



SPREADING ROOTS CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

Odyssey Theatre's **SPREADING ROOTS IS COMING TO STITTSVILLE** and they want you to participate!

Spreading Roots is part of **AOE Arts Council's NEIGHBOURHOOD ARTS 150**, Celebrating Ottawa's Communities, an official Canada 150 and Ontario 150 community-engaged arts project bringing artists and communities together across Ottawa this summer.

Spreading Roots is a **theatre-based community arts project drawing together elders, children, youth, and adults to create a performance celebration of their neighborhood trees**. Together with professional artists and environmentalists, community members will create a performance event that recognizes and celebrates their neighborhood trees as members of their community through storytelling, dance and song, culminating in welcoming and planting a new tree. The theme of *Spreading Roots* focuses on the importance of trees in a community, and a core element of our engagement with participants will be to discover how each community values the trees in their neighborhood.

Partnering with great Stittsville organizations such as the Arts In The Park, the Stittsville Village Association & St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, *Spreading Roots* will transform Alexander Park into a performance space on September 16th.

Open to all members of the community – all ages and experience. *Spreading Roots* participants will get to perform in their community and be a part of a larger Ottawa-wide project that will see 150 trees planted across the city.

Dates

Initial Workshop – **June 4 – 2:30pm – Station Park** – Storytelling with Ottawa Writer/Performer Jacqui du Toit

Workshop Two – August (TBD) - Location TBA - Song, Dance and Mask Making

Final Rehearsal – September 14th - Alexander Grove Park

Performance September 16th - Alexander Grove Park

To participate or for more information email spreadingrootsodyssey@gmail.com or call **613 232 8407**.

Odyssey Theatre is a professional mask and movement theatre company and not-for-profit, charitable organization in Ottawa. For over 30 years we have been delighting audiences with imaginative, award-winning productions that tell universal stories in new, exciting, and thought-provoking ways.

Neighbourhood Arts 150 is bringing twelve of Ottawa's most inspiring professional artists and arts groups together with neighbourhoods from all corners of Ottawa to celebrate their communities and express what it means to be Canadian. Ottawans can participate in free arts experiences, from April to October in over 20 communities outside the downtown core. Local youth, seniors, families, newcomers, BIAs, community associations and more are taking part in artist-led activities including dance, theatre, art installations, sculptures, storytelling, puppetry, murals and more in non-traditional venues.

Neighbourhood Arts 150 is supported by Funders: Government of Canada, Ontario 150; and Partners: Ottawa 2017, Community Foundation of Ottawa, Metroland Media, Trinity Development Foundation, the Danbe Foundation and Jewel 98.5 FM, and many community partners.

All are invited to share their Neighbourhood Arts 150 experiences by following and sharing on Facebook Twitter and Instagram: @150ArtsOttawa #150ArtsOttawa. Read artist blog posts, see project descriptions and community partners, and plan your arts experiences using the interactive calendar at www.150ArtsOttawa.ca

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