

#OnBeat at the Aurora Cultural Centre

By Jane Taylor
Communications and Events Manager
Aurora Cultural Centre

Culture Days is an annual weekend-long series of free activities across Canada that takes place the last weekend of September. This celebratory event fosters, promotes and affirms the value of diverse arts and cultural expression through a variety of participatory experiences for the whole family to discover new arts forms in a welcoming and inclusive environment.

This year, the national theme for Culture Days is #OnBeat, and the Aurora Cultural Centre has taken up the challenge. Designed as a collective drumming and rhythm-inspired event reaching across the country, the Centre has teamed up with York Region's Shaw Percussion to offer a Global Beats Petting Zoo on Saturday, September 29 from 1 ? 4 p.m.

Drumming together builds a sense of community. It is a primal and ancient form of self-expression that promotes working together in a group as you listen to each other in the creation of the beat. Valued as a widely accessible musical activity for all ages and abilities, it is universally acknowledged as a healthy practice for mind, body and soul. During this afternoon, we invite you to discover and try out percussion instruments from around the world; drums such as djembes, ashiko, bodhran, Indigenous drums, kponlogo, marimba, kalimba, tambourine, clave, as well as all types of shakers; udu, doumbek, washboard, daf, guero, and wooden spoons. In addition, we'll have a set of 20 djembes (or you can bring your own!), and invite you to participate in an introduction to drum circle at 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. This is a free event that is open to all ages and abilities. Come and fall in love with drumming together as a community.

Meanwhile, out on the front lawn, our partners from the Aurora Historical Society will be hosting Heritage Games for all ages from 1 ? 4 p.m. This will be accompanied by a family-friendly heritage craft project indoors.

We look forward to welcoming you to a fun, family-friendly and interactive afternoon with a lively series of free events. Look for your Culture Days Passport in the September 20 edition of The Auroran to discover the variety of free arts programming throughout Aurora today!

For further information, visit auroraculturalcentre.ca.