# YOUR GUIDE TO THE HOTTEST & COOLEST **FESTIVALS** & Special Events



2017 SUPERGUIDE for SUMMER and FALL FESTIVALS AND EVENTS in TORONTO, GTA and SOUTHERN ONTARIO



Canadian National Exhibition

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Photographers Aline Sandler, Tom Sandler, Joey Cee, Lenore Farrell

Cover and CNE Photos Courtesy of The Canadian National Exhibition

> Website Design DesignSource

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HOToronto Digital Magazines are published on-line by JCO Communications Inc., 5405 Durie Road, Mississauga, Ontario. L5M 2C8 Tel: 905-593-1608 Fax: 905-820-9512 E-mail: HOToronto@rogers.com

#### TorontoOnDemand.com

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Summer/Fall 2017 V.1 On Line Edition



### From the editor



### Canada's 150th Birthday Celebrations Evident at all Festivals and Events this Summer!

Joey Cee, Publisher & Editor

HAPPY BIRHTDAY CANADA! We've already enjoyed six months of festivals and great events celebrating Canada's 150th Birthday, and as this special year continues ....

HOToronto Magzine is celebrating, too! It's our 23rd year. For more than two decades we've been covering festivals and other entertaining events, keeping you informed about what's happening in the city and throughout the GTA.

As part of our celebration, we're offering a host of new online magazines -- GALAvanting Magazine, CURTAINS UP and SHOWS & EXHIBITIONS -- that are downloadable and free to subscribers.

To catch the latest version of our current online magazines (HOToronto Magazine and HOT & COOL FESTIVALS), which are updated periodically, look at the top of the page for the issue code or for a new cover. Or, simply go to www.TorontoOnDemand.com and click on "Festivals" to link to the new online magazines.

If you have a Festival you want listed, please send the details of your event to hotoronto@rogers. com. We will do our best to post it in a timely manner to get the word out.

Best wishes for a safe and enjoyable summer ...



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## SUMMER/FALL FESTIVALS GUIDE 2017

#### July 3 - 23 SALSA IN TORONTO FESTIVAL

St. Clair Ave. West, Hillcrest Village, between Winona Dr. & Christie Ave *salsaintoronto.com* 

The Salsa in Toronto Festival promises to be one of the largest Latino-themed cultural celebrations in Canada. The three week festival is filled with music, dance, food and family fun. This free event allows salsa lovers from near and far to explore Latin culture and take part in non-stop dancing in the streets!

#### July 5 - 16 FRINGE FESTIVAL "TORONTO'S THEATRE FESTIVAL"

Various Locations *fringetoronto.com* 

The Fringe Festival is the largest theatre festival in Toronto. More than 145 stage productions from across Canada and the world gather in downtown Toronto to showcase their art. With over 30 venues in Toronto. there is truly something for everyone. All performances are under \$12 so finding the next Broadway hit won't break the bank. Performances include everything from dramas and musicals to comedy and improv. Special programming is also included for families at FringeKids! With free entertainment, phenomenal shows and food venues, this is truly a festival you don't want to miss!

#### July 7 - 9 TASTE OF LAWRENCE FESTIVAL

Lawrence Avenue East, Birchmount to Warden

tasteoflawrence.com

Scarborough's largest street festival hosts a cultural flavour experience from every community in the Toronto area. Join more than 200,000 locals and tourists as they enrich themselves in the diversity and multiculturalism of the Wexford Heights BIA and the Scarborough community. Spend three days exploring beautiful flavours and heritages from across the globe. With over 130 street vendors and exceptional international food options, you're sure to find your new favourite cuisine. Take a break between meals with midway rides and two live entertainment stages.

#### July 7 - 23 SUMMERLICIOUS 2017

Various restaurants in Toronto toronto.ca

Spend two weeks visiting over 200 restaurants across Toronto, tasting food made by Toronto's finest chefs. Indulge yourself in mouth-watering meals from around the world, all while staying in Toronto. With exceptional *prix fixe* prices and three-course dining, your 2017 summer has never looked tastier.

#### July 7 - 30 29TH BEACHES INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL

Queen Street East & Woodbine Park beachesjazz.com

Celebrating its 29th year, the Beaches Jazz Festival promises to be a worldclass event. This international festival is host to an annual audience of one million jazz lovers from across the globe. With performances by newcomers and favourites, there is sure to be something for everyone. This celebration of music features a dynamic roster, multiple stages and gourmet food to keep up your energy. The best part, all performances are free!

#### July 8 - 9 AFROFEST

Woodbine Park afrofest.ca

Since 1989, Afrofest has been a Toronto tradition and the largest free African music festival in North America! With performances focused around the culture and sounds of Africa, this weekend long event promises to be amazing. Relax while listening to the seasoned performers on the main stage and dance the night away to local drumming groups. Take a stroll through the marketplace for food, arts, crafts, and the children's creative village, all while diving into rich African culture and music in the heart of Toronto.

#### July 8 - 9 13TH ANNUAL TD SALSA ON ST. CLAIR

St. Clair Ave. West (between Christie St. & Winona Dr.) salsaintoronto.com The TD Salsa on St. Clair Festival started as a local two-day event and has grown into one of the largest Latin festivals in Canada. The 13th annual event transforms a stretch of St. Clair Avenue West into Canada's hottest salsa party.

#### July 9 ALBION ISLINGTON FUSION OF TASTE FESTIVAL

Albion Islington Square *fusionoftaste.com* 

This free event has more than 100 artists and will showcase the diversity of the Albion Islington BIA. With creative and tasty food provided by more than 60 vendors, live music and children's games, this promises to be a day of multicultural fun for everyone.

#### July 9 T.O. FOOD FEST

Chinese Cultural Centre tofooffest.com

As a way to promote Toronto's diverse population, T.O. Food Fest celebrates culture through cuisine with the help of established and aspiring chefs.

#### July 11- August 7 50TH TORONTO CARIBBEAN FESTIVAL

Various Locations

torontocaribbeancarnival.com Prepare to be amazed by the colours, lights, costumes, music and experience that is the largest cultural festival of its kind in North America. the Toronto Caribbean Festival! People from around the world travel to Toronto each year to celebrate the Caribbean in this world famous festival. 2017 marks the 50th anniversary, so this year promises to be bigger and better than ever before. Check out all the amazing events happening throughout the four weeks of the festival, including the parade, annual ball, showcases, street dancing and more!

