

Vaughan Culture Days 2025



C3.

Communication

Inclusion and Community Outreach

Advisory Committee – June 16, 2025

Item No. 3



CULTURE DAYS

Culture Days is a national celebration of arts and culture. At the end of each September, millions of people attend thousands of free participatory arts and culture events across the country both in-person and online

The Culture Days national office works with provincial partners and a wide network of event organizers, from grassroots community volunteers to major institutions.



Criteria to be part of Ontario Culture Days

To qualify as a Culture Days event, it must:

- Take place within the dates provided by Culture Days
 - Can be virtual or in-person
 - Include arts, culture, or heritage aspect
 - Be hands-on, participatory, or behind-the-scenes
 - Be free for attendees or pay-what-you-may
 - Fair compensation for artists.
 - Promotion of accessibility, inclusive, and diverse programming.
- ❖ Ontario Culture Days has set September 30th, 2025, aside to create space exclusively for events organized to commemorate the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, including those sharing First Nations, Métis, and/or Inuit experiences and perspectives celebrating the creative and cultural expressions of Indigenous people and communities.



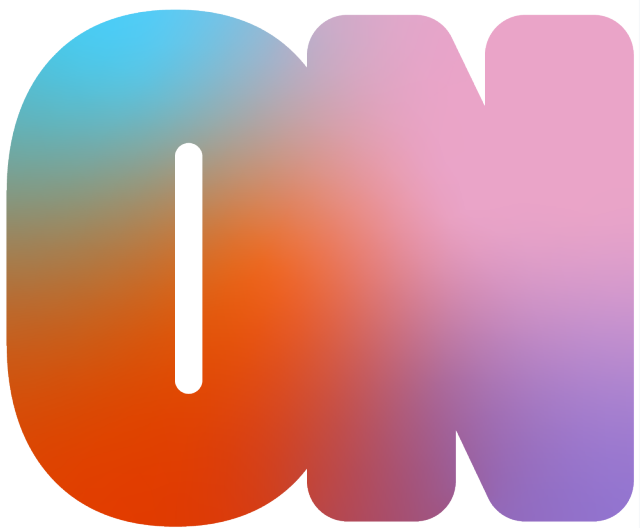
Paint night at Sara Elizabeth Centre
Photo by Sara Elizabeth Centre

2024 Festival Hub Review

- ▶ 82 free events throughout the city
- ▶ Over 7,700 attendees spanning all age groups.
- ▶ These events encompassed a wide range of activities, including cooking classes, book fairs, forest clean-ups, live art demonstrations, multicultural dances, story time sessions, inclusive games
- ▶ As a result, in 2024 Vaughan ranked the #5 spot overall nationwide and 2nd among Mid-Size Cities
- ▶ The City received the inaugural International Festivals & Events Association (IFEA)/HAAS Pinnacle Silver Award for Best Community Outreach Program. This prestigious award recognizes the Festival Hub program's dedication to cultural diversity and inclusion during Ontario Culture Days 2023.

[Vaughan Culture Days 2024](#)





**ontario
culture
days**



**September 19th -
October 12th, 2025**

Expression of Interest

Applicants to this expression of interest will have the opportunity to

- Have ongoing promotion of Ontario Culture Days (ONCD) activities, using a variety of communication channels during the Vaughan Festival Hub promotional campaign from June to October 2025.
- Be included in the custom landing page for the Vaughan Festival Hub, which could include program features, links to hub activity listings and any relevant ONCD content, and video highlights.
- ONCD branded swag and signage during the Festival.
- Get support in pairing activities with city locations and connect with other organizations.
- Participate in the kick-off at Carville CC on Sep 20



VAUGHAN CULTURE DAYS KICK-OFF EVENT

Free event to anchor various arts and culture activities and performances to celebrate the city's rich multicultural diversity.



Date: Saturday, Sept 20th, 2025



Time 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.



Carrville Community Centre

This event will include:

- Official Ceremony with Mayor, Members of Council, City Staff
- Arts and Cultural performances/workshops
- Culture Days participants booths



Thank you!

Recreation Services, Event
Vaughan City Hall
2141 Major Mackenzie Dr.
Vaughan, ON L6A 1T1

vaughan.ca