



Festival du Voyageur

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

CALL TO ARTISTS FOR FESTIVAL DU VOYAGEUR'S PUBLIC ART PROJECT

SAINT-BONIFACE, March 22, 2017 – It is with sadness that, last fall, we discovered that the old elm tree located between Fort Gibraltar and the Maison Chaboillez in Whittier Park had been diagnosed with Dutch elm disease. Over several decades, this tree became an important symbol for residents of Saint-Boniface as well as for the Festival du Voyageur. To avoid simply cutting down this beloved tree, Festival du Voyageur, the site manager, and the City of Winnipeg, the site owner, have come to an agreement to **transform the tree's trunk into a public art piece** which will last for decades to come.

CALLING MANITOBAN ARTISTS

Festival du Voyageur wishes to create a public art piece that is open and accessible year round. Given our mandate, the art piece should be inspired by and celebrate the rich heritage of the region and our community. We are therefore currently seeking candidates to transform this mighty elm into a legacy for the entire community. Artists must be Manitoban or current residents in the province to apply and will have until **April 21, 2017** to submit their application to Festival du Voyageur to be considered for the project. Submissions will then be evaluated by a selection committee and three finalists will be short listed. Finalists will then be asked to submit their project proposal complete with drawings and/or a model and the winning proposition will be unveiled to the public by the beginning of June.

For more information about the application process, please consult the Call to artists on the Festival's website at www.heho.ca. Complete applications must be received through the mail or in person at the Festival du Voyageur office no later than **April 21, 2017 at 4:00 p.m.**

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For more information:

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