#### July 13 – August 5 TORONTO SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL

Koerner Hall and other venues torontosummermusic.com

The Toronto Summer Music Festival is the most highly anticipated classical music event of the year. In celebration of Canada's 150th, this year's festival will explore the sounds of Canada and feature the country's world-renowned classical performers. Acts include violinist James Ehnes, soprano Soile Isokoski and a tribute to beloved Canadian pianist, Anton Kuerti. There will also be international artists, masterclasses, lectures and free outreach concerts.

#### July 15 - 16 45TH FESTIVAL OF INDIA

Sherbourne Common *festivalofindia.ca* With a brand new festival space, and celebrating its 45th year, the Festival of India is sure to amaze. This two day, free festival will kick off with a euphoric parade down Yonge Street and continue with acclaimed music, dance and drama performances. A bustling South Asian Bazaar, exhibits on ancient spiritual culture, traditional face painting and outdoor yoga, are only a few of the many diverse activities to partake in.

#### July 19 - 20 CBC KIDS' DAYS

**CBC** Building

The free, kid focused event brings two days of activities, arts and crafts, and live performances by fan favourites of CBC Kids. The whole family is invited to take over the CBC building for two days of fun and excitement!

#### July 20 FEEDBACK INNOVATION/EXPERIMENTAL FILM FESTIVAL

Carlton Cinemas *wildsound.ca* 

The best alternative short films from around the world! The line-up this year includes short films from Brazil, France, Iceland, Italy, Norway and many more. This pay-what-you-can film festival is a perfect way to spend a night with friends and see something new.

#### July 20 - 23 10TH TORONTO BURLESQUE FESTIVAL

Revival Bar & MOD Club Theatre torontoburlesquefestival.com The 10th Annual Toronto Burlesque Festival is returning to the Revival Bar and MOD Club! Four days of sizzling performances, parties and talent from across the globe, promise to excite and impress everyone! Explore the world of burlesque at this star studded, talent infused festival!

#### July 21 - 22 BOLLYWOOD MONSTER MASHUP

Mississauga Celebration Square bollywoodmonstermashup.com One of Mississauga's largest South Asian festivals is back for another year of celebration and culture. Join the festivities at Mississauga's Celebration Square, for the Canadian premiere of international Bollywood performers and world class music. This diverse event showcases Mississauga's strong South Asian population with performances by Bollywood stars, KidZone activities, a Monster FoodFest, shopping and more!

#### July 22 KREATIVE KIDS ART FEST

Mississauga Valley Community Centre makeartwork.co

With a variety of contests, prizes, games and music, this creative festival is perfect for working kid's imaginations!

#### July 22 - 23 BIG ON BLOOR FESTIVAL

Bloor Street (Dufferin to Lansdowne) bigonbloorfestival.com This two day summer event presented along car-free Bloor Street is sure to be fun! Join up to 100,000 people as they celebrate local arts and culture, while enjoying community activities, displays and exhibitions. There's something for everyone!

#### July 22 - 23 15TH FESTIVAL OF SOUTH ASIA

Gerrard India Bazaar BIA, Gerrard Street East Get to the Festival of South Asia for an authentic cultural experience, reflecting Indian, Afghani, Pakistani, Bengali and Sri Lankan cultures. Enjoy dancing, fashion shows and live entertainment. Major attractions include the Bollywood Pop-Up Museum and the Culture Alley.

#### July 23 YOUTH DAY TORONTO 2017

Yonge-Dundas Square youthdayglobal.com/toronto/ Youth Day Toronto is a free day dedicated to celebrating and showcasing the art of young people across the country. With some 40,000 visitors, Youth Day is a day full of entertainment with two stages, a street market and gallery devoted to the music, dance, art, photography, fashion and film of Canada's youth. Join the festivities in the heart of downtown Toronto at Yonge-Dundas Square, and share in the celebration of positive achievements. "BE PART OF IT!"

#### July 23 14TH BRAZILFEST TORONTO

Earlscourt Park brazilfest.ca

The rhythms of Brazil will be celebrated at this multicultural event that showcases Toronto's diversity with high-quality performers and bands. Get a taste of Brazil with traditional Brazilian-style foods and have fun with the whole family in the dedicated family area. A range of music and dance from across Brazil will be featured to satisfy all tastes and celebrate the rich culture of Brazil!

#### July 27 FEEDBACK FANTASY & STAR WARS FAN FICTION FESTIVAL

Carlton Cinemas

wildsound.ca

The Feedback Fantasy & Star Wars Fan Fiction Festival is all things fantasy! Fans of Star Wars will love this night of short films by a variety of filmmakers from around the world.

#### July 27 - 29 29TH BEACHES INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL STREETFEST

Queen Street East (Woodbine to Beech) *beachesjazz.com* Streetfest is a staple of the Beaches



International Jazz Festival, showcasing the finest in Swing, Big Band, Dixieland, Smooth, Fusion, Afro-Cuban and Soul sounds. With over 45 bands entertaining the crowds, music enthusiasts from near and far gather to celebrate and groove to the music.

#### July 27 - 30 TIRGAN FESTIVAL

Harbourfront Centre *tirgan.ca* 

Tirgan is the largest festival celebrating Iranian arts and culture in the world. Occurring every two years, Tirgan is back for another four days of live performances, traditional cuisine and beautiful art work. With more than 200 artists and over 100 performances, this multicultural event is sure to be a hit for everyone.

#### July 28 - 30 TORONTO'S FESTIVAL OF BEER

Bandshell Park, Exhibition Place *beerfestival.ca* 

Toronto's Festival of Beer not only celebrates the finest brews but also Canada's rich brewing history. With more than 300 brands to choose from, you're sure to find a new favourite! This age 19+ event also features a main stage with daily performances, a grilling tent with tips and tricks and the World of Beer Pavilion.

#### July 28 - 30 COLLINGWOOD ELVIS FESTIVAL

Various locations in Collingwood collingwoodelvisfestival.com The Collingwood Elvis Festival is a salute to the legendary career and life of Elvis Presley. Spend the weekend with family and the world's most celebrated musical icon. Have a fun summer trip to historic downtown Collingwood.

