

A Garden of Delights

After a winter that was long and cold even by local standards, the arrival of festival season is a kind of miracle. And speaking of seasonal miracles, the *Suerve* Festival Guide is here to keep you in the clover from now until fall.

BY JON ROE + BRUCE WEIR

Unlike gardening, in the festival game the only way to become a perennial is to be an annual. It is only by a yearly application of effort and passion that a festival becomes a fixture.

The Calgary Folk Music Festival traces its roots back to 1980. The 4th Street Lilac Festival (to give it its full name) will celebrate its 29th edition on June 3. Even the comparative newcomer Sled Island has 12 years (11 if you don't count the 2013 festival that was cancelled due to flooding) under its belt.

These and others are the big trees in the festival forest, but things are flourishing at the grassroots level, too. Cyclepalooza, the "community-driven, do-it-yourself" festival, is back in July with its celebration of life on two wheels. ("Have an idea for bike fun? Add your event to the calendar.") The Hidden Gems Film Festival, beginning May 25, is also a labour of love. Now in its 10th year, it shines a light on otherwise obscure (to North American audiences) films from the "nooks and crannies of India." The Vegan Lifestyle Festival (a.k.a. VegFest) is back after a successful debut in 2017. It features cooking demonstrations, speakers, music and that staple of festivals, a beer garden (in this case, it is vegan-certified).

All right, we'll stop in case we are guilty of spreading the fertilizer a little too thickly. The point is, you should get out and take in some of the fun coming your way between now and the fall. The 200 events in the following pages will help you ensure that your festival season will also be a season of growth. —BW

ILLUSTRATIONS BY FAYE ROGERS



New Beginnings

Spring is all about planting seeds and nurturing tender shoots. It's only fitting, then, that festival season jumps into full swing with The Calgary International Children's Festival (May 23-26). This year, the fun includes a Friday evening pyjama party featuring, for kids eight and older, *The Bookbinder*, which uses shadowplay and puppetry to tell a dark fairy tale about an apprentice bookbinder. Younger kids can wear their jammies to *The Rainbow Fish*, a story of co-operation and generosity from Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia.

In keeping with the seasonal imperative of new beginnings, Calaway Park and Heritage Park welcome all comers beginning May 19. Calaway Park throws the switch on 32 rides, including the new Sky Wynder, and the height requirements that go with them. Heritage Park takes advantage of the long weekend to offer three days of time travel with new (Frontier Filmmaking is described as "interactive street theatre") and long-standing attractions, although flood-mitigation work means the S.S. Moyie will not sail this year.

In happier news, the Asparagus Festival is back at Edgar Farms west of Innisfail for the first time since the hail storms of 2014 wreaked havoc in the fields. The festival runs three consecutive Sundays beginning May 27, and features field tours, an artisan market and the freshest asparagus you're likely to ever find.

Similarly fresh takes can be found at the Fairy Tales Queer Film Festival (May 25 to June 2), which includes the world premiere of *Outliers: Calgary's Queer History*. The documentary is a project of the Calgary Queer Arts Society, which presents the festival. —BW

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A Night at the Festival

WHEN: Saturdays until September
WHAT: Featuring award-winners and audience favourites from the 2017 Banff Mountain Film and Book Festival.
WHERE: Lux Cinema, 229 Bear St., Banff. 1-800-413-8368, banffcentre.ca.

Otafest

WHEN: Friday, May 18 to Sunday, May 20
WHAT: A celebration of Japanese animation and culture featuring costumes, film screenings, concerts, art displays, vendors, gaming and more.
WHERE: Telus Convention Centre, 120 9th Ave. S.E. otafest.com.

Calaway Park Grand-Opening Weekend

WHEN: Saturday, May 19 and Sunday, May 20
WHAT: Western Canada's largest outdoor family amusement park opens for another season of fun.
WHERE: 245033 Range Rd. 33. calawaypark.com.

Heritage Park Opening Weekend

WHEN: Saturday, May 19 to Monday, May 21
WHAT: The historical village opens for its 54th summer season, offering horse-drawn wagon rides, the thrills of the antique midway and rides on the steam train.
WHERE: Heritage Park, 1900 Heritage Dr. S.W., 403-268-8500, heritagepark.ca.

