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For Immediate Release

## Cambridge Centre for the Arts Launches 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations

Cambridge, Ontario. June 2, 2011...It has been a decade this month that the Cambridge Centre for the Arts at 60 Dickson Street first opened its doors with a ribbon cutting ceremony performed by then Mayor Jane Brewer. To celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary milestone, the centre will be hosting a series of free arts events and programs for the community throughout the year.

"We wanted to give back to the people who have participated with us on this amazing creative journey over the last 10 years. Our patrons, along with the artists and performers, make this a lively and exciting place to be," says Gwen Stott, Area Recreation Manager.

The celebratory program brings back former Artists-in-Residence experts to engage people in the arts through various offers such as free concerts, talks, special events and exhibitions. The series is sponsored by the Cambridge Arts Guild, a vibrant group of dedicated volunteers who work to enhance the diversity and quality of arts in Cambridge (<http://www.cambridgecentreforthearts.ca/page.php?id=136>).

The first event is the **Mad Hatter's Tea Party** in Civic Square on **Saturday June 18th, 9:30 am-12 noon** with host knitter and 2010 Artist-in-Residence Sue Sturdy. Knitters, sewers and crochet lovers are invited to wear a favourite hat; enjoy tea, coffee and delicious baked goods; participate in games and contests; and see a Mad Hat Fashion show. There is even an element planned to help decorate a giant top hat that will be showcased in the Civic Square for two weeks following the activity. The event is happening during 'World Wide Knitting in Public Week'.

Other Artist-in-Residence series events include:

### Stories I Have To Tell

The 2009 Artist-in-Residence Gary Kirkham will be working with local teens to develop and perform short dramatic pieces based on their experiences of being new to Canada and living in Cambridge, **July 4-9th**, in partnership with the YMCA and MT Space. Please join us for a free performance on **Saturday July 9th at 7:00 pm**.

### DanceBits

Dancer and former Artist-in-Residence Michele Hopkins and associate dancers will perform short dances at the Cambridge Farmers' Market on **Saturday September 18th, 9:00 am-12 noon**. Enjoy a bit of dance while perusing the market for fresh veggies.

### Local Colour

Artist Christopher van Donkelaar will talk about creating art using pigments made from local geological materials on **Thursday September 22nd, 7:00 pm**. He will explore subjects such as what a painting made from Cambridge rocks look like, and does a place have a local colour.

#### The Pen and the Sword

As a lead up to Remembrance Day, poet Nancy Morrey will host a free workshop for young people ages 14-19 who wish to learn more about writing poetry with themes of war and conflict. Slated for **Saturday October 22nd, 10:00 am-2:00 pm**, the event will include Poets and veterans. As lunch is included, pre-registration is required.

#### My Face of Cambridge

Artist Heather Franklin invites Cambridge citizens of all ages, backgrounds and artistic ability to submit a self portrait to be on display in City Hall on November 19th-December 23rd. Workshops are planned if you think all you can draw is stick people! Entry guidelines are available at [www.cambridgecentreforthearts.ca](http://www.cambridgecentreforthearts.ca)

#### Concert with Amber Morphy and Friends

This event promises to be a highlight with the Centre for the Arts' first Artist-in-Residence in late November. More details will be posted online about this event.

To wrap up the celebrations, there's an important event planned on **Saturday October 1st from 11:00 am-2:00 pm** that will also be a part of the 'National Culture Days' weekend. Visitors will interact with artists and performers at the arts centre to try their hand at a multitude of creative activities including belly dancing, Zumba, African drumming, watercolour painting, paper sculpture, and painting still life with acrylics. In addition, several artists will be demonstrating their art forms and answering questions from the public.

"The venue will be brimming with creativity," says Arts Coordinator Sophie McCann. "So come discover your creative side at the Cambridge Centre for the Arts."

The Cambridge Centre for the Arts has seen steady growth in participation over the years. In 2010, more than 10,000 people participated in programs at the centre.

More information on these events, as well as the Cambridge Centre for the Arts, please visit [www.cambridgecentreforthearts.ca](http://www.cambridgecentreforthearts.ca).

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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 2010, the population reached over 130,000 people with a multicultural mix and a strong foundation of support services. Cambridge has a diverse economic base with

leading industries in manufacturing, automotive, high technology, pharmaceutical, business and financial services and hospitality/retail. The Corporation of the City of Cambridge is an employer with a work environment that offers the opportunity to provide service to the community through creativity and innovation, and with opportunities for career growth and advancement.

For more information on the area or the corporation visit [www.cambridge.ca](http://www.cambridge.ca)

The City of Cambridge press room is located at <http://www.cambridge.ca/pressroom>

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