#### JULY 29 - AUGUST 17 CNE HORSECAPADES

Exhibition Place

theex.com

The CNE's Horsecapades is back for another year of magic and fun. This event is for the young and young at heart, as you explore the world of horses! An interactive program includes learning about horses, direct interaction with horses and more!

#### August 3 10th HART HOUSE CRAFT BEER FESTIVAL

Hart House Quad harthouse.ca

The 10th Annual Hart House Craft Beer Festival is a Toronto beer lover's dream! The festival features only the finest in Canadian craft breweries, as well as BBQ. With each ticket purchased, you get eight beer-sample tickets, a take-home sapling glass and a plate of BBQ.

#### August 3 - 13 SUMMERWORKS PERFORMANCE FESTIVAL

Various Locations summerworks.ca

The SummerWorks Performance Festival is perfect for some late-summer fun, as it showcases the work of both up-and-comers and seasoned veterans. The festival features 52 unique projects over the 11 days, as well as artist workshops, performance experiments and nightly parties. Come and celebrate art at various locations across the city!

#### August 4 - 7 TORONTO FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL

Woodbine Park canadianfoodtruckfestivals.com/toronto

Better grab some napkins, because this summer never tasted so good! From August 4th to 7th, Woodbine Park will be full of the best food trucks around! Grab a must-eat and enjoy entertainment by Toronto's best local talent and live-eating challenges.

#### August 4 - 7 ISLAND SOUL

Harbourfront Centre harbourfrontcentre.com Head down to the water for some Island Soul! Experience the rich legacy of Caribbean music, while moving to the beat of reggae, soca and calypso music. This event has become a pivotal part of the Toronto music scene!

#### August 4 - 7 SCARBOROUGH RIBFEST

Thomson Memorial Park

#### scarboroughribfest.com

This foodfest is sure to get your taste buds going as you chow down on delicious ribs, hot dogs, corn on the cob and more! While you enjoy a rack of ribs, partake in the midway rides, skill-testing games and karaoke competition. Take a stroll through the beer garden or get some shopping done at any of the many vendor tables.

#### August 5 VOICES OF VICTORY MUSIC FESTIVAL

Yonge-Dundas Square voicesofthenations.com The Voices of the Nation Christian Music Festival is sure to inspire with this year's theme being Voices of Victory. Listen to and participate in concerts all day that celebrate believers from all cultures! This free event features local artists. Attendees can enjoy dancing, singing and learning about Toronto's rich Christian music diversity.

#### August 5 - 6 VELD MUSIC FESTIVAL

Downsview Park veldmusicfestival.com The party begins at VELD Music Festival! The electronic music festival has brought in huge headliners such as Zedd, Major Lazer and Future. Tickets are for both days, and VIP packages can be purchased. Grab your dancing shoes and be prepared to wear them out, as you'll be dancing all night long!

#### August 5 - 6 MUSLIMFEST

Mississauga Celebration Square *muslimfest.com* MuslimFest celebrates the best in

Muslim-Fest celebrates the best in Muslim arts and entertainment. The event features some 80 local and international artists who showcase their talent in various areas. In addition, there will be comedy shows, a multicultural bazaar, a kid's carnival, and more!

#### August 5 - 7 THE PIRATE FESTIVAL

Marden Park, Guelph, Ontario *thepiratefestival.com* With a new location of Marden Park, the Pirate Festival is sure to be exciting for the whole family! Become a pirate for a day and explore the vast activities featured at the festival, which include kids' activities, bouncy castles, archery and more! With performances, magic shows, live music and food and drink, this is a perfect way to spend a summer weekend!

#### August 6 - 7 JAMBANA ONE WORLD FESTIVAL

Markham Fair Grounds torontoreggae.ca

The Jambana One World Festival will feature both Canadian and international reggae artists who will keep you entertained all day. Experience the globe through the sights, sounds and tastes at this huge festival featuring reggae, soca, jazz, gospel and many more music styles.

#### August 7 8th ANNUAL OVO FEST

Budweiser Stage

OVO Fest is the event of the year! Drake's been celebrating his hometown since 2011 and always brings in the hottest artists of the year. Headliners include PartyNextDoor, DVSN, Majid Jordan and Roy Woods. This concert is sure to impress your friends!

#### August 7 - 13 DUSK DANCES

Withrow Park

duskdances.ca

This outdoor dance festival brings the world of dance to your own backyard. With high quality performances from all dance styles throughout the park, there is something new to see around each corner. All dances are inspired by the natural environment and audiences are encouraged to pay what they can. This is not only an artistic event but a social and cultural one!

#### August 10-13 BOOTS AND HEARTS MUSIC FESTIVAL

Burl's Creek Event Grounds Oro-Medonte, Ontario *bootsandhearts.com* Calling all cowboys and cowgirls! The music festival brings the country vibes to just north of the GTA in Oro-Medonte. Featuring both international stars and up and comers, this three-day event is filled with excitement. From concerts all day to parties all night, this summer camping trip is the perfect way to spend your summer. The line-up for 2017 includes, Luke Bryan, Keith Urban, Brett Eldredge, Eli Young Band and more!

#### August 10 - 13 12th KULTURA FILIPINO ARTS FESTIVAL

Nathan Phillips Square, OCAD and other locations in Toronto *kultura.ca* 

The Kultura Filipino Arts Festival brings together the Filipino community and invites everyone to learn about and celebrate Filipino culture and history. This four-day event features live performances, traditional and modern cuisine, interactive art and a marketplace.

#### August 10 - 13 FERGUS SCOTTISH FESTIVAL & HIGHLAND GAMES

Fergus, Ontario fergusscottishfestival.com The 72nd Fergus Scottish Festival & Highland Games celebrates local Scottish heritage in the small and beautiful town of Fergus, Ontario. With a ton to do and see, it will feel like you have travelled to Scotland! Kids' activities, dance lessons, live Highland dancing, singing, the Highland Games, and all the kilts will transport you into Scottish culture. Don't forget to try the haggis!

#### August 10 - 13 JERK FEST – JERK FOOD FESTIVAL

Centennial Park, Etobicoke *jerkfestival.ca* 

Head on down to Centennial Park in Etobicoke for four days of non-stop fun! Feast on savoury jerk food while jamming out to the many performers throughout the festival. With kids' activities and a selection of vendors and displays, this is family friendly event!

