

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 14, 2008

Arts and Culture Week Highlights from Saanich to the Queen Charlottes

This Arts and Culture Week, which takes place April 20-26, over 300 schools and arts councils across BC are hosting arts activities, gallery walks, exhibitions and live performances. Now in its 9th year, this celebratory week focuses on the joyful and important contribution that arts and culture make in educational and community life.

Here are just a few of the events going on across the province.

TERRACE TO THE QUEEN CHARLOTTES

Metaphor on Tour, April 21-24

A dynamic group of hip-hop artists will inspire student audiences from Terrace to Massett during Arts Week. Their intelligent and heart warming lyrics, freestyle raps, body-rocking, beat-boxing and audience interaction combine in a high energy show that deals with real-life issues and focuses on critical thinking, self-reflection and community engagement. At various schools from April 21-24. Contact: ArtStarts at 1.888.878.7144

SAANICH

Celebration of the Arts, April 26, 11am to 4 pm

Stretch your artistic skills. Discover the world of visual and performing arts. Give your imagination free play. Join Saanich's Arts, Cultural and Heritage Advisory Committee at its 12th annual Celebration of the Arts. Experience hands-on art activities for all ages: pottery, arts and crafts market, entertainment, demonstrations and much more. Takes place at Cedar Hill Recreation Centre. Special Guest Artist Fenwicke Lansdowne will make an appearance from 1-3 pm. Contact: Anna Haney, 475-7124

HORNBY ISLAND

Traces, April 22-24

Traces explores the history of Hornby Island through the arts. School children will create and print oral histories, then attach these to full-sized representations of Sockeye salmon made from metal and decorated in holographic materials and paint. These will be hung around the island using swivels and line as memories of times past, and maintained for the summer visitor season. Children will also receive postcard-sized fish images which they will decorate and include a personal message reflecting some aspect of island life to be mailed to other children around the province. Hornby Island Community School, Arc Gallery, island-wide displays. Contact: Hornby Island Arts Council, 250-335-1360

KALSLO**45 Books in 45 Minutes**, April 26

An open house at the public library to celebrate arts and culture through book reviews. Nine voracious readers will discuss five "must read" books in one minute per book. This fast-paced event challenges the reviewers to perform. The audience, equipped with a pencil and a list of the 45 titles, will be entertained and enlightened by the adults, teens and local writers on the review panel. Refreshments will follow. Contact: North Kootenay Lake Arts & Heritage Council at 250-366-4623

PEMBERTON**Community Sourced Sculpture Project**, April 24-26

The goal of the project is to bring students and youth together to create a permanently installed sculpture in the Art Park. Groups will have two days to gather lost, found, old and new, scraps of metal found on their property, along roadsides or from barns, old vehicles and equipment. These objects will be transformed into one vision by community members and sculptors David Pann and Matin Dahiden who are known across BC for their collaborative work. Takes place at the Art barn. Contact: Pemberton Arts Council, 604-894-5558

For info or a complete list of events, visit www.bcartswk.ca

Contacts: Jeanne Ross, Assembly of BC Arts Councils (250) 754-3388
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BC Arts and Culture Week is coordinated by the Assembly of BC Arts Councils and ArtStarts in Schools, and is sponsored by the Province of British Columbia through the British Columbia Arts Council.