

the
CFAC INSIDER

NEWS AND EVENTS

WELCOME!

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

We are proud to bring you our first Community Folk Art Council of Toronto newsletter. Please enjoy reading about all our activities this past 2012 season. We have just held our first CFAC board meeting this month and here is your board:

2012-13 Board of Directors

Hon. Jean Augustine
Honorary Chairman

- Fethi Karakecili Chair
- Ana Gomes Secretary
- Tanya Wadgyamar
- Olga Jabbar
- Grace Carter-Henry Lyon
- Catherine Limbertie

Wendy Limbertie- Executive Director

In Loving Memory

The CFAC board noted with sadness the passing of long time members Maire Pietikainen of the Finnish community and Nicola Vrdoljak of the Croatian community. Their contributions to the cultural life of Toronto will never be forgotten and we will cherish their memories.



A welcome letter from our Chairman

Greetings, Happy New Year!

My name is Fethi Karakecili and I am the Chairman of CFAC since 2006 and a board member since 2003. I am a Kurdish Canadian who is a PhD candidate at York University in Ethnomusicology. The focus of my study is Kurdish, Turkish, Armenian, Assyrian, Pontiac and Roma dances in the Middle East. I am also a teaching assistant at the music department teaching a “Music and Culture” course. I used to teach European dances at York University in the Dance Department. My areas of focus are Folklore, Ethnology, Folk dance, Folk Music and Social Anthropology.
(Con’t on page 4)



Save the Date!

Canada Day
July 1, 2013

We are looking for groups interested in performing July 1, 2013

New!
September 2013

The CFAC proudly hosts the new “Aleida Limbertie International Folk Dance Competition”

Folkore Canada
May 2013

Annual Canadian Expressive Heritage Conference

List of 2012 events

Multicultural Canada Day 2012

July 1, 2012 Yonge Dundas Square

On July 1, 2012 at Yonge Dundas Square our Canada Day festival kicked off at 12noon with opening ceremonies that included Liberal Leader, Hon. Bob Rae, M.P. Hon. Jim Karygiannis and our CFAC chairman, Fethi Karakecili. The program continued with live performances on the main stage until 8pm. We also had many international vendors on the square offering food, arts and crafts for sale.

The 2012 edition of the multicultural Canada Day festival was a challenge because of conflict with Gay Pride Weekend. However, we handed out 20,000 paper Canadian flags during the course of the day. For the first time, our festival had OMNI TV as Title media sponsorship. OMNI TV kindly donated \$75,000 in commercial airtime to promote the festival on both OMNI TV 1 & 2. They too were very pleased, and confirmed that they would like to continue this new partnership in our upcoming 2013 festival and many more to come! Thank you OMNI!



A huge success!

We were successful in engaging more volunteers to help with the 2012 festival. Our attendance was down because Canada Day fell on the same day as the Gay Pride Parade of Toronto. Yonge Street was closed from Dundas to Bloor, which made it difficult for our spectators to make their way to the square. This year's audience participation element of 'Line Dancing' was a huge success. We had a full square at the time of the audience participation section, and almost everyone participated in the 'Line Dancing' instruction. We plan to continue this new element again next year. The audience loved it!!

Funding:
 Requested funding from Heritage Canada \$45,000, City of Toronto \$20,000 (in-kind) OMNI Television \$75,000 (in-kind) TTC \$10,000 (in-kind)



More events...

Kaleidoscope Kids Camp

July 30 – August 10,

Camp Around the World...Four CFAC groups came for an afternoon to teach folkdances to children between the ages of 5 – 14 from priority neighbourhoods of Toronto. The four CFAC groups came from China, Hawaii, Holland and the Philippines.



Villa Charities, Columbus Centre

Four CFAC groups performed at the Columbus Centre for the Italian community. These evening events took place on February 24, 2012, Serbia, March 9, 2012, Scotland, March 23, 2012 Poland and April 13, 2012, Serbia.