#### August 11 - 12 TD MOSAIC SOUTH ASIAN HERITAGE FESTIVAL OF MISSISSAUGA

Mississauga Celebration Square

#### mosaicfest.com

The 12th Mosaic South Asian Festival brings the biggest line-up ever. With the festival theme being Ekta (oneness and Unity), Mosaic is celebrating Canada's 150th birthday in style with over 200 individual artists and performers on two stages. The Rising Star musical competition featuring young artists will be back. And you can enjoy some tasty food as you watch the performances.

#### August 11 - 13 HABARI AFRICA FESTIVAL

Harbourfront Centre harbourfrontcentre.com The Habari Africa Festival is a multidisciplinary music and arts event that showcases the diverse culture of Africa. Enjoy a weekend of African musical performances, workshops, art and food.

#### August 11 - 13 ROUNDHOUSE CRAFT BEER FESTIVAL

Roundhouse Park

craftbeerfest.ca

The Roundhouse Craft Beer Festival, hosted by Steam Whistle Brewing, is perfect for sampling Ontario's finest craft brews and tasting delicious meals from Toronto's best food trucks. Stop by for a relaxing weekend of good beer and good food.

#### August 11 - 13 TASTE OF THE DANFORTH

Danforth Ave. East tasteofthedanforth.com

Travel down to GreekTown on the Danforth for three days of culture, cuisine and contests. Join the thousands of people from around the world who flock to GreekTown for this renowned festival. Break some plates, play some games, explore the sportszone and taste the delicious food offered by a variety of vendors. You and 1.65 million annual attendees can become Greek for a Day!

#### August 12 - 13 PAN AMERICAN FOOD AND MUSIC FESTIVAL

Yonge-Dundas Square *panamfest.com* The 5th Pan American Food and Music Festival returns for another

## LABOUR DAY WEEKEND



## **RIBS I BEER I RIDES I GAMES I LIVE MUSIC**

PRESENTED BY

DOWNSVIEW PARK - TORONTO FRIDAY SEPT. 1ST SATURDAY SEPT. 2ND SUNDAY SEPT. 3RD MONDAY SEPT. 4TH WWW.DOWNSVIEWPARKRIBFEST.CA year. This is Canada's only annual free event that celebrates the Western Hemisphere's rich diversity of cuisine, music and art! Help encourage and explore the growing cultural identity of Canada and the 40 other countries of North, Central and South America and the Caribbean. Experience the food, music and dance that this energetic festival has to offer.

#### August 16 - 20 20TH MARKHAM JAZZ FESTIVAL

Main Street, Unionville markhamjazzfestival.com The Markham Jazz Festival is back again for their 20th anniversary! This free event presents all the best that jazz has to offer with a variety of venues featuring new and experienced jazz artists. Attendees can also experience world class performers, such as Juno-nominated Barbra Lica, for an extra cost.

#### August 16 - 20 AFRICAN FASHION WEEK TORONTO

Royal Ontario Museum *afwt.ca* 

Head to the beautiful Royal Ontario Museum for one of Canada's most recognized fashion shows. The weeklong event dedicated to celebrating achievements in the African Fashion Industry, presents the latest pieces by up-and-coming fashion students as they showcase their work alongside industry professionals.

#### August 17 - 19 SAIL-IN CINEMA

Sugar Beach

sailincinema.com Sail-in Cinema is the only place in Toronto where you can view the best movies on the world's first floating screen. Grab your friends and popcorn for an epic movie night on Lake Ontario. This free event lets viewers watch their favourite movies from the water or land. Gates open at 6:00pm and the movies start at 8:45pm. Arrive early for the best seats!

#### August 18 - 19 WHEELS ON THE DANFORTH

Oakridge Park, Toronto wheelsonthedanforth.ca

The Wheels on the Danforth Festival kicks off with a free movie in the park on Friday, followed by the car show on Saturday. This family friendly event includes cars galore, kids' zone, live stage performances and more. Perfect for a late-August activity.

#### August 18 - 19 MISSISSAUGA ITALFEST: FERRAGOSTO IN THE CITY

Mississauga Celebration Square mississaugaitalfest.com Experience Italy at Mississauga Celebration Square with music, dancing and food! Top Italian performers, emerging Italian-Canadian artists and a variety of music will keep you dancing, and culinary experts will whip up the finest in Italian cuisine, with cooking demonstrations, samplings and more! Heritage and the arts are the main focus at this huge Italian event!

#### August 18 - 20 DUNDAS CACTUS FESTIVAL Dundas. Ontario

dundascactusfestival.ca The Dundas Cactus Festival is a family event focused around the community coming together. The event will feature a main stage with the hottest bands, a fun zone, midway, parade and the tastiest food around!

#### August 18 - 20 PORT CREDIT BUSKERFEST

portcreditbuskerfest.com The Port Credit Buskerfest is an international festival dedicated to street performers. It's circus-like performances throughout Port Credit, Mississauga's waterfront will be non-stop. Be in awe of the talent and eccentric characters that appear at the festival and have a visit to the kidszone during the three-day event.

#### August 18 - 20 THE BIG FEASTIVAL

Burl's Creek, Oro-Medonte canada.thebigfeastival.com The biggest festival of the year is here! All the way from the UK, The Big Festival is a feel good extravaganza of food and music for everyone! Jam out all weekend to headliners like Magic!, Weezer, and Ok Go. Satisfy your hunger with great food prepared by top chefs.

#### August 19 TOMMY THOMPSON PARK BUTTERFLY FESTIVAL

butterflyfest.ca

Late August is the perfect time to spot Monarch butterflies before they start their annual migration. Tommy Thompson Park is the perfect place to catch a glimpse of these beautiful creatures. The Butterfly Festival will include nature hikes, educational displays and discovery centres so visitors can get to know the more than 55 species of butterflies within the park

#### August 19 TD SONGS OF SUMMER Oakville

Jakville

oakvillejazz.com

This year Oakville Jazz is replaing its annual Downtown Oakville Jazz Festival with the Songs of Summer Music and Art Festival. The free event offers entertainment from a variety of music genres, performing and visual art experiences, as well as shopping and food. More than 40 artists will perform on the festival's six stages!

