

MEDIA RELEASE



For Immediate Release

Arts Commons Presents: ArtsXpeditions pop-up performances return for another summer in a neighbourhood near you!

CALGARY – Arts Commons Presents is proud to announce that after a wildly successful first season in the summer of 2020, ArtsXpeditions is once again bringing beloved local performers directly to Calgarians in all four quadrants of the city. These popular pop-up performances bring music, dance, and storytelling to parks, senior care centres, and schoolyards – they could surprise you anywhere that you live, work and play. And the 2021 season of ArtsXpeditions will be twice as big. It all kicks off with the first **ArtsXpeditions** performance taking place on **Tuesday, June 29** from **12:30 - 1:30 p.m. on Riverwalk Plaza in Calgary's East Village**.

ArtsXpeditions launched last summer in July of 2020 with hour-long socially distanced performances in 22 locations. Not only injecting some much-needed creative fun into Calgary's outdoor spaces and providing an excuse for remote workers to step away from their desks and safely engage with neighbours, the first edition of ArtsXpeditions also employed over 50 artists in a challenging and precarious time, including musicians, singers, dancers, storytellers, and technicians. In that way, ArtsXpeditions has been essential in ensuring that artists can continue to do what they do best while indoor stages are dark – inspire and enliven the lives of Calgarians.

In that spirit, ArtsXpeditions returns this summer with more performances, more artists, and more fun – completely free to the public – giving audiences the opportunity to connect with their community, enjoy the summer weather, and be energized by live performances in a safe and secure setting.



"We're in a time when our stages have been dark by necessity for over a year," says Jennifer Johnson, VP of Programming at Arts Commons. "Last year, ArtsXpeditions launched with the lofty goal of bringing accessible art to as many communities in Calgary as possible. We're doing it again now because, while we can see the finish line ahead, we know that gathering safely for outdoor performances this summer is the perfect way to bring that collective live experience back, for the benefit of audiences and performers alike."

In addition to Olympic Plaza and the East Village's Riverwalk and Celebration Square, ArtsXpeditions will be making afternoon and early evening appearances in schoolyards and parks in the suburbs of all four quadrants of the city. Artists featured in pop-up ArtsXpeditions performances will include: Chantal Chagnon, Mark Limacher, Allison Lynch, Aya Mhana, Mandy Morris, Tim Tamashiro, and Silvia Temis – with many more to come!

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Visit artscommons.ca/artsx for the latest performance schedules or sign up for the Arts Commons Spotlight e-newsletter to get them directly in your inbox. Stay tuned and find out if ArtsXpeditions will be popping up near you!

Arts Commons Presents adheres to AHS guidelines for all ArtsXpeditions events, including contact tracing, attendance caps, and social distancing measures for safe enjoyment of the arts.

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