Little Britches Weekend

WHEN: Saturday, May 19 to Monday, May 21
WHAT: Featuring the annual parade, River of Music Festival, Taste of High River, farmers' market, fine art and handcrafted market, and rodeo.
WHERE: Throughout the town of High River. highriver.ca/littlebritches.

One Tribe Community Festival

WHEN: Saturday, May 19 to Monday, May 21
WHAT: Family-friendly community festival with workshops and DJs.
WHERE: Camp Chief Hector, Kananaskis. tribefestival.com.

Serbian Festival

WHEN: Saturday, May 19 and Sunday, May 20
WHAT: Featuring Serbian dances, cuisine, workshops, sports and displays.
WHERE: 16025 243rd Ave E., DeWinton (just south of Calgary along Hwy 2A). serbianfest.ca.

Acting Irish International Theatre Festival

WHEN: Tuesday, May 22 to Friday, May 25
WHAT: The Liffey Players hosts the annual festival of full-length Irish plays performed by Irish community theatre companies from Canada, U.S., and Ireland.
WHERE: Irish Cultural Society, 6452 35th Ave. N.W. liffeyplayers.com.

Best of Calgary Ideas Week

WHEN: Tuesday, May 22 to Sunday, June 3
WHAT: Interactive labs that offer an opportunity to connect with the best of our city including an

Italian feast, build-your-own-terrarium workshop, behind-the-scenes tour of the Glenbow and more.
WHERE: Various venues in Calgary. bestofcalgary.city.

Calgary International Children's Festival

WHEN: Wednesday, May 23 to Saturday, May 26
WHAT: Kids Fest celebrates its 32nd season with shows and activities for every type of kid. Try some real science with Doktor Kaboom, experience the magic of the Rainbow Fish, or sing along to the Okee Dokee brothers.
WHERE: In and around Arts Commons, 205 8th Ave. S.E. calgarykidfest.ca.

Bach @ Knox

WHEN: Thursday, May 24 to Saturday, May 26
WHAT: Explore the many aspects of Johann Sebastian Bach with the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Ivars Taurins. Featuring concerts dedicated to Bach and Telemann, Bach's organ classics and Bach and Handel.
WHERE: Knox United Church, 506 4th St. S.W. 403-571-0849, calgaryphil.com.

Scotiabank Calgary Marathon

WHEN: Thursday, May 24 to Sunday, May 27
WHAT: More than 10,000 participants take part in the 50K ultra, marathon, half marathon, 10K or 5K family walk and run.
WHERE: All races start and finish at Stampede Park. calgarymarathon.com.

Fairy Tales Queer Film Festival

WHEN: Friday, May 25 to Saturday, June 2
WHAT: Nine days of LGBTQA programming guaranteed to provoke, challenge and entertain. Now in its 20th season, Fairy Tales features more than 35 screenings of queer film from around the world as well as performances, parties and panels.
WHERE: The Plaza Theatre, 1133 Kensington Rd. N.W. calgaryqueerartsociety.com.

Hidden Gems Film Festival

WHEN: Friday, May 25 to Sunday, May 27; Friday, June 1 to Sunday, June 3
WHAT: Hidden gems from the nooks and crannies of India including films like *Turup (Checkmate)*, *Kaasav (Turtle)*, *Colour of Innocence*, *Omerta (Code of Silence)*, *Take Off*, *Song of the Scorpion* and more.
WHERE: Stanford Perrott Lecture Theatre, Alberta College of Art + Design. hiddengemsfilmfestival.com.

The Stage One Festival of New Canadian Work

WHEN: Friday, May 25 to Saturday, June 9

WHAT: Presented by Lunchbox Theatre. Series of free staged readings of new works and audience members are invited to give feedback.
WHERE: Lunchbox Theatre, 160, 115 9th Ave. S.E. 403-265-4292, lunchboxtheatre.com.

Taste of Waterton

WHEN: Friday, May 25 to Sunday, June 3
WHAT: A 10-day showcase of the finest, most delicious and unique cuisine that Waterton has to offer.
WHERE: Various locations in Waterton (three hours south of Calgary). mywaterton.ca.

