



**JULY 8-12, 2009**

*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

***FAMILY FUN AT WINNIPEG FOLK FESTIVAL and  
THE CAT EMPIRE COMING TO TOWN...***

*Winnipeg MB (June 10, 2009)* -- Since the first Winnipeg Folk Festival in 1974, parents have been bringing children to share in the sights and sounds. Today, the 'little folks' can partake in family fun through their own stream of interactive programming.

"Many people who visit the Winnipeg Folk Festival for the first time come away amazed by the range of activities for the entire family. From crafts to concerts, there really is something for everyone," says Tamara Kater, Executive Director of the 2009 Winnipeg Folk Festival.

**THE FAMILY AREA**

The jam-packed schedule at the Family Area offers music, games, stories, crafts, face painting, and other activities, as well as places to gather and spend time together. Family Area attractions include:

- **CHICKADEE BIG TOP:** Music, dance, crafts and more, during three days of spirited entertainment. Paint your face, make a drum, or spend quiet time in the reading tent.
- **PERFORMANCES BY:** **Alphabet Soup, Gustavo the Impossibilist, The Kerplunks, Mr Mark, Fred Penner, Puppet Folk, The Riding Mountain Troubadours, and Summer Bear Dance Troupe.** Special guests **Pacific Curls, Linda Tillery, and Vishten.**
- **WINNIPEG INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL:** Learn what it takes to be a circus performer. Juggle, tumble, stilt-walk and more. (Friday-Sunday, 11:00am-1:00pm)
- **WINNIPEG ART GALLERY:** Children of all ages are invited to express their love of music through painting. (Friday-Sunday, 12:00pm-2:00pm)
- **MANITOBA CANOLA GROWERS:** Put the crush on canola seeds to see how canola oil is made. (Friday-Sunday, 11:00am-12:00pm)
- **MANITOBA HYDRO:** Fun activities provided by the friendly folks at Manitoba Hydro. Make a kootie catcher, play eye spy, or try your hand at a game of Wattzee.
- **READING TENT:** Relax and enjoy an enchanting tale in this make-believe world, from special guest storytellers **Grant Anderson** and illustrator **Sheldon Dawson.**
- **ARTIST CENTRAL:** Wire creations, puppet making, magic wands, fairy crowns, mobiles, headbands, spiders and webs, basket making, kites, and more. (Friday-Sunday, all day long)
- **GREEN FOOLS ROVING STILT WALKERS:** Masked and costumed characters including larger-than-life cowboys, eclectic bohemians, whooping cranes and charming faeries.

*More on page 2...*

- **FUN IN THE SUN:** Games and activities take place in the field all day long.
- **IDE CANADA:** Cool off at the water play area, featuring revolutionary products such as the treadle pump and low-pressure sprinkler.
- **FESTIVAL FINALE PARADE:** The highlight of the kids' weekend is the Festival Finale Parade. Meet at the stage for the march through the Labyrinth. Participants can make props in advance at the Art City Parade Station. (Sunday 5:00pm)
- **ART CITY PARADE STATION:** Create costumes, hats and masks in preparation for Sunday's parade. (Friday-Sunday, 1:00pm-3:00pm)

### **WINNIPEG FOLK FESTIVAL – ADVANCE TICKETS AVAILABLE**

Advance tickets for the Winnipeg Folk Festival are on sale until June 30 at the Winnipeg Folk Festival Music Store (211 Bannatyne Ave. at Albert St. / 204-231-1377) and Ticketmaster. Four-day passes are \$173 for adults; \$89 for youth (15-17) and seniors; \$14.70 for children (5-14). Day passes for adults are \$59. Admission for Wednesday night's show with **Elvis Costello & The Imposters** must be purchased separately from festival passes. Four-day pass holders can add on for an additional \$20. Regular single-day admission is \$40.

### **FALL CONCERT ANNOUNCEMENT – THE CAT EMPIRE**

**The Cat Empire** is returning to Winnipeg this fall for the Winnipeg Folk Festival Concert Series. This smokin' good party band from Melbourne, Australia first established their authority over the Winnipeg Folk Festival crowd on a warm Saturday night in 2007. They're coming back to prowl the stage at Garrick Centre on Tuesday, November 24, at 8:00pm. Tickets are \$29.50 plus fees, and go on sale to the public on Saturday, June 13 at 10:00am at Ticketmaster, and 11:00am at the Winnipeg Folk Festival Music (211 Bannatyne Ave. at Albert St. / 204-231-1377).

Also scheduled for the Winnipeg Folk Festival Concert Series is **Ani DiFranco**. The fiercely independent guitarist, songwriter, and founder of Righteous Babe Records returns to Winnipeg to play the Burton Cummings Theatre Saturday, September 19 at 8:00 pm. Tickets are \$40.00 (plus fees) on sale at Ticketmaster and the Winnipeg Folk Festival Music Store.

-- 30 --

#### **MEDIA CONTACTS:**

*RoseAnna Schick, RAS Creative  
Publicist for 2009 Winnipeg Folk Festival  
[publicity@winnipegfolkfestival.ca](mailto:publicity@winnipegfolkfestival.ca)  
204-783-7600*

*Tutu Ilelaboye, Marketing & Publicity Manager  
2009 Winnipeg Folk Festival  
[marketing@winnipegfolkfestival.ca](mailto:marketing@winnipegfolkfestival.ca)  
204-231-0096 ext. 227*