

Help Develop Ontario's First Culture Strategy

Join the AGM and MAC for "Culture Talk" organized by the Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport

Mississauga Culture Talk

Presented in partnership with the Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport and the Mississauga Arts Council

Mississauga Civic Centre | Great Hall

Tuesday, December 1, 7 – 9:30 PM

Free & Open to the public.

For Immediate Release November 6, 2015



Bonnie Devine



Arlene Paculan

MISSISSAUGA – The Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport has arranged a series of eleven public consultation events about the importance of culture to Ontario communities and is seeking input about what culture means to them. The Art Gallery of Mississauga and Mississauga Arts Council will be presenting the Mississauga portion of "Culture Talk" on December 1 from 7:00 to 9:30 pm. Members of the public are invited to the Great Hall of Mississauga Civic Centre to share their views.

Celebrated artist Bonnie Devine joins performer Arlene Paculan in a moderated discussion about the value and place of art, culture and heritage in daily life followed by round table talks.

Greater access to engaging and provocative cultural experiences ensures the nurturing of creativity, empathy and critical thinking. Supporting culture creates opportunities in Ontario communities for new ways of animating and celebrating the province's rich heritage and diversity. It defines who we are, where we've come from and influences our hopes for the future. It enhances the well-being and quality of life for all our citizens. Culture is also an economic driver and a stimulus for urban revitalization.

“Culture Talk” town halls are part of the Ontario government’s initiatives to seek guidance for the development of the province’s first Culture Strategy. According to Ontario’s Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport, “the new culture strategy will help ensure that support for culture reflects these changes, while giving Ontarians a chance to tell their stories and share what arts and culture mean to them.” As Michael Coteau, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport has said, “Ontario’s cultural landscape has evolved and it is important that government priorities reflect this. That’s why I am proud that our government is developing the province’s first-ever culture strategy. I look forward to hearing from Ontarians about what they value about arts and culture in their lives and what culture means to them. This is an opportunity for the province to take a fresh look at how it invests in arts and culture, to build our vibrant sectors and to enrich our diverse communities.”

Please join the AGM, MAC, and the Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport on December 1 and share what culture means to you and what you feel the Government of Ontario can do to better support arts and culture in the province.

For more information, about the Mississauga session, [click here](#).
To find out how you can participate in other sessions across Ontario, [click here](#).

There are [three ways to participate](#): online through Culture Talks, in-person at a local town hall, or leaving a comment online on the discussion paper.



QUOTE

“The cultural landscape of Mississauga and Canada is exciting and ever-changing! As a cultural institution in the most culturally diverse region of the GTA, the Art Gallery of Mississauga is committed to engaging our communities with captivating, relevant and sustained programming that gives a voice to our stakeholders in a connected local and global context. As a public gallery, the AGM works to create new opportunities for creative partnerships and innovations that celebrate and engage with meaningful experiences for all. The AGM is proud to partner with the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport to present Mississauga’s Culture Talks!”

— Mandy Salter, Director | Curator, Art Gallery of Mississauga

QUICK FACTS

- Public consultation is a key part of Ontario’s Open Government initiative, which is helping to create a more transparent, accessible and collaborative government for the people of Ontario
- Culture is one of the fastest growing sectors in Ontario. It generates approximately \$22 billion of Ontario’s GDP and supports more than 280,000 jobs.
- Ontario has over 58,000 artists – nearly twice as many as any other province.
- Nearly five million Ontarians are active library cardholders.
- About 24,000 properties are protected under the Ontario Heritage Act and there are over 300 community museums in the province.
- Ontario’s music industry is the largest in Canada, and in 2013-14 the province’s film and television production

supported over 44,000 direct and indirect jobs.

ABOUT THE ART GALLERY OF MISSISSAUGA

The Art Gallery of Mississauga (AGM) is a public, not-for-profit art gallery located in the Mississauga Civic Centre right on Celebration Square across from Square One Mall. The AGM is proud to admit people free of charge, serve communities, and provide positive visual art experiences for all visitors.

Engage. Think. Inspire. This phrase opens the dialogue at the AGM. The Gallery connects with the people of Mississauga through the collection and presentation of relevant works from a range of periods and movements in Canadian art. Expressing multiple ideas and concepts, this visual art translates into meaningful cultural and social experiences for all audiences. The AGM employs innovative education, artist projects and other forms of dialogue to advance critical enquiry and community connection to the visual arts. The mandate of the Gallery is to “*bring art to the community and the community to art.*”

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