



PRESS RELEASE
For immediate release

FESTIVAL DU VOYAGEUR REVEALS THE PROGRAMMING OF ITS 44TH EDITION

SAINT-BONIFACE, January 15th, 2013 – This morning at Fort Gibraltar Festival du Voyageur revealed the programming for its 44th edition, taking place February 15th to 24th, 2013. With its official slogan *Find Your Place in History*, this edition of Festival du Voyageur encourages visitors to learn more about the fur trade era by placing the emphasis on history in a modern context.

MUSIC TAKES CENTER STAGE AT FDV 2013

This year, 115 artists will be showcased at Voyageur Park as well as in our 10 official sites during the 10 days of the Festival! Franco-Manitoban acts **Marijosée, L'ensemble musical Pierre Freynet, Daniel ROA** and more will be performing this year. The Festival is also proud to welcome artists from outside the province such as **Lisa Leblanc, Samian, Blou** and **Genticorum**, to name a few. Many Anglophone acts are also included in this year's programming, including **Don Amero, Imaginary Cities, The Lytics** and **The Treble**. In addition to these artists, a few renowned musicians from Louisiana will be visiting us to perform at a very special **Cajun Night**. This year, the evening presented by **Club Regent Casino** is taking place at the Centre culturel franco-manitobain, will pay tribute to Hadley Castille who passed away late last year and will feature his son **Blake Castille**, his grand-daughter **Sarah Jayde Williams** as well as Cajun group **The Revelers**.

LET'S CELEBRATE OUR BEAUTIFUL PROVINCE DURING LOUIS RIEL DAY

To celebrate Louis Riel Day, on February 18th, Festival du Voyageur offers a full day of programming. Back for a second year, the **Louis Riel Look-a-like Contest** will be presented in the Maison du Bourgeois. A jury will determine which of the participants looks the most like Riel. There will also be many different activities at Fort Gibraltar, such as **traditional trades and crafts demonstrations, fiddling and jigging workshops, a presentation on Métis flags**, and much more. Not to mention the many presentations and activities at Voyageur Park and at our official sites.

ALWAYS SOMETHING TO DO AT VOYAGEUR PARK

Enjoy winter to the fullest at Voyageur Park! A large winter playground is open for children including a **snow maze, slides, sleigh rides, voyageur adventures** and more. Adults can participate in one of the many free **snowshoe workshops**, relax at the **Molson Coors Snow Bar**, shop for unique items at the **Souvenir Tent** or learn more about Manitoba's history at **Fort Gibraltar**.

VOYAGEUR APPRENTICESHIP WORKSHOPS

Keeping traditions alive has always been an important part of what the Festival du Voyageur does. This year we invite you to find your place in history and become an apprentice voyageur! For the duration of the festival we will be presenting a **series of workshops and demonstrations** designed to showcase the arts and crafts practiced by our ancestors. The myriad of workshops includes sash weaving, woodworking, flint-knapping, and much more. For more information, visit www.heho.ca.

AN EXCEPTIONAL SNOW SCULPTING SYMPOSIUM

Once again Festival du Voyageur will be host to artists from the world over who will sculpt impressive snow sculptures in the context of the 2013 International Snow Sculpting Symposium, presented by Air Canada. This year

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10 teams with participants from **10 different countries**, some from as far as **Bulgaria, Argentina** and **Estonia**, will share with us their creations and help give a magical feel to Voyageur Park.

MORE SHOWS THROUGH OUR OFFICIAL SITES

In addition to Voyageur Park, 10 other official sites will offer special programming during the 2013 Festival du Voyageur. In fact, **The Voyageur Trading Post, Le Garage, Club St-B, l'Auberge du violon, Pionniers Trading Post, La Broquerie Hotel, Club Regent Casino, The Fort Garry Hotel**, as well as this year's two newcomers, **The Wood** and **Finn's Pub at the Forks**, will be open to all those looking to extend the party! The complete programming of our official sites is available on our website at www.heho.ca

SPECIAL EVENTS

Your favourite events will be back this year at Voyageur Park and at the Voyageur Trading Post. Among these events we find the **31st Beard Growing Contest** on February 22nd at the CCFM, for which we are still accepting registrations in the Voyageur Beard category (wild and woolly) and in the Novelty category (groomed mustache or beard). Other events coming back this year include the **Mascot Challenge, DJ Night**, the **jigging and fiddling competitions** presented by **Power Corporation of Canada** as well as the **Rendez-vous des chefs**, the pea soup competition which is back for a 5th year under a brand new format.

iPhone APPLICATION AT FESTIVAL DU VOYAGEUR

This year, Festival du Voyageur now offers a free **iPhone application** in order to enhance the experience of visitors who own the popular electronic device. With this useful application, visitors will be able to **follow in real time** the schedules of activities at Voyageur Park and in the different official sites of the Festival. They will also be able to prepare their visits to the Festival in advance by **creating their own personalized schedules** with their favourite artists and events. Today marks the launch of our app, so download it now for free!

LAST WEEK FOR THE PRE-SALE OF 10-DAY FDV PASSES

The **10-day Voyageur Pass** which gives you access to Voyageur Park and free or discounted admission at all the Festival du Voyageur sites is on pre-sale until January 19th at the **Festival du Voyageur offices** (233 Provencher Blvd.), at **233-ALLÔ** as well as on our **online box-office** at www.heho.ca. The passes are also on sale in Safeway stores throughout Winnipeg at regular price of \$25 for adults (18 and over), \$15 for youths (13-17 years old) and \$10 for children (6-12). Admission is free for children under the age of 6.

For additional information regarding Festival du Voyageur, visit our website at www.heho.ca, like our [Facebook page](#) or follow our [Twitter account](#).

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