East Town Get Down

WHEN: Saturday, May 26
WHAT: The new music festival presents 60 bands in eight venues on one jam-packed night.
WHERE: Along International Avenue (17th Avenue S.E.) 403-248-7288, easttowngetdown.ca.

Festival of Quilts

WHEN: Saturday, May 26 to Sunday, May 27
WHAT: Western Canada's largest outdoor quilt show, featuring workshops, special displays, a merchants' mall, Iron Quilt challenge and nearly 700 homemade quilts decorating Heritage Park.
WHERE: Heritage Park, 1900 Heritage Dr. S.W. 403-268-8500, heritagepark.ca.

Mutt Strut

WHEN: Saturday, May 26
WHAT: Bring your favourite canine and raise funds for the Cochrane & Area Humane Society.
WHERE: Mitford Park, 201 West Rock Rd., Cochrane. cochrane-tourism.ca.

Panel One Comic Creator Festival

WHEN: Saturday, May 26
WHAT: Celebration of local comic creators with workshops and panels.
WHERE: Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Centre, 1320 5th Ave. N.W., panelone.ca.

Asparagus Festival

WHEN: Sunday, May 27; Sunday, June 3 and Sunday, June 10.
WHAT: After a three-year hiatus (blame the hail storms of 2014) Alberta's largest asparagus farm once again salutes the noble vegetable with tours, tastings and fun for the kids.
WHERE: Edgar Farms, 10 km west of Innisfail, edgarfarms.com.

FunnyFest

WHEN: Thursday, May 31 to Sunday, June 10
WHAT: Eleven nights of laughter featuring 22 shows (two per night) and six headline comedians per show.
WHERE: Eleven venues around Calgary. 403-228-7888, funnyfest.com.



Passport to the World Film Festival

WHEN: Thursday, May 31 to Sunday, June 1
WHAT: Eight beautiful and fascinating features showcase eight intriguing and exotic destinations.
WHERE: Waterton Lakes Opera House, 309 Windflower Ave., Waterton (three hours south of Calgary). mywaterton.ca.

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Banff Yoga Festival

WHEN: Friday, June 1 to Sunday, June 3
WHAT: Participants will be refreshed and renewed in yoga classes, hiking adventures, and cultural and social gatherings.
WHERE: Fenlands Recreation Centre, Banff. banffyogafestival.com.

Empathy Week

WHEN: Friday, June 1 to Thursday, June 7
WHAT: Presented by Humainologie. A week of interactive, multimedia events that promote and heighten individuals' capacity for empathy, personal connection and recognition of shared humanity.
WHERE: Various venues in Calgary. humainologie.com.

Vantopia 666

WHEN: Friday, June 1 to Sunday, June 3
WHAT: Camping concert with priority parking for vans. Bands include Whitey Houston, Electric Owl, Riot City and Miesha and the Spanks.
WHERE: Equity (one-and-a-half hours northeast of Calgary). facebook.com/vanditsvc.

Way Out West Fest

WHEN: Friday, June 1 to Sunday, June 3
WHAT: Celebrates the modern west within Calgary and the surrounding foothills with workshops, excursions, signature dinners and parties.
WHERE: Various venues in Calgary. wayoutwestfest.ca.

Calgary Horror Con

WHEN: Saturday, June 2 and Sunday, June 3
WHAT: The seventh-annual get-together promises a weekend of welcome shocks. Guests include James Remar, John Jarratt and C.J. Graham.
WHERE: Clarion Hotel, 2120 16th Ave. N.E. horror-con.ca.

Calgary Ukrainian Festival

WHEN: Saturday, June 2 and Sunday, June 3
WHAT: A fun-filled day for the whole family. Come experience true Ukrainian hospitality, cuisine and culture. Check out amazingly energetic performances, delicious home-style cooking, children's craft area and a spectacular marketplace.
WHERE: Acadia Recreation Complex, 240 90th Ave. S.E. calgaryukrainianfestival.ca.

Clothesline Festival and Art Sale

WHEN: Saturday, June 2 and Sunday, June 3
WHAT: Featuring more than 1,000 original unframed artworks hung outdoors on clotheslines, including pottery, jewelry, glass, sculpture and fine craft. Plus kids' art activities.
WHERE: Leighton Art Centre, 15 minutes outside Calgary. 403-931-3633, leightoncentre.org.