#### August 19 CITYFEST 2017

Canoe Landing Park *cityfest.ca* Cityfest is a festival dedicated to presenting local artists with live music, food trucks, fun activities and vendors. The event takes place at Canoe Landing Park and the line-up includes DJs and local talent.

#### August 19 - 20 RASTAFEST IN THE VILLAGE

Black Creek Pioneer Village 7060 Jane Street *rastafest.com* Rastafest is Canada's largest celebration of Rastafarian heritage and culture. This year the family friendly event, which is also celebrating Canada's 150th birthday, will feature music, dance, ancestral drumming, arts and crafts, food and more!

#### August 19 - 20 TORONTO CHINATOWN FESTIVAL

West of Spadina Avenue (between St. Andrew Street and Sullivan Street) *chinatownbia.com* The Chinatown Festival becomes bigger and better each year! With traditional food, dragon/lion dances, Kung Fu performances and vendors, this is sure to be two days of excitement and fun.

#### August 19 - 20 CARIVAUGHAN 2017

Woodbridge Fairgrounds carivaughan.com

CariVaughan is bringing the Caribbean to Vaughan with its family friendly event that features dancing, singing and cuisine from Caribbean culture!

#### August 25 - 27 TAIWANFEST: KANPAI, JAPAN!

Harbourfront Centre harbourfrontcentre.com The Taiwanfest features enticing performances and tasty food from Taiwan and beyond! Enjoy exhibits and culture at this beautiful festival.

#### August 26 IMPORTFEST 2017

Metro Toronto Convention Centre *importfest.com* 

Importfest is Canada's largest modified car show! This year's show promises to be the biggest yet with an estimated 20,000 attendees! See hundreds of imported cars and walk through the many exhibits featuring accessories, tuning and lifestyles! With special guests and performers, this is sure to be the perfect day for any car enthusiast.

#### August 26 COCONUT FESTIVAL CANADA

David Pecaut Square coconutfestival.ca The Coconut Festival is a day dedicated to celebrating the many benefits that coconuts provide. This free event features over 70 vendors dealing with coconut as food, in wellness programs, and as native merchandise from Asia and Pan America. Taste and shop at the same time as you learn about the diverse use of the coconut.

#### August 26 - 27 SCARBOROUGH AFRO-CARIBBEAN FESTIVAL

Scarborough Civic Centre (Albert Campbell Square) scarboroughafrocarifest.com For a fun-filled two days, head to the Scarborough Afro-Caribbean Festival to celebrate the diverse culture of this community. With performances by international and local performers, dance lessons, kids' activities, mouthwatering cuisine, vendors and more, you're sure to fall in love with the rich culture that makes up this community.

#### SEPTEMBER

#### September 1 - 4 HOT & SPICY FOOD FESTIVAL Harbourfront Centre

harbourfront centre harbourfrontcentre.com This year the festival will showcase Canadian celebrity chefs, a food market and a ChiliKids cooking competition. Hot & Spicy is partnering with the Toronto Blues Society to co-present some of Canada's hottest blues bands. So come on down to the Harbourfront Centre for some spicy food and sizzling jazz.

#### September 1 - 4 DOWNSVIEW PARK RIBFEST Downsview Park

*downsview Park downsviewparkribfest.ca* Top rib teams from across North America will gather in Downsview Park to compete for the best ribs. Enjoy tasty meals, rides, games and music at this summer ribfest.

#### September 1 - 4 TORONTO INTERNATIONAL BUSKERFEST ~ FOR EPILEPSY

Woodbine Park torontobuskerfest.com Go where fearless meets funny at the 2017 Toronto International Buskerfest! See jaw-dropping performances and laugh your head off at spectacular feats. The festival supports Epilepsy Toronto, so come on down for a day of charity and fun!

#### September 1 - 4 HISPANIC FIESTA

Mel Lastman Square hispanicfiesta.com Join the 36th year of Hispanic Fiesta, a celebration of Spanish and Latin-American art, food, music and entertainment. Don't miss this free event, which features amazing performances, exhibits and dances.

#### September 1 - 4 ARFEST: FALL FINE ART & CRAFT SHOW

Distillery District artfestontario.com/toronto/ This free outdoor art show, set in Toronto's Historic Distillery District, features the best painting, photography, sculpture, crafts, live music and more from Canada's top artists.

#### September 6 - 21 CARIBBEAN TALES INTERNA-TIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

Various locations: The Royal Theatre, Scotiabank Theatre, TIFF Bell Lightbox

*caribbeantalesfestival.com* The Caribbean Tales International Film Festival celebrates the talents and culture of emerging and established Caribbean cinematographers. The films present a diverse range of stories that speak to the lives of those creating them. Tickets range from \$8 to \$25.

#### September 7 - 16 TORONTO INDEPENDENT FILM FESTIVAL

Carlton Cinema

torontoshort.com/toindie/ The Toronto Indie (or Toronto Independent Film Festival) offers a forum for low- and no-budget films, allowing new talent to showcase their films and have the opportunity to be discovered. With more than 80 features and shorts presented over 10 days at the Carlton Cinema, you're sure to find your new favourite flick.

#### September 7 - 17 TORONTO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

Various Theatre Locations *tiff.net* 

Toronto's biggest and most prestigious event is back for another year of bringing new films and up-andcoming talent to people's attention. This highly anticipated event features the latest work by both established and new filmmakers. Over the 10 days the festival runs, movie lovers, industry professionals, stars, and the media gather to determine the best. Grab your tickets to see what may be the biggest box-office hits before anyone else!



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#### September 8 - 10 CELEBRATION OF NATIONS

FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre *firstontariopac.ca* 

A celebration of Indigenous art that hopes to promote and raise awareness of the unique culture and heritage of First Nations, Inuit and Metis peoples within Canada.

#### September 8 - 10 33rd ANNUAL VEG FOOD FEST

Harbourfront Centre harbourfrontcentre.com Enlighten your taste buds! The largest vegetarian food festival in North America is back for another three days of delectable plant-based dishes prepared by top gourmet food vendors. Experience the vegetarian life for a day.

