ELAN presents Arts Alive! Québec

Successful multi-region arts festival returns for 4th exciting year MUSIC | THEATRE | VISUAL ART | DANCE | STORYTELLING | FILM | WORKSHOPS | FAMILY FUN



Where Quebec arts and culture comes alive from June to September

For **Arts Alive! Québec**, six Quebec regions band together to create a lively summer festival series. Take advantage of the season – enjoy day trips to pretty Québec towns or local area artists

MONTREAL, May 2018 ● For the fourth consecutive year, the English Language Arts Network (ELAN) celebrates Arts Alive! Québec, a province-wide cultural festival featuring Quebec artists in six different regions, with performances and activities for the whole family from June through September. The six regions are Hudson, Huntingdon, Knowlton, Quebec City, Wakefield and the West Island/Montreal. Letters of ongoing support were instrumental in the series' return.

Some communities focus around a main venue and its environs, others transform the entire town. Programming is highly individual, reflecting local tastes, arts and cultures. There's something different to experience and savour at each region's event, from local artists and visiting headliners to children's shows, dance, theatre, literary activities, storytelling, visual arts, loads of music and artisanal products. On offer are indoor and outdoor events for all ages, including hands-on creative activities led by professional musicians, theatre artists, dancers, filmmakers and craftspeople. Through the universal language of art, **Arts Alive! Québec**'s inclusive, family-friendly atmosphere builds bridges between English-speaking and French-speaking communities. Many events are **free**.

Arts Alive! Québec is masterminded by ELAN Executive Director **Guy Rodgers**. For Rodgers, the festival is about bringing together everyone in the community who shares a love of the arts, "This successful and entertaining festival is the perfect summer experience—enjoy high quality local arts and guest artists that are uniquely Québec, along with showcasing fabulous, creative neighbourhoods, performance centres and green spaces."

Every region has a story; the artists are eager to welcome people from across the province to share it. Rodgers is grateful for the coveted, ongoing funding, "We are thrilled that the Department of Canadian Heritage's Quebec regional fund decided to support Arts Alive! Québec for a fourth year. The value of this project to regional communities, as well as to artists, was clearly demonstrated by the dozens of letters of support that accompanied ELAN's grant application." he explained. First out of the gate is Hudson, May 27-June 3, with a multitude of inspiring events in and around Hudson Village Theatre. Huntingdon announces their summer events with a 5 à 7 on June 5 at Grove Hall.

Communities celebrating the arts and artists celebrating communities

Programming details are yet to be revealed however regional dates have been set for the six ideal family destinations.

- May 27-June 3: <u>Hudson</u> (Hudson Village Theatre, 28 Wharf Road, and surrounding area)
- July 8: <u>Huntingdon</u> (Grove Hall, 165, rue Châteauguay, JOS 1H0)
- August 3-5: Knowlton (various venues & locations)
- August 3-4: Quebec City (Morrin Centre, 44 Chaussée des Écossais, G1R 4H3)
- Sept. 7-8: Wakefield (38, ch. de la Vallée de Wakefield, JOX 3G0)
- Dates TBA: West Island/Montreal (various venues and locations)

For the fourth year running, CBC is a proud media sponsor of **Arts Alive! Québec**, and the communities are looking forward to hosting CBC journalists as presenters at a number of events.

About ELAN

ELAN (English-Language Arts Network) is a not-for-profit organization that connects, supports, and promotes Quebec's English-speaking artists and arts communities. Its members include artists and organizations representing a multitude of artistic disciplines and regions of Quebec. ELAN's philosophy is inclusive, encouraging an evolving Quebec identity that recognizes French as the public language and celebrates social, cultural, and artistic diversity.

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If you would like to interview ELAN Executive Director Guy Rodgers or any other Arts Alive! Québec participant- Media Contact: Janis Kirshner jkirshner@sympatico.ca



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