Santa's Around the World

November 2011 and 2012

A brand new addition to our annual activities now takes place in Mississauga. The Santa and Christmas Tree Around the world festival brightens Erin Mills Town Centre in Mississauga. On the 2nd Saturday of November, CFAC groups are invited to participate in a Children's parade in costume. CFAC groups also decorated Christmas trees that were displayed in the mall until January 7th. This year participants came from: Belarus, Filipino, Ukrainian, Serbia, Slovak Rep, Slovenia, Holland, Hungary, Croatia, Poland, Portugal, Macedonia.



Toronto Christmas Market

November 30 to December 17, 2012

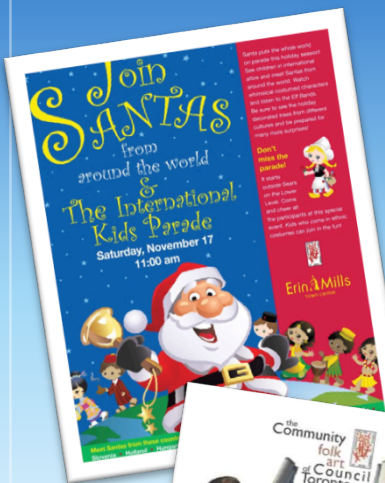
At the Distillery Historic District Christmas Market, your council was a featured guest. The groups that performed on the main stage were from: Scotland, Ukraine, Poland, Bulgaria, Slovak Republic and Sweden. A highlight was the arrival of St. Nicholas from The Netherlands on his white horse to the delight the many young visitors.

Letter from your Chairman (con't)

As you all know The Community Folk Arts Council is non-profit organization. We are proud and very lucky to have you all as members in our organization that has been running for more than 30 years. Our focus is to enrich and engage ethnic communities in Toronto. Currently we have more than 80 ethnic groups under our organization. We would like to extend our member groups and serve you even better in 2013.

In terms of human capital, Toronto ranks in the top 10 on the Global Cities Index, (2008). It is home to virtually all of the world's cultural groups and is a city where more than 100 languages and dialects are spoken. With over 200 distinct ethnic origins represented, the Toronto region is a true mosaic of cultures, languages, abilities, hopes and dreams. It is a multicultural society with more than 50 ethnic and cultural festivals.

Our biggest event is the Multicultural Canada Day Festival in downtown Toronto. It has been a significant event in the city since 2007. Many of you have taken part in it and enjoyed performing for huge crowds at Yonge Dundas Square. Other events include Christmas around the World, Toronto's longest running Christmas festival that now enhances Erin Mills Town



2011/12 Reports

2011-2012 Donors and Sponsors

Toronto Arts Council -	\$3,940
Canadian Heritage -	\$45,000
Honest Eds/Murvish productions-	\$75

In-Kind

OMNI Television-	\$75,000
TTC	\$10,000
City of Toronto City Hall	\$20,000

In Association with

Canadian Commission for UNESCO
 City of Toronto
 Community Arts Ontario
 Canadian Heritage
 Ontario Folk Dance Association
 National Folk Organization, USA
 St. James Cathedral
 St. Lawrence Neighborhood
 CIOFF International
 Folklore Canada International, Montreal, Que.
 York University

With grateful thanks to the many volunteers who have helped the Community Folk Art Council in fulfilling its mandate:

“to promote the preservation, development and advancement of the cultural and artistic heritage of the people of Toronto”.

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Centre as well as a partnership with the historic Distillery District to produce its annual Christmas Market.

Our new exciting project is the “Aleida Limbertie International Folk Dance Competition” currently planned for September 2013. More information will be given to our members at a later date. To be able to compete, you have to be a currently paid-up member of the Council.

On behalf of CFAC I would like to remind you that the CFAC is not able to operate without your contribution of annual membership fees. I would therefore like to kindly remind you to please pay your membership fees promptly so as we are able to provide you with our services.

Without your support we can't make our council and its events successful. If you have any suggestions or concerns, please write us with your feedback.

Regards,
 Fethi Karakecili
 Chairman of CFAC.

Our New Look

We have redesigned our cfac website.

We would like to add your events to our website.

Please email us with your events and we will post it on our website!

Our email address is: cfac.toronto@sympatico.ca
www.cfactoronto.com

We are also looking for your stories to add to our next newsletter. Please submit your upcoming activities, i.e. travels this summer and any announcements to: cfac.toronto@sympatico.ca