#### September 8 - 10 SOUTHSIDE SHUFFLE: BLUES AND BBQ FESTIVAL

Memorial Park-Port Credit southsideshuffle.ca

The 19th annual port credit blues and BBQ festival is back for another year of great jazz and scrumptious BBQ. Four stages will feature the best of Canadian blues. You can swing to the beat as you chow down on the delicious food or just sit and enjoy the show from the beer and wine gardens.

#### September 8 - 10 CABBAGETOWN ART AND CRAFTS FESTIVAL

Various locations in Cabbagetown cabbagetownfestival.org The Cabbagetown Festival will feature a variety of events throughout the weekend including the kids zone, live entertainment and opening/closing ceremonies. It will also feature the Cabbagetown Festival Arts & Crafts Sale that will have beautiful handmade pieces for purchase. And further, attendees can also go on historic walking tours of the district and check out the short film and video festival happening at the same time.

#### September 8 - 24 NIAGARA GRAPE & WINE FESTIVAL

Montebello Park and various locations in St. Catharines *niagarawinefestival.com*  The Niagara Grape & Wine Festival features over 100 events including cellar door experiences, fresh food, parades and concerts. Festivities take place in the historic and beautiful Montebello Park in downtown St. Catharines where you can enjoy exquisite wines and gourmet food.

#### September 9 JESUS IN THE CITY PARADE

Queen's Park

jesusinthecity.com

Join thousands of worshippers at this party-in-the-streets festival for a day of worship, music, joy and love. The Jesus in the City Parade features floats, banners, costumes and more at this multicultural event.

#### September 9 - 11 TASTE OF THE KINGSWAY

Bloor Street West (Prince Edward Drive to Montgomery Road) *thekingsway.ca* 

The Taste of the Kingsway features international cuisine, live entertainment and fresh food! More than 200 exhibitors will be providing demonstrations and tasty food. Two main stages, midway rides, classic cars, dancing, the Scotiabank Dog Show and more make this a family-fun weekend for all!

#### September 15 - 17 BLOOR WEST VILLAGE TORONTO UKRAINIAN FESTIVAL

Bloor West Village toronto.ukrainianfestival.com This largest Ukrainian festival in North America showcases the best in Ukrainian arts and culture and celebrates the country's rich history. In addition, includes performances from both local and international artists. The event is free and family friendly.

#### September 15 - 23 TORONTO BEER WEEK

Various locations torontobeerweek.com A festival dedicated to beer! What more could you want? The week of 100+ events celebrates the craft of beer-making and the brewers who do it. Authentic and flavourful beers made by the best of them are featured at various locations around the city. Come by and enjoy!

#### September 16 BLACK CREEK PIONEER VILLAGE HARVEST FESTIVAL

Black Creek Pioneer Village blackcreek.ca

Travel back in time to when German Mennonites settled in North America. This festival explores their pioneering ways. Learn how they made such delicious foods as ice cream, apple butter and sausages without modern appliances. Highlights of this family friendly day include a quilt auction, wagon rides, a rummage sale and pioneer demonstrations!

#### September 16 - 17 RONCESVALLES POLISH FESTIVAL

Roncesvalles Ave (Queen St. West to Dundas St. West) *polishfestival.ca* 

North America's largest celebration of Polish culture is back for another year of good food and good dancing. Enjoy the Polish folksongs as well as Polka and Euro dance bands playing on multiple stages. Amble along the Polish Artwalk. Taste delicious traditional food. Browse the 18 blocks of boutique shops. Other activities include an art zone, car show and midway areas, and it's all free!

#### September 17 TORONTO GARLIC FESTIVAL

Artscape Wychwood Barns torontogarlicfestival.ca There is so much to do, see and taste at the Toronto Garlic Festival! Purchase rare garlic, taste the finest dishes from local chefs, enjoy live music, film screenings, speakers, cooking demos and more! Only a \$5 admission, gives you access to everything you could hope for at this garlic-themed festival, including a garlic breath contest!

#### September 20 - 24 TORONTO PALESTINE FILM FESTIVAL

Various locations *tpff.ca* 

The 10th Annual Toronto Palestine Film Festival is dedicated to bringing Palestinian cinema, music, cuisine and culture to Toronto. The festival's many events are presented at different locations throughout the city.



www.ichmondhil.pumpkinfest/com

#### September 21 - 30 JFL 42 - TORONTO COMEDY FESTIVAL

Various locations *jfl42.com* 

The 10-day Just for Laughs Comedy Festival will feature a range of comedic performances showcased in 42 acts. Headliners include John Mulaney, Ali Wong and Bill Burr. Passes covering admission to all the shows as well as individual tickets are available through TicketMaster.

#### September 23 - 24 QUEEN WEST ART CRAWL

Queen St. West and Trinity Bellwoods Park *queenwestartcrawl.com* The Queen West Art Crawl is a charitable organization dedicated to the promotion of the art, culture and diversity of Toronto's Queen West. The Outdoor Art Exhibition is the main event in Trinity Bellwoods Park. It will feature the works of more than 200 artists vendors as well as a wide selection of food from food trucks. Also at the Art Crawl will be a kids zone, live performances and interactive art.

#### September 24 THE WORD ON THE STREET

Harbourfront Centre thewordonthestreet.ca Experience the best of Canadian literature and authors at The Word on the Street Festival. This free festival gives you direct access to 200 Canadian authors, 150 events, 18 stages and 265 exhibitors. Go to readings by your favourite authors, participate in discussions and activities and shop at the marketplace for the best selection of Canadian books and magazines.

#### September 24 SOUPALICIOUS

Artscape Wychwood Barns *soupalicious.ca* 

Soupalicious is a soup-tasting and harvest celebration featuring local gardeners, farmers, restaurants and community culinary talents. Enjoy top chefs' signature soups that are served with compostable cutlery, in line with their "zero waste" environmental policy. Presented by Plant a Row · Grow a Row, a national initiative encouraging people to grow an extra row of veggies to share with others, this family fun event offers tasty new soup recipes.

#### September 29 - 30 TORONTO OKTOBERFEST Ontario Place

Uniario Place

torontooktoberfest.ca Join 5000 others dressed in dirndls and lederhosen at Toronto's largest Oktoberfest! This festival transports you to Munich, Germany, for two days of festivities. Enter the Festhalle tent and enjoy the Bavarian Village with its authentic beer, delicious German food, singing, dancing, lederhosen and more!

