

VOICE

Official Newsletter for Industry News and Updates



FESTIVALS &

What's Happening

Executive Director Welcome

May, 2008

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I am honoured to have been selected as the new Executive Director for Festivals & Events Ontario. Since coming aboard just prior to the end of last year, I have met and/or spoken with many of you and am extremely excited by the opportunities which I envision for the FEO organization.

FEO has grown exponentially since its inception in 1986. Our not-for-profit association increased its membership to almost 600 representatives and works in tandem with the Ontario Tourism Marketing Partnership Corporation to annually produce and strategically distribute 250,000 annual consumer guides highlighting over 700 individual festivals and events from a universe of more than 3,000 that are staged every year in Ontario. FEO also annually produces and distributes 7,000 copies of a directory of suppliers to the industry.

FEO also played a key contributing role on the funding front that led to the implementation of the Celebrate Ontario festivals and events program these past two years and is now widely respected as the provincial leader in terms of collaborative industry representation, advocacy, marketing and education.

We have just staged another successful Conference in London featuring more than 25 learning sessions and over a dozen showcase performers, while simultaneously acknowledging the Top 100 Events in Ontario and the achievements of leaders within the industry. The FEO Conference Committee looks forward to working with our hosts in Burlington when we meet again at the Holiday Inn and Conference Centre on May 4 -7, 2009.

And, in partnership with the Ontario Trillium Foundation, we are working on exciting new developments in the economic impact research arena, with more details to be announced at a later date.



The journey to-date has been remarkable. Yet, much more can and will be done. Staff and I look forward to working with the new 2008 -2009 Board and with all of you to lead our industry to exciting new levels by consolidating past successes, creating new partnerships and launching initiatives that grow both your business and your FEO Association.

Sincerely,



Gary Masters

Gary Masters
Executive Director



Exciting Up-Coming Programs

Festivals & Events Ontario (FEO) + OTMP + CFRB

Festivals & Events Ontario will once again have the amazing opportunity to work with the Ontario Tourism Marketing Partnership (OTMP) and the Chris Robinson Travel Show on CFRB Radio. The Chris Robinson Travel Show is aired on CFRB every Saturday from 10:00am to 11:00am and on Saturday, May 31st the show will be dedicated to Festivals & Events Ontario. During the one hour, live phone-in and email show, three festivals that be taking place in June, July or August, 2008 will be featured including Sarnia Bayfest, the Welland Illuminaqua and the Lanark Art of Being Green Festival. On air for over ten years the show reaches 603,394 listeners across Ontario in a demographic that includes 25 -64 year olds. For further information, please contact Debbie Mann at the FEO office by Tel (519) 756-3359 or by [Email](#).

THE ONTARIO
TRILLIUM
FOUNDATION



LA FONDATION
TRILLIUM
DE L'ONTARIO

Program Re-Caps

2008 Festivals And Events In Ontario Guide Now Available

Exciting News! Festivals & Events Ontario has produced the 2008 / 2009 edition of the Festivals And Events In Ontario Guide, in partnership with the Ontario Tourism Marketing Partnership Corporation (OTMPC). This one-of-a-kind consumer publication is the ultimate source for festival and event listings throughout Ontario. A copy of the publication can be obtained by calling 1-800-Ontario or (519) 756-3359. A download of the publication is also available by clicking on the following underlined link to the [Festivals & Events Ontario website](#). The publication is also now available on the Ontario Tourism website at www.ontariotravel.net.

Achievement Awards Sponsors

Commercial Print Craft
CosmoLites
Grain Insurance & Guarantee
Magic Light
Ontario Cultural Attractions
Fund
Smart Serve

2008 Directory of Suppliers Now Available

More exciting news! Festivals & Events Ontario has produced the 2008 Directory of Suppliers, an easy-to-use directory of products, services and entertainment options available to help you make your festivals and special events the very best. It is the one FREE tool to help you deliver well-executed events anywhere in Ontario! A download of the publication is available by clicking on the following underlined link to the [Festivals & Events Ontario website](#). If you would like to receive a copy by mail, call us at the Festivals & Events Ontario office at (519) 756-3359 or [email](#) us TODAY!

Festivals & Events Ontario Celebrates Excellence in the Festivals & Events Industry in Ontario

Conference Partners

Burlington Hotel Association
Dance Heads Ontario
International Plowing Match
KW Oktoberfest
Molson Canadian
Pepsi
Schneiders
Tourism Burlington
Tourism London
Tri-Namic Printing Inc.
Western Fair
World's Finest Shows



Festivals & Events Ontario recently celebrated excellence in the festivals and events industry with the announcement of the winners in the Association's various award programs, including the [FEO Achievement Awards](#), [Industry Supplier Awards](#), [Hall of Fame](#), [Top 100 Ontario Festivals](#) and [Volunteer Awards](#). Click on the underlined link above to view the winners in all categories of these programs.

Festivals & Events Ontario Elects New Executive and Board of Directors

Festivals & Events Ontario is pleased to announce the new Board of Directors for the Association recently appointed by the general membership at the Association's Annual General Meeting held February 23, 2008. The Executive was appointed at a subsequent Board of Director's meeting held April 11, 2008. The following is the new Executive and Board of Directors for 2008 / 2009. Please click on the following underlined link for a complete [Board of Directors Contact List](#):

President

Sarah Wood, Niagara Parks Commission, Niagara Falls

Vice President

Gerry Ginsberg, Canada Blooms, Toronto

Past President

Larry Blundell, Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest

Secretary

Chris Greer, City of Oshawa

Treasurer

Walt Metulynsky, Windsor Parks & Recreation

Directors:

Dawn Elliott, Porquis Blues Festival, Iroquois Falls
Maria Fortunato, Tourism Hamilton
Michel Gauthier, Rideau Canal Festival, Ottawa
Roger Gipson, Gananoque
Beth Peterkin, Township of Lanark Highlands, Lanark
Lara Scott, Town of Cobourg
Dave Taylor, Western Fair, London

Industry Suppliers Representatives:

Gino Latini, 3L Productions Inc., Mississauga
Mary Ann Lozinski, Fiddlers 3, Hamilton

French Network Representative (Non-Voting)

Kelly Kraby, Destination Nord de l'Ontario, Kapuskasing

Staff:

Gary Masters, Festivals & Events Ontario, Brantford

Festivals & Events Ontario Annual Conference Re-Cap

At Festivals & Events Ontario's recent Conference, delegates were given the opportunity to participate in 25 dynamic presentations and in-depth workshops while learning from and networking with top festival and event industry professionals. They were also able to view

a showcase of the latest services, products and entertainment options available to produce the best festivals and special events. Please click on the following underlined link to view a complete [Conference 2008 Recap](#). *Mark March 4-7, 2009 when we will be at the Burlington Holiday Inn and Conference Centre for Conference 2009. Stay tuned by clicking on the following underlined link to the Festivals & Events Ontario [website](#) often further details.*

Many Thanks To Our [2008 Conference Sponsors](#) (click on the underlined link to view)!

Many Thanks To Our 2008 Silent Auction Donors

Festivals & Events Ontario would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who so generously donated items to the FEO Silent Auction which took place as part of the Conference. Their generous support of the silent auction enabled Festivals & Events Ontario to raise almost \$9,000.00 to be used towards up-coming and on-going FEO initiatives and projects that will ultimately enhance the festivals and events industry in Ontario. Click on the following underlined link for a complete list of [2008 Silent Auction](#)

[Donors](#)

Conference 2008 Showcase Line-Up

Festivals & Events Ontario offered Showcase 2008 as part of the Conference program. Showcase 2008 highlighted the outstanding entertainment choices available for booking festivals and events throughout Ontario. The Showcase Line-Up included (click on the underlined links for further details):

- * [Kidz Kidding](#)
- * [Mary Lambert Family Fun](#)
- * [Endless Summer](#)
- * [Letters to Elora](#)
- * [Pan Out Now](#)
- * [Piano Man](#)
- * [Sultans of String / Chris McKhool](#)
- * [Fleetwood Dreams](#)
- * [Cathi Korpi](#)
- * [Everything Fitz](#)
- * [Johannes Linstead - Guitar of Fire](#)
- * [Loco Zydeco](#)
- * [The Dance Company](#)

Marketplace 2008

Festivals & Events Ontario was pleased to offer a showcase of the latest services, products and entertainment options available to produce the best festivals and special events during conference 2008 held during this year's Conference on Friday, February 22nd. Click on the following underlined link for a complete contact list of [Marketplace 2008 Exhibitors](#).

Festivals & Events Ontario is the professional, not for profit association of festival and event organizers from across the province of Ontario with a mission to develop, represent, enhance and promote the Ontario festivals & events industry.

The Association provides a network for festival and special event organizers to share information and resources. The Association is involved with collaborative advocacy, policy development, marketing and providing educational opportunities for members. The Association also serves industry members whose goods and services are of use and benefit to Ontario's festivals and special events industry.

To unsubscribe, please send us a message at info@festivalsandeventsontario.ca



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