

WHAT TO EXPECT @ the OSFX

Fort Simpson-Liidlii Kue

Please visit the Village of Ft Simpson Website: www.fortsimpson.com or <http://spectacularnorth.com/> . The Open Sky Creative Society strongly encourages visiting artists & musicians to learn about the history & culture of our home.

Performers

Musicians & other performers who participate in the Open Sky Festival 2010 will be allotted a specific performance time (please see performance schedule). Performance times may be change due to unforeseen circumstances although every effort will be made to keep the performance schedule as originally drafted.

Please note that no-show performers or performers who fail to appear for their allotted performance time wave all performance fees.

Performers are asked not to book themselves for performances at other non-Open Sky Festival venues in Fort Simpson for the duration of the Open Sky Festival (June 25^h-27th, 2009). Failure to comply will result in forfeiting of compensation for travel, accommodation, & meals, and will cause serious detriment to future invitation to the Open Sky Festival.

Any special technical needs must be arranged prior to the festival dates & must be confirmed in writing.

Artists & Craftspeople

Visual artists & craftspeople who participate as exhibitors at the main Open Sky Festival venue should expect to have a diverse selection of festival audience members. All ages, backgrounds (local residents, visitors from around the NWT, Canada, & the world), & various levels of visual arts knowledge can be expected, so be prepared to speak with & educate audience members about yourself & your work!

Fort Simpson Arts Walk artists are presenting work separate from the Open Sky Festival throughout the village of Fort Simpson. Arts Walk maps will be available closer to festival dates.

This year the main Open Sky Festival Visual Arts Showcase will compose of two parts.

June 26th, 2010:

The visual arts will be presented on the Saturday of the festival from 1:00pm-5:00pm at the LKFN Papal Flats at the Drum Circle in conjunction with the Open Sky Festival outdoor performance program. Tables for exhibition will be made available for those who have indicated they wish to do so on their registration form. This is an outdoor venue. Artists should plan to set up their table displays before noon. Participants who have questions or concerns should contact the OSCS office prior to arriving in Fort Simpson. **Work that is sensitive to the elements should not be exhibited on this date** (there will be a limited amount of shade).

June 27th, 2010:

The visual arts will be the focus of the festival on Sunday June 27th. The visual arts showcase will take place in the Village of Fort Simpson Recreation Centre Gymnasium. Set up will begin @ 11:00AM. The Venue will be open from 1:00pm-5:00pm. Please note there will be performances & speakers in the community hall section of the Recreation Centre.

Since the Open Sky Festival does not take commission on work sold by artists at our event, individual artists will be responsible for the sales and supervision of their own work. Although there will be general venue security on the premise they will not be able to 'guard' individual artist's displays. Generally artists & craftspeople will be provided with a table & display board (as needed).

There is a \$15 registration/table fee for artists exhibiting at the festival (if you have enclosed a \$15 registration fee with your application form, this will be noted & you will not have to pay on the day of your arrival). Please bring any hardware, tools, & other supplies required to set up the presentation of your work.

*Any special technical needs must be arranged prior to the festival dates & must be confirmed in writing.

Workshop Facilitators

Individuals who are designated as workshop facilitators in the Open Sky Festival will be expected to facilitate workshops for up to 10 people. Participants will be reflective of the diversity of festival visitors. If you are facilitating a workshop you should expect to see beginners, other artists, and everyone in between. In special cases there will be workshops that are geared towards specific audiences & skill levels.

Artists and craftspeople should approach their workshops with the goal of public education. This is especially true for traditional craftspeople whose work is often undervalued in the marketplace and whose specialized labour skill is often unappreciated.

Workshop facilitators will be responsible for providing materials & any tools required for their workshop. Any special technical needs must be arranged prior to the festival dates & must be confirmed in writing.

***Please See the *Workshop Procedures* document.**

Demonstrators

Individuals who participate as demonstrators in the Open Sky Festival will be designated as such in their contracts. Demonstrators are those artists who agree to be engaged in their craft at the festival. The purpose is to educate the viewing public on the process & other ideas behind your work, and serves as a great tool for getting people interested in your practice as an artist. Generally demonstrators are also exhibitors who are working at a table in front of or beside their displayed artwork.

Unlike a workshop facilitator demonstrators are not expected to provide tools and materials for viewers to 'try' your craft.

Registration Table

The Open Sky Festival Registration table is where you will check in at the festival and pay any outstanding registration fees. This is also where you will receive payment for services rendered (after 5:00pm on Sunday June 27th, 2010). We also offer a vending table service which will be at the same location. If you wish to sell CD's or books through the registration table the Open Sky Creative Society will take a \$1 service fee from every individual unit sold. (Original artwork will NOT be sold through the registration table.)

Travel

Travel arrangements to the Open Sky Festival are generally made by participants themselves. If you require alternate arrangements such a car-pooling with another festival participant please contact the Open Sky Creative Society office as soon as possible. If you are able to bring another participant with you from your community this would be greatly appreciated. The Open Sky Creative Society generally will not book air travel for participants (with the exception of artists from the communities from which road travel would be unreasonable). Air travel must be negotiated and agreed to via contract prior to the Open Sky Festival.

Accommodations

Accommodation arrangements are made on a case by case basis. Please inform the OSF office if you require accommodation in Fort Simpson during the festival.

Payment of Fees

All fees & compensation will be paid on Sunday June 27th, 2010 after 5:00pm after services have been rendered. Compensation will only be paid once all services have been rendered, and check release forms are signed by festival participants. (Please go to registration table.) Walk up performers/artists are welcome to participate at the festival, but should not expect any form of payment for their participation at the Open Sky Festival.

Volunteerism

The Open Sky Festival is made possible by volunteers! The Open Sky Creative Society welcomes festival volunteers from the Dehcho, the greater NWT, & beyond! If you are interested please contact the Open Sky Creative Society Office for a volunteer registration form or download it from our website. Volunteers who put in 4 hours or more are provided with a complimentary festival tshirt & free admission for the Saturday Night Event. Volunteer's names are also put into a draw for various prizes.

For more information please do not hesitate to reach us at the Open Sky Creative Society Office:

Box 575 Fort Simpson NT X0E 0N0

Phone/Fax: (867) 695-3005

Email: open_sky_society@yahoo.ca Website: www.openskyfestival.ca

Other: <http://www.myspace.com/openskycreativesociety>