#### September 30 NUIT BLANCHE

Various Locations Citywide *nbto.com* 

Nuit Blanche is one night from sunset to sunrise where the city of Toronto becomes a different place. Unexpected public spaces are transformed into beautiful works of contemporary art and the city turns into an artistic playground. One night only, all night long, all free.

#### OCTOBER

#### October 12 - 20 TORONTO AFTER DARK FILM FESTIVAL

Scotiabank Theatre torontoafterdark.com The Toronto After Dark Film Festival is one of the world's leading showcases of new horror, cult, action and sci-fi movies. This 12th annual festival features nine nights of thrilling film and interesting Q&A sessions. This age 18+ event will feature a zombiethemed night, and Pub After Dark, a social hour where fans can meet the filmmakers.

#### October 19 - 29 INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF AUTHORS

Harbourfront Centre *ifoa.org* 

The Toronto International Festival of Authors is a celebration of writers, readers, words and ideas. The festival, which brings together the world's best writers of contemporary literature, will feature readings, interviews, discussions, book signings and special events.

#### October 26 - 28 CREATIV FESTIVAL

International Centre –Entrance 5 csnf.com

A shopping experience like no other! Enjoy all things creative with the Creativ Festival featuring exhibits on sewing, knitting, beading, quilting, scrapbooking, crafting and more! Get some new tips and tricks, and some new material at this show that allows you to shop while you learn and become inspired. See shows and get creating at this DIY festival.

#### NOVEMBER

#### November 1 - 30 TORONTO CHOCOLATE FESTIVAL

Various locations

torontochocolatefestival.com The Toronto Chocolate Festival is back for its 12th year so prepare your sweet tooth! One month dedicated to all things chocolate, this festival hosts a variety of entertaining events, all surrounding one ingredient: CHOCO-LATE! Discover chocolate in all its magnificent and tasty forms through events such as The Luxury Chocolate Show and Chocolate Afternoon Tea.

#### November 3 - 12 95th ROYAL AGRICULTURAL WINTER FAIR

Exhibition Place royalfair.org

The Royal Agricultural Winter Fair is the largest combined indoor agricultural fair and international equestrian competition in the world. Celebrating its 95th year, the Royal Fair is sure to impress with its history alone. Head to the fair to experience the best in horsemanship, riding and breeding. Explore through the fair to see all the best locally and internationally grown food and veggies, as well as livestock. This family event has lots to do such as see dog shows, enjoy live entertainment, and experience the best in food and lifestyle.

#### November 4 - 5 THE TORONTO LUXURY CHOCOLATE SHOW Signature Eent of The Toronto Chocolate Festival

Toronto Reference Library 608 Yonge Street "Chocolate Salons" torontochocolateshow.com The Toronto Chocolate Show celebrates chocolate in all its glory, all under one roof! With a new location this year, the 2017 show promises to be bigger and tastier than ever. Occurring right before the holiday, the show is a perfect place to get delicious chocolate gifts for friends and family. With exhibitors from around the world showcasing their finest products, the Toronto Luxury Chocolate Show is an international chocolate premier eventnot to be missed!

#### November 9 - 17 TORONTO REEL ASIAN INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

Toronto, North York and Richmond Hill reelasian.com

The Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival is a unique showcase of Asian cinema, featuring films from East, South and Southeast Asia. The artists come from around the world and the festival provides a public forum for Asian artists to show their work.

#### November 16 - 19 GOURMET FOOD & WINE EXPO

Metro Toronto Convention Centre, North Building foodandwineexpo.ca

The 23rd Annual Food & Wine Expo awaits! Travel on a food and beverage journey by tasting gourmet international cuisine and wines. The expo features celebrity chefs, more than 1,500 wine, beer, spirits and food selections, demonstrations and tastings.

#### November 25 CAVALCADE OF LIGHTS

Nathan Phillips Square toronto.ca

The annual holiday tradition, which is back for another year of beautiful lights, thrilling fireworks, live performances, is the perfect kick off to the holiday season! The official lighting of Toronto's Christmas tree and skating under the lights makes this the most magical evening of the year!

### November 26

## THE CHRISTMAS CHOCOLATE & PASTRY FAIR

Wychwood Barns torontochocolatefestival.com Billed as a Family Size event, this new addition to the Toronto Chocolate Festival closes out the Chocolate Lovers Month in Toronto. Interactive and delicious, this show gets you in the mood for the Christmas holidays.







August 18 - September 4

### CANADIAN NATIONAL EXHIBITION (CNE) Exhibition Place www.theex.com

You can download the CNE brochure from their website at www.theex.com or from our website at www.TorontoOnDemand.com

The Canadian National Exhibition (CNE) is Canada's largest community event and one of the top five agricultural fairs in North America.

Founded in 1879, the CNE is affectionately embraced as an end-of-summer ritual by more than 1.5 million annual visitors. You can find out more about the Ex's history at www.theex.com.

This year, the 139th Canadian National Exhibition offers new attractions as well as old favourites, and is sure to be another spectacular and fun event for everyone!

Don't miss it! 2017 CNE HIGHLIGHTS

#### **NEW – CNE Gaming Garage:** August 25 - 27, 2017 Enecare Centre, Hall F

New this year, the world of gaming will be coming to the CNE for three days only! The CNE Gaming Garage will be the place to play and watch eSports and Pinball. Compete alongside players of all skill levels for the chance to win a cash prize. The Gaming Garage space will also include Video Game Developers and Exhibitors, a Tabletop Gaming Library for you and your friends to play your favourite board game, and a Chess Grandmaster Challenge, where the audience can play against one of the great chess minds. Registration for these events is free.

#### **New-East Coast Kitchen Party** August 19 - 20, 2017 Princes' Boulevard

Fish, fritters, fiddles, and fun, Opening Weekend gets off to a "screeching" start with the CNE's first-ever East Coast Kitchen Party. Enjoy delicious Maritimes cuisine from your favourite food trucks and craft beer breweries, East Coast wine and Newfoundland Screech! The event also features toetapping East Coast music, Newfoundland Screeching In and Oyster Shucking. Put this fun Cana-

#### dian event on your must-see list. **NEW - CNE Aquarama** *August 18 - September 4, 2017 Waterfront*

The waterfront show is back for another year of amazing feats! This year's show follows a "Skee School", as they fly through the air and make a splash.

