

For Immediate Release

Cambridge's 18th Annual Mill Race Festival Offers New Youth Showcase in the Line Up

Cambridge, Ontario. July 21, 2010...Inspired by European traditional folk music and dance events, the Mill Race Festival of Traditional Folk Music in downtown Cambridge is back this year with a new twist: there's a showcase of youth talent in the mix.

The much anticipated free festival brings to the stage local and internationally renowned performers who are selected by the Mill Race Folk Society events committee to reflect a most diverse and entertaining mixture of musical cultures. Last year more than 10,000 people attended the event.

Slated for Friday July 30th to Sunday August 1st, the festival offers entertainment on several outdoor stages in the downtown Galt area. There's a variety of opportunities for the community to enjoy the folk music extravaganza on Friday from 7:00 pm to 11:00 pm, Saturday from 1:00 pm to 11:00 pm, and Sunday from 1:00 pm to 11:00 pm.

Themed around traditional forms of folk music and dance, the festival emphasizes various cultures present in Cambridge and the surrounding area. Arts, crafts, and an excellent choice of food and refreshments are also available onsite.

"There will be a special reserved area for children this year, with its own unique program of music, dance, clowns, crafts and other fun things that make it a must see," says The Mill Race Folk Society Committee Chair Brad McEwen. "The new feature Youth Showcase offers young musicians an opportunity to gain performance experience." McEwen commends the 100 volunteers who help make the experience a success.

Highlights of the program include:

Friday July 30th, concerts at **Mill Race** (corner of Park Hill Road and Water Street N. in the amphitheatre) and **Civic Square** (50 Dickson Street) stages 7:00 -11:00 pm. Additionally, concerts will happen at **Café 13** (13 Main Street) in the second floor Galt Room from 8:00 pm – 11:00 pm.

Concert performers include: Zorba, Orchid Ensemble, Leigh Cline Pontic Music Group, Rallion, Richard Grainger, The Runes, Enoch Kent, Malinky, Norm Tellier & Tom Nunn, Ian Bell & Geoff Somers, and Cairdeas.

Saturday July 31st, there will be workshops at **Mill Race Park** (corner of Park Hill Road and Water Street N.) and **Civic Square** (50 Dickson Street) stages from 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm and concerts will be offered between 6:00 pm – 11:00 pm.

At the **Children's Stage** at Water Street (corner of Park Hill Road and Water Street N. adjacent to the park in the parking area) entertainment runs from 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm. An Acoustic Tent will happen in **Market Plaza** (40 Dickson Street) from 1:00 pm – 8:00 pm.

Following this, the Youth Showcase & Open Stage performances are slated for 6:00 pm - 7:30pm; and the Breton Dance (a lively traditional folk dance with its roots from Brittany) happens at 8:00 pm - 10pm.

There are also concerts at **Main Street Stage** (corner of Ainslie and Main Streets) from 1:00 pm – 8:00 pm, and at **Café 13** (13 Main Street) in the second floor Galt Room from 8:00 pm – 11:00 pm. Singaraounds will take place at **Euphoria Café** (20 Dickson) from 1:00 – 7:00 pm.

Evening concert performers include: Norm Tellier & Tom Nunn, The Runes, Enoch Kent, LightofEast, Richard Grainger, Mailinky, Ian Bell & Geoff Somers, Dave Ruch, Chris Coole & Arnie Naiman, Anima Fado, Cairdeas, Finest Kind, and Tethera.

Sunday August 1st, look forward to workshops in **Mill Race** (corner of Park Hill Road and Water Street N.) and **Civic Square** (50 Dickson Street) stages from 1:00 – 5:00 pm, concerts from 4:00 – 11:00 pm This wraps up at 10:00 pm at the Civic Square stage.

Pub Sessions at the **Golden Kiwi Pub** (47 Dickson Street) from 1:00 pm – 11:00 pm, and listen or participate in Singaraounds at **Café 13** (13 Main Street) in the second floor Galt Room from 1:00 pm – 7:00 pm, concerts from 8:00 pm – 11:00 pm.

The **Children's Stage** (corner of Park Hill Road and Water Street N. adjacent to the park in the parking area) will offer entertainment from 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm. An Acoustic Tent will happen in **Market Plaza** (40 Dickson Street) from 1:00 pm – 8:00 pm.

Evening Concert Performers include: Anima Fado, Finest Kind, Dave Ruch, Cairdeas, Tethera, Ad Vielle Que Pourra, Malinky, Leigh Cline Pontic Music Group, LightofEast, Orchid Ensemble, Rallion, Richard Grainger, The Runes, and Zorba.

Road Closure Notice

Please note that **Dickson Street will be closed to traffic between Ainslie and Wellington Streets** as of 12 noon on Friday July 30th, and will reopen on Monday August 2nd. **Main Street will be closed between Ainslie and Water Streets** from 6:00 am – 11:00 pm on Saturday July 31st.

The Mill Race Folk Society www.millracefolksociety.com is a part of the Grand River Folk Community.

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About the Mill Race Festival

The Mill Race Folk Society is a non-profit, registered charity and its purpose is to host folk music events in the area of Cambridge, Ontario, Canada.

The main event staged by the Society is the annual Mill Race Festival of Traditional Folk Music (July 30 - August 1, 2010), which is a free admission event that has been held since 1993.

The festival's focus is on traditional forms of folk music and dance from a variety of cultures. Because it was inspired by similar events held in the United Kingdom, a significant part of the content is British and Irish music. However, an equally significant number of acts represent a variety of world cultures and the multinational character that is Canada today.

www.millracefolksociety.com

About Cambridge

The City of Cambridge is one of the fastest growing areas in the country. It is strategically located astride highway 401 in Southwestern Ontario, part of Canada's Technology Triangle. In 2009, the population reached over 126,000 people. With a multicultural mix and a strong foundation of support services, Cambridge has a diverse economic base with leading industries in advanced manufacturing, automotive, high technology, pharmaceutical, business and financial services and hospitality/retail. The Corporation of the City of Cambridge is an employer with a progressive work environment that offers the opportunity to provide service to the community through creativity and innovation, and with opportunities for career growth and advancement.

About the Corporation of the City of Cambridge

The Corporation of the City of Cambridge is a dynamic organization filled with dedicated people who deliver vital municipal services to you. Services that residents, businesses, visitors and people like your family and friends enjoy. We're a comprehensive team of professionals: engineers, financial specialists, skilled trades, administrative experts, customer service, communications - and the list goes on.

We're proud to be part of the systems that bring you the array of services that citizens in Cambridge need:

- Parks and recreation
- Activities and programs like pools, seniors' centres, community centres, arenas and other facilities
- Sports programs and all the needs related to playing fields, like indoor soccer, baseball diamonds and other amenities
- Events
- Farmers' Market
- Cemetery services
- Road programs
- Leaf pick up services
- Winter maintenance services
- Water and sewer services
- Fire, emergency and related services
- By-laws and enforcement
- Tax administration
- Licensing for businesses, lotteries, marriage, dogs, and other services like applications for birth, death and marriage certificates, notarizing or commissioning of documents
- Archival research
- Economic Development and business support programs
- Tourism support to share opportunities to showcase the festivals and help bring visitors in to support retail and other elements of the economy
- Administration of committees, steering groups and advisory groups
- Planning and development services
- Traffic and parking services
- Ensuring the best security, police, transit, garbage, water processing service, utilities, animal control are in place.
- Libraries and galleries
- Centre for the arts
- Accessibility matters
- Council services including things like supporting the up coming needs of our residents for the Oct 2010 municipal elections

It's a multitude of services and we continue to refine and review them to ensure we deliver the services in the most effective, efficient, and proactive ways.

In 2010 we are undergoing a corporate service review. This is a further check and balance system to seeking improvements - like better technologies to simplify processes or realigning how we operate. The comprehensive review is happening this year with a view to providing a report to Council for consideration. The report will be available by year end and will be addressed by the newly elected council for the 2011 budget.

For more information on the area or the corporation visit www.cambridge.ca

The City of Cambridge press room is located at

http://www.cambridge.ca/the_office_of_the_chief_administrative_officer/corporate_communications_marketing

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