



Up The Arts still has plenty of fun in the tank

The Up The Arts August artstravaganza resumes Wednesday with a full lineup of theatre, music, art, kids fringe, busking, food, drink and fun.

Up The Arts kicked off in downtown Sault Ste. Marie Aug. 9 and wraps up Sunday, Aug. 19. It's a joint project of the Arts Council of Algoma and the Fringe North International Theatre Festival. The Fringe North stage lights go up again Wednesday through Sunday, with most productions at the Windsor Park on Queen Street East. Shows hosted by Fringe North can be unusual and edgy but are always affordable, with ticket prices \$12 or less. Artists keep 100% of the box office.

For those who missed them, there will be chances to see Tim Murphy's *Life is Not a Drag*, Ryan McFarling's *Placebo Effect* and Sarah Gartshore's *Streetheart*.

Shows opening in this latter portion of Fringe include Lake Superior State Theatre's *Building the Wall*, an LSSU student show *Wakey Wakey* and two productions by Theatre in Motion: *Moments in Algoma* and *The Writer's Den*.

The Writer's Den workshops a different play at different stage of development on each of its three nights, with the audience serving as director.

For times, tickets and other details, go to fringenorth.ca.

Rounding out the theatre lineup are a story corner with Grup the wanderer Friday at 10 a.m. at the main library, *Stories and Creation* with author Joanne Robertson Saturday at 11 a.m. at the Sault Museum and an authors' reading Saturday at 1 p.m. at the Windsor Park.

Samson Books, a curated bookmobile, will be at the Windsor Park Wednesday from 5 to 10 p.m. and at the Roberta Bondar Pavilion Thursday evening.

Fringe is partnering with the Picnic Society to host a lunch Friday from noon to 1 p.m. at the pavilion. Bring a brown bag lunch or purchase one at the food tent, then chow down with your friends and neighbours.

Meanwhile, the arts council's music stage keeps humming along at the Bondar Pavilion and vicinity. Thursday there's a Digital Creator Jam aboard the Museum Ship Norgoma, probably something the old vessel has never seen or heard before.

Also Thursday there's an Algoma All-Star Jam Session at the pavilion, hosted by Christina Coutu. Missed a musical act that performed earlier? You might catch it at the Jam or at Sunday's finale.

On Friday the pavilion boasts Madii Schomogyi Lime, Hannah Lindsay, Karl and the Prodigy juggling duo, The Great Chamberlin and The Elements.

Saturday it's Jeff Hinich, Britta Wolfert, Mister Tahti, country star Crystal Shawanda and Mustang Heart.

Sunday features Jackson Reed, poetry from Corey Marques, Karl and the Prodigy juggling and an all-star finale featuring musicians who performed during Up The Arts.

Go to fringenorth.ca or pick up a program for the full schedule.

There's a food tent at the pavilion daily and a beer tent next to the stage Thursday from 7 p.m. to midnight and Friday and Saturday from noon to midnight.

Something new in the visual arts comes to the pavilion Saturday — a Graffiti Wall competition. Between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. graffiti artists are invited to paint a wall panel. All supplies are provided by the arts council and there is no entry fee. A public vote will decide the winner. The arts council's Art Crawl continues. Grab a map and check out artists' work at various locations throughout the city, such as the Norgoma, the museum and library, the Downtown Association, John Howard Society, Windsor Park, Canadian Border Services and 180 Projects.

There's a full list at ssmarts.org.

Artist Brenna Tomas holds a meet-and-greet Wednesday from 2 to 3:30 at the Windsor Park. But don't forget the kids. Kids Fringe resumes Friday to Sunday with costume play and kids crafts outside and on the MS Norgoma.

Kids can board the ship and have their picture taken with a pirate and a mermaid provided by the arts council, a popular addition this year.

Kim Raven shares her passion for creating traditional indigenous arts at the Kids Fringe Friday through Sunday. And on Friday, Youth Odena deploys the cardboard for its popular Box Fort, helping kids decorate and assemble the structure.

Everything at Kids Fringe is free.

The Arts Council can be reached at: email info@ssmarts.org, phone 705-945-9756, website <http://ssmarts.org/>
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