#### Nautique WWA World Wakeboard Championships August 24 - 27, 201 Waterfront

The best wakeboarders in the world will gather on Lake Ontario to compete for the championship.

#### **NEW - Aerial Acrobatic & Ice Skating Show** *August 18 - September 4, 2017 Ricoh Coliseum*

The fan favourite acrobatics and iceskating show returns to the CNE with an all-new theme. In celebration of Canada's 150th birthday, high-profile Canadian soloists will perform, with Elvis Stojko headlining.

#### **Exhibit -Sand-Sculpting Competition** *August 18 - September 4, 2017 Heritage Court, Enercare Centre*

The popualr sand-sculpting contest is back and attendees can vote for their favourite design.

#### **Exhibit - The Unity Pole** August 18 - September 4, 2017 Heritage Court, Enercare Centre

As a celebration of the huge contribution Canada's Indigenous people have made to this country, the CNE has commissioned Ojibway artist Kris Nahrgang to create a Unity Pole that embraces both Indigenous and universal symbols.

#### **RUSH: Parkour Competitive** Demonstrations August 18 - September 4, 2017 CNE Grounds

Be in awe of the amazing stunts that these parkour athletes perform as they compete against one another.

#### **NEW - Trampo Wall** August 18 - September 4, 2017 Princes' Boulevard

A thrilling acrobatic experience is

arriving at the CNE for the first time. This unique show has athletess bouncing off walls and into windows.

#### MYSTERY ACT - MZ Laser -Laser Illusion experience CNE Grounds

This stunning visual experience is sure to amaze with futuristic music and human lasers.

#### **International Performers** August 18 - September 4, 2017 International Pavillion, Enercare Centre

- •The Inuksuk Drum Dancers
- Sagkeeng's Finest
- •The Asham Stompers
- •DDC with Breakdancers in Lederhosen
- Kalabante
- •Cir'Opera
- •Mariachi Estrella

#### **68th Canadian International Air Show** September 2 - 4, 2017 CNE Grounds

Head to the CNE on Labour Day weekend for a show like never before! The 68th Canadian International Air Show will be soaring over Lake Ontario for another year of thrilling loops and turns in this exciting demonstration of aweinspiring feats!

#### **NEW - CNE Innovation Garage** August 18 - 20, 2017 Enercare Centre, Hall F

Returning for another year of innovation and inspiration after its spectacular debut at the 2016 CNE, the CNE Innovation Garage will be better than before! The Emerging Innovators Pitch Competition will return with the newest young and creative innovators showcasing their work. Everything in innovation from consumer products to coding workshops and keynote talks will be featured at the Garage, including the new Hackathon!

#### **Celebrity Chef Stage** Various dates

#### Home Pavilion, Enercare Centre

Watch celebrity chefs demonstrate their culinary expertise at the Celebrity Chef Stage! See daily demonstrations of the best recipes and best techniques at the Home Pavilion, including daily preserving tips by cookbook author Yvonne Tremblay. The headliners include Chopped Canada judge Michael Smith, Top Chef Canada's Vikram Vij, grilling master Robert L. Rainford, nutrition expert Dr. Mary Scourboutakos and many more!



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www.TorontoChocolateShow.com

#### Exhibit – 150 Years of Keeping Toronto Safe from Fire August 18 - September 4, 2017

#### **CNE** Fire Station

Take a historic walk through the CNE Fire Station and see how Toronto's firefighters have kept Toronto safe for 150 years with a photograph display. The exhibit also includes Fire Service Day and parade with antique firefighting apparatus, and the Bucket Brigade Junior Challenge.

#### **NEW - CanaDogs! President's Choice SuperDogs** Show:

#### August 18 - September 4, 2017 Enercare Centre, Hall D

New this year, CanaDogs celebrates Canada's 150th birthday with an all-Canadian production of shows. Laugh at the canine versions of Dragon's Den, the Dog House and Heritage Minutes. Enjoy a furry NHL-theme race! Cheer on these fluffy friends as they jump, run, weave and dance their way through Canada! With a special guest appearance you won't want to miss, make sure you mark this event on your calendar.

### **Kids' World**

#### August 18 - September 4, 2017 West End, near Dufferin Gate

Kids' World offers a huge variety of kid friendly activities that are fun and exciting! With a kiddle midway, live entertainment, Pizza Nova Pizza Making, an Art Studio on KidStreet and so much more, Kids' World is the perfect kid getaway!

#### **Bandshell Concert Series** August 18 - September 3, 2017 **Bandshell Park**

Jam out to concerts and performances spanning all musical genres. Catching a concert at the Bandshell Park is the perfect way to end the day! Headlining acts include Burton Cummings & Band, Sam Roberts Band, Kiefer Sutherland, Dear Rouge, Virginia to Vegas, Shawn Hook and many more! Also check out great the great country music acts at The CNE Ghost Walk gives participants a look into the the Northern Comfort Saloon.

#### **Parades CNE Grounds**

Check out the parades happening throughout the CNE for amazing floats, beautiful costumes and colourful displays, including the daily Mardi Gras Parade, Warriors' Day Parade (August 19) and the Labour Day Parade (September 4).

#### **NEW - Food Truck Frenzy and Craft Beer Fest** August 25 - 27, 2017 Princes' Boulevard

The Food Truck Frenzy and Craft Beer Fest are back for the 2017 CNE! Enjoy the tastiest foods from Toronto's best food trucks with 25 delicious options to choose from including three new trucks this year! Chow down on some Beavertails while sipping on the finest craft beer from 12 master brewers!

#### Ribfest

#### August 18 - September 4, 2017 **Bandshell Park**

The ever-popular Ribfest returns to Bandshell Park for another year of succulent, finger-licking ribs! Try a multitude of flavours and recipes as rib masters compete to win "best rib recipe"!

#### **Rising Star Talent Competition** August 18 - September 3, 2017 International Stage, Enercare Centre

See the best up-and-coming talent at the Rising Star Talent Competition. Artists ages 6-21 compete for the chance to be the CNE's Rising Star!

#### Walks & Talks

Two fantastic walks at the 2017 CNE:

The Heritage Walking Tour gives attendees a history of the CNE from 1879 to present day, highlighting key events and buildings.

spooky history of the fair.



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