



PRESS RELEASE
For immediate release

TRADITIONAL WORKSHOP SERIES AT FORT GIBRALTAR

SAINT-BONIFACE, December 19, 2012 – Festival du Voyageur wants you to get in touch with your voyageur spirit by offering, for the very first time, a series of hands-on workshops taught by expert artisans during the months of January and February. Most of the activities involve traditional skills and participants will have the opportunity to learn traditional dances, finger weaving or how to create a voyageur capote. In addition to these activities that will bring people back to the voyageur era, Festival du Voyageur also offers the chance to participate in a snow sculpting workshop, and all of this, only weeks before the festival!

TRADITIONAL DANCE

Learn the dances of the 'good old days' and move like a voyageur. Come learn round dances, contradances, square dances and many more. This three-session workshop simultaneously caters to beginners as well as to more experienced dancers and will take place Mondays January 21, 28 and February 4, 2013 at 7 p.m. The cost is of \$30 per participant.

FINGER WEAVE YOUR OWN LEG SASH

Finger Weaving is the technique used to create the Métis sashes and the voyageur's *ceinture fléchée*. Sign-up now and learn to finger weave your own leg sash. The finger weaving workshop will take place over three sessions held on Tuesdays January 22, 29 and February 5, 2013 at 7 p.m. The cost is \$80 per participant.

MAKE YOUR OWN CAPOTE

Come and learn how to make your own voyageur capote by hand, using historic style patterns and materials. Bring your genuine Hudson's Bay point blanket to make the capote in traditional style or choose one of a selection of gently used blankets (for an additional cost). All sewing supplies will be provided. The three-session workshop will take place Thursdays January 24, 31 and February 7, 2013 at 7 p.m. The cost is \$60 (+ material) per participant.

CREATE YOUR SNOW SCULPTURE

Embrace your inner artist by participating in a snow sculpting workshop. Snow sculpting experts will teach you many useful methods and techniques used to sculpt this ephemeral material. The workshop is offered Saturday, February 2nd, 2013 at 1 p.m. The cost is \$25 per participant.

All of these activities, with the exception of the snow sculpting workshop, will take place at Fort Gibraltar. Please note that the spots available for these activities are limited and that the registration deadline is January 18, 2013. To register or for more information, visit www.heho.ca

These workshops are made possible through the Government of Manitoba's l'Art en moi program..

– 30 –

Source: Jean-Luc LaFlèche, Communications Assistant
(204) 237-7692 ext. 238
jlafleche@heho.ca