Footstock

WHEN: Saturday, June 2 and Sunday, June 3

WHAT: Participate in Western Canada's premier race weekend featuring a 5K, 10K, duathlon and iron kids triathlon.
WHERE: Cochrane. cochrane-tourism.ca.

Okotoks Rotary Soap Box Derby

WHEN: Saturday, June 2
WHAT: The Okotoks Rotary Club hosts the 29th annual races.
WHERE: Crystal Ridge Drive between Downey Road and North Railway Street, Okotoks. portal.clubrunner.ca/970.

Rhubarb Fest Calgary

WHEN: Saturday, June 2
WHAT: A community festival featuring live music, face painting, beer garden, skate park and more.
WHERE: Southwood Community Hall, 11 Sackville Dr. S.W. rhubarbfestyc.wordpress.com.

Turner Valley's Discovery Days and Diamond Valley Parade

WHEN: Saturday, June 2
WHAT: Featuring parade, barbecue, pancake breakfast, duck derby, live music, petting zoo, bounce houses, artisan market and more.
WHERE: Parade starts at 10 a.m. in Black Diamond; Discovery Days events at various locations throughout the towns of Black Diamond and Turner Valley (about 30 minutes south of Calgary). town.blackdiamond.ab.ca.

Wild Rose Draft Horse Field Pioneer Days

WHEN: Saturday, June 2 and Sunday, June 3
WHAT: Events include draft horses working in the field, wagon rides, vendors, jam session, roast beef supper, pancake breakfast and Cowboy Church.
WHERE: Double Tree Village Museum, Spruce View (northwest of Calgary, 36 km west of Innisfail on Highway 54). wrdha.com.

4th Street Lilac Festival

WHEN: Sunday, June 3
WHAT: Thousands of attendees enjoy the pedestrian-friendly street festival featuring music on six stages, more than 500 vendors, kid's entertainment and perfect people watching.
WHERE: 4th Street S.W. from 13th Avenue to Elbow Drive. lilacfestival.net.

Disability Pride Parade

WHEN: Sunday, June 3
WHAT: Celebrate disability pride and culture. Parade leaves Bankers Hall at 11 a.m. and walks, rolls and dances to Olympic Plaza for music, food and fun. Everyone welcome; wear orange and teal to celebrate.
WHERE: Downtown Calgary. disabilitypridealberta.com.

Two Wheel Sunday

WHEN: Sunday, June 3
WHAT: Motorcycle groups and scooter clubs gather to celebrate life on two wheels.
WHERE: 5th Street and 42nd Avenue N.E. facebook.com/twowheelsunday.

History in the Hills

WHEN: Monday, June 4 to Friday, June 8
WHAT: Set in a traditional camp circle around an archaeological dig, History in the Hills celebrates aboriginal culture and the history of the Cypress Hills.
WHERE: Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park, Elkwater (three-and-a-half hours southeast of Calgary).



Festival Season Gears Up

June is when festivals take root and start to flourish. This year, it's not just because of the heat; June is the only month in 2018 that begins on a Friday.

Festival-goers should be prepared to hit the ground running—or posing, to be more accurate. The Banff Yoga Festival (June 1-3) welcomes those flexible in both body and spirit. Those of a different bent can take in the sixth annual Vantopia (June 1-3; named Vantopia 666 for the happy occasion) or Calgary Horror Con (June 2-3).

The 4th Street Lilac Festival—one of the biggies—goes June 4. The parade kicks things off at 10 a.m. and the food, fun and music go until 6 p.m. Those who want to take in two parades that day, can dash downtown, where the Disability Pride Parade “walks, rolls and dances” from Bankers Hall to Olympic Plaza, beginning at 11 a.m.

The Inglewood Night Market flowers June 8 and again on the second Fridays in July, August and September.

The Canmore International Improv Festival (June 20-24) returns for its second year. Its 10 shows include *Showstopper!*, an improvised musical that debuted at the Edinburgh Festival in 2008, and *TEDxRFT*, improvised TED talks from Edmonton's Rapid Fire Theatre.

New on the festival scene this year is the Calgary International Jerk Festival (June 30). Mercifully, it's a celebration