



May 12, 2008

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Did you know...

May 12 is Manitoba Day! The Association of Manitoba Museums is celebrating this with events throughout the province – perhaps in your community. Check out <http://www.museumsmanitoba.com/news/2008-05-12.html>

Manitoba Showcase Contact 2009!

Brochures were out to our members in the 1st week of May as advance notice. Check website for updates and registration form – www.communityarts.mb.ca.

Opportunity for rural performers

We are looking for rural performers for two noon hour shows - July 15 & August 12 at an outdoor venue near Portage & Main. We will contract the selected performer for each show at \$1000, including travel & tech. Preference will be given to performers in our current or 08/09 Performing Arts directory. If you know of a performer we should contact, contact us ASAP. We have just been given a deadline date of May 19 for maximum promotion. Sponsored by Creswin Properties/Canwest Place, Exchange District Biz and the Manitoba Arts Network.

For more info, contact Lydia or Dean at (866) 919-2787 or info@communityarts.mb.ca.

Interesting Events...

Duke of Edinburgh Award to rural Manitoba Youth

Premier Doer announced that Prince Edward will be in Manitoba in early June to present gold awards of achievement to young Canadians at a special ceremony in Winnipeg with many of the recipients coming from rural & northern communities including Lynn Lake, Virden, Selkirk & Gimli.

Call to Rural-based Writing Groups!

As of July 1, 2008, rural-based established writing groups (three individuals or more) may apply for program funds from the Manitoba Writers Guild to be used for any of the writing activities such as:

- writing workshop series,
- short-term writer in residence,
- writer's speaking fees,
- tuition to attend a writing retreat

For more information, criteria or application form, please contact Robyn Maharaj at 1-888-637-5802 or director@mbwriter.mb.ca.

Good news for Manitoba Libraries

The province will increase support to libraries by over \$700,000 in Budget 2008. Over \$300,000 of this includes direct, ongoing assistance to rural and northern facilities for new technologies, enhanced services and improved public access.

The province will also double the grant available for library establishment to \$10,000 to encourage greater municipal participation.

That's it for now!

Lydia Giles, Administrative Director