Days events taking place in the Okanagan Region include:**

### **KELOWNA**

[Downtown Kelowna Scavenger Hunt](#) | Sept. 25-Oct. 25 | Self-guided

[Digital Radio Play Series](#) | Sept. 25-Oct. 25 | Digital recording

[The Bird Who Forgot How To Sing](#) | Sept. 25, 7-8:30pm | Rotary Centre for the Arts, 421 Cawston Avenue

[The Kore Dance Project Demo](#) | Sept. 26, 6-6:45pm | Rotary Centre for the Arts, 421 Cawston Avenue

[Patio Painting](#) | Sept. 27, 1-3pm | Rotary Centre for the Arts, 421 Cawston Avenue

[Ballet Kelowna presents Launch](#) | Oct. 24, 2-3pm, 4:30-5:30pm, 7-8pm | Rotary Centre for the Arts, 421 Cawston Avenue

### **LAKE COUNTRY**

[In the Studio with Melany Nugent-Noble and The Lake Country Art Gallery](#) | Sept. 25-Oct. 25 | Digital recording

[In the Studio with David Alexander](#) | Sept. 25-Oct. 25 | Digital recording


[In the Studio with Deirdre Hofer and the Lake Country Art Gallery](#) | Sept. 25-Oct. 25 | Digital recording

[In the Studio with Liane McLaren and the Lake Country Art Gallery Part One](#) | Sept. 25-Oct. 25 | Digital recording

[In the Studio with Scott August and The Lake Country Art Gallery Part Four](#) | Sept. 25-Oct. 25 | Digital recording

### **KAMLOOPS**

[Code...Encode...Decode: A Subjective Soundwalk](#) | Sept. 25-Oct. 25 | Self-guided

Culture Days raises the awareness, accessibility, participation, and engagement of Canadians in the arts and cultural life of their communities. It is a collaborative movement dedicated to providing free, hands-on, and interactive arts and culture activities to cities and towns across Canada. 

**For more information on how to take part in BC Culture Days**—including livestreaming options as well as a revised registration system that supports a wider array of both in-person and online events and activities—or to sign up for the BC Culture Days newsletter, visit [culturedays.ca/bc](https://culturedays.ca/bc). For updates on BC Culture Days and the BC Culture Days ambassadors, please follow BC Culture Days on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), and [Instagram](#). Use Hashtags: #bcculturedays #unexpectedintersections #virtualexperiences #2020virtualcelebration #behindthescenes #DIYexperiences #CollectiveCreation #Excursions

BC Culture Days gratefully acknowledges the generosity of its funders, collaborators, and supporters:



**About BC Culture Days ([culturedays.ca/bc](https://culturedays.ca/bc))**

BC Culture Days is administered through the Society to Bridge Arts and Community (Bridge Society), a registered charitable organization that has a mandate to promote awareness of arts and culture by establishing bridges between the general public, the private sector, arts organizations, and individual artists. Bridge Society staff work together with a volunteer provincial task force and steering committee, municipalities, and numerous community arts and cultural organizations to coordinate plans for the Culture Days weekend. For 2020, a revised registration system now supports in-person events, livestreamed events, digital recorded experiences, and self-guided activities. The Culture Days website will act as a promotional platform for creators to showcase thousands of virtual and in-person activities.

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