

Celebrate Sikh Heritage Month for free at PAMA

For the second straight year, the Peel Art Gallery, Museum and Archives (PAMA) is inviting everyone to celebrate and experience the beauty of Sikh culture during Sikh Heritage Month in April.

To kick-off the festivities for the month, PAMA held an opening night event with more than 575 visitors attending to discuss, appreciate and celebrate Sikh art and heritage. Those in attendance received a quick glimpse of what is planned for the month ahead. This year's theme is Coming Together: Celebrating the Sarbat, and PAMA is hosting special events and activities that the entire community can take part in. General admission is free for all of April due to the support of the Sikh Foundation of Canada.

Art Gallery Exhibitions

The Singh Twins: A Retrospective ? These British contemporary female artists produce vibrant, exquisitely-detailed ?pastmodern? paintings in a traditional Indian miniature style. This is both a reflection of their dual cultural identity and a vehicle for political and social commentary. The show runs until June 12. There is a special exhibition fee of \$5 per person.

Fabulous Fictions and Peculiar Practices: Tony Calzetta and Leon Rooke ? The artistic collaboration of painter, draughtsman and printmaker Tony Calzetta, and poet, novelist and painter Leon Rooke, led to the creation of their pop-up, limited edition project. Politics and economics mix with fictional discussions involving art critics, artists and even God. The show runs until June 19. There will also be a Curator Talk with Tom Smart May 5 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. As well, PAMA will present a Reading by Leon Rooke May 8 from 2 to 2:45 p.m. as part of the Festival of Literary Diversity May 6 to 8.

Pop is Everything! ? Since the 1950s, Pop Art has challenged traditions of fine art by including imagery from contemporary media. Explore the imagery of Pop Art through the eyes of artists represented in PAMA's art collection, including Andy Warhol and Sadko Hadzihasanovic. The show will run until June 19.

Museum Exhibitions

Museum exhibitions during April include:

? Coming Together: Celebrating the Sarbat through art ? In the Tunnel, Museum Lobby Level;

? Sikhi 101 ? In the Tunnel, Museum Lobby Level;

? Sikhs in Canada ? In the Museum Lobby;

? The Role of Sikhs in World War I and World War II ? In the We Remember: Stories of Service and Sacrifice, Museum Lobby Level;

? Sikh History in Canada, a Timeline: On loan from the Sikh Heritage Museum of Canada ? In Manning Square;

? Lost Voice of Punjab: Exploring Sikhi and Social Justice ? In Behind Bars: The Story of the Peel County Jail, Museum Level 1;

? Sikh Art and Artifacts from Ishar Singh ? Mahinder Kaur Collection ? On Museum Level 2.

Sikh Heritage Month Events

Thursday evenings at PAMA during Sikh Heritage Month, experience a variety of eye-opening art exhibits including world famous artist Inkquisitive.

Delve into the world of innovative Sikh fashion with U.K. style icon Singh Street Style, as well as, a night of musical performances and a panel discussion examining the significance of this important month.

Weekends during

Sikh Heritage Month

Visit PAMA throughout the month for a variety of diverse and exciting events for the entire family.

Be sure to visit the official Sikh Heritage Month website for more than 45 events and details.

The closing event for the month will be April 30 from 6 to 11 p.m.

Additional April Programs

Earth Day at PAMA will be April 24 from 1 to 4:30 p.m.

Drop in and participate in activities based around the Three Rs (Reduce, Reuse and Recycle). Join Binny the Green Bin and create something fun. Free Admission courtesy of the Sikh Foundation of Canada.

PAMA is a place to explore and learn about Peel Region's culture and heritage, as well as use conversation, questions and stories to help make new and fascinating connections to the surrounding community.

Operated by the Region of Peel, PAMA is at 9 Wellington St. E. in Brampton. Visit pama.peelregion.ca to learn more.