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For immediate release:

Spoken Word Icon Shane Koyczan Takes the Stage at the Rotary Centre for the Arts

(Kelowna, BC, Nov. 21, 2025) – The Rotary Centre for the Arts (RCA) is thrilled to present world-renowned slam poet Shane Koyczan live in the Mary Irwin Theatre on Friday, December 6, 2024.

Shane Koyczan, a globally acclaimed spoken word artist, poet, and author, has captivated audiences worldwide with his powerful performances. He rose to international prominence at the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver, BC, delivering his iconic poem *We Are More* during the Opening Ceremonies. In 2013, his impact grew further when he collaborated with animators to create the viral anti-bullying video *To This Day*, which has since garnered over 25 million views on YouTube.

Theatre Programming Director, Andrew Stauffer says, “Through his powerful presence and adept use of language, Shane Koyczan explores loneliness, loss, healing, and the miracles that life gifts us. His work is humorous, tragic, sometimes serene, and always steeped in raw emotion. Although his poetry is born from his personal experience, Shane creates a poetic world anyone can enter and explore. He is truly an Okanagan treasure.”

Koyczan’s artistry extends beyond the stage, earning him victories in both the USA Slam Poetry Competition and the Canadian Spoken Word Olympics. In June 2024, he released his latest poetry collection, *Barely Amazing*, which has critics once again singing his praises. A collaborator with renowned artists like Ani DiFranco, Dan Mangan, Tanya Tagaq, and more, Koyczan has helped elevate the art form of spoken word from its roots in after-hours cafes to prestigious stages around the world. His authenticity resonates deeply with audiences, as seen in his powerful TED Talk, where he shares the raw humanity that defines every performance he delivers.

Expect to be part of a night filled with raw emotion, thought-provoking insights, and moments of connection as Shane Koyczan takes the stage. His ability to weave humour, vulnerability, and humanity into his performances promises an unforgettable experience for all who attend.

Rotary Centre for the Arts

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Don't miss this chance to see one of Canada's most celebrated spoken word artists live at the Rotary Centre for the Arts in Kelowna.

Tickets are on sale now.

Ages 30 and under receive 30% off

To purchase tickets, visit: <https://rotarycentreforthearts.com/events/event/177002/>

To learn more about theatre memberships, visit: <https://rotarycentreforthearts.com/get-involved/become-a-member/>

For more information about Shane Koyczan, visit: <https://www.shanekoyczan.com/>

About the Rotary Centre for the Arts

Located in the heart of Kelowna's Cultural District, the [Rotary Centre for the Arts](#) is a multidisciplinary visual and performing arts centre. The RCA improves the economic, cultural, and social quality of life in the community by fostering participation in, and appreciation of the arts. The RCA brings together individuals of all ages and backgrounds to share in the excitement of strengthening art and culture in the Okanagan celebrating creative expression through diverse art forms and disciplines. The Rotary Centre for the Arts respectfully acknowledges that it is located on the unceded, traditional territory of the Syilx/Okanagan People.

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