

Express the creative you during Ottawa's second annual Culture Days

By **EMILY PEARCE**
Special to the EMC

EMC News - Spin your own clay pottery, try your hand at dramatic theatre, create a Victorian collage, and more during this year's Culture Days event!

Hundreds of cities and towns across Canada are participating in the second annual weekend filled with culture and creativity.

Everyone is welcome to try out a new activity on Sept. 30, Oct. 1 and Oct. 2. The best part about the weekend? Each interactive workshop and activity allows visitors to experience something totally new or different for free!

"The purpose of Culture Days is to make culture accessible to everyone," says Marcelle Kimberley, event coordinator for the City of Ottawa.

"Free activities allow for

anyone to experience culture in its many shapes and forms."

Get up close and personal with artists, actors, architects and many others involved with the creative cultural community of Ottawa. Hands-on demonstrations from professionals in their fields will allow you to release the creativity at your fingertips!

"There are activities for everyone, not just for kids," says Kimberley. "A great part of the event is that it gives you the opportunity to try something new without having to commit to it."

For those with a little flair for the dramatic, be sure not to miss open rehearsals at the Ottawa School for Speech and Drama, Cabaret performances at the Orpheus House and improvisational acting at the Nepean Creative Arts Centre.

Experiment and create with

clay to see if you have what it takes to become a master potter with many workshops dedicated to teaching pottery both free-hand and with a potter's wheel. The Nepean Visual Arts Centre and the Canadian Museum of Civilization are both offering classes throughout the weekend.

With over 140 activities listed, there's something for everyone at this year's Culture Days. Plan your weekend full of everything from button making and watercolour painting to hand drumming and circus workshops.

Before heading out to an activity, be sure to check dates, times and age requirements as these vary for each site during the weekend.

For more information or a complete list of workshops and activities, contact info@culturedays.ca or visit culturedays.ca.