

PAMA kicks-off an exciting new year

Peel Art Gallery, Museum and Archives (PAMA) is excited to usher in a new year, connecting Region of Peel residents with arts and culture.

As people ease into the year, PAMA offers a last chance to see three dynamic portrait exhibitions, an amazing multimedia art experience and a last look at the talented artists in the Muslim community across Canada. January programming is all about warming-up for a great year ahead and getting our hearts pumping through art activities, yoga with new partners 5 Elements, and dance with Akoma Afro Dance.

Last chance to see exhibitions

Closing Jan. 21

? Meeting Her Majesty, Phil Richards' Official Portrait ? Discover sketches and related material created for the official portrait of Queen Elizabeth II for the Diamond Jubilee, commissioned by the Canadian Government in 2012. See if you can find the Queen's two hidden Corgis in the large reproduction of the final portrait.

? The Kingston Prize, Canada's Portrait Competition ? Explore the work of the 30 finalists.

? Through Gordon Rayner's Eyes, Portraits of Famous Artists ? Connect with his series of innovative and often humorous paintings. See his thick use of paint and how it makes each piece so unique.

? 150 Muslim Contributions to Canada: This community art exhibition showcases the rich heritage and growth the Muslim community has contributed to Canada in the past 150 years.

Closing Jan. 28

? Blue God and the Serpents is a multimedia art project conceived as shadow puppet theatre by Brampton based artist Sharada K. Eswar and her collaborative team members, Sonja C. Rainey and Rup Sidhu. The project pays tribute to Vishnu and our planet Earth.

Year-Round Favourites

At PAMA, Thursday evenings and weekends are always happening times and are full of ways to explore, create and connect.

? Knit@PAMA: Thursdays from 6 to 8 p.m. ? A fantastic all-ages gathering to knit wonderful, warm products which are donated to local Peel charities. Admission to this activity is free.

? Tours: Thursday nights, Saturdays and Sundays ? Request your own personalized tour with a friendly Visitor Service Guide. The tour is included in the cost of admission. Arrange private tours for groups or organizations, but PAMA asks that those be booked in advance. pama - 4

? Family Fun Weekend Activity: Saturdays and Sundays from 1 to 4 p.m. ? Guide the family through art projects at PAMA and inspire creativity. January's theme is about diversity and keeping an open-heart this New Year. Create a fuzzy felt coaster based on images of human cells for inspiration.

? Art of Yoga with 5 Elements Studio (16 years of age and older): First Thursday of the month (Feb. 1, March 1, and April 5) from 7 to 8:30 p.m. This year, PAMA is excited to team-up with a local yoga studio, 5 Elements. This activity is included in the cost of admission.

? Brampton Folk Club Concert: Second Thursday of the month (Feb. 8, March 8, April 12) from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

? Peel Aboriginal Network (PAN) Drumming Circle: Third Thursday of the month (Jan. 18, Feb. 15, March 15 and April 19) from 7 to 8:30 p.m. All are invited to participate in an evening of shared traditions and songs. Admission to this activity is free.

? Family Fun Days: Third Saturday of the month (starting Jan. 20). Family time adventures happen at PAMA. Come out for a day full of creativity, with the theme of keeping an open-heart and having a happy new year in 2018. Get hearts pumping with a special hip hop workshop by In the Mix from 11 a.m. to noon. This program is included with the cost of admission.

? Queer Exposure in partnership with LAMP Community Health Centre: Fourth Thursday of the month (Jan. 25, Feb. 22, March 22 and April 26) from 7 to 8:30 p.m. ? Join the conversation, create and celebrate in a safe space with the LGBTQ2 communities in the Region of Peel and beyond. Everyone is welcome. Admission to this activity is free.

? Open Studio: Fourth Thursday (Jan. 25, Feb. 22, March 22 and April 26) from 6 to 8:30 p.m. An opportunity for artists to work independently, share or collaborate in this supportive studio environment. All art forms are welcome. Please bring your own supplies. No solvent-based materials. Admission to this activity is free.

? Adult Workshops (16 years of age and older): Fourth Sundays of the month (starting Jan. 28) from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. The first workshop of the year will be presented by Akoma Afro Dance. Move to Caribbean rhythms. Learn new dance moves. All are welcome. The cost is \$10 per workshop for members, and \$15 for non-members. Registration is required.

PAMA is a place to explore and learn about Peel Region's culture and heritage, and to converse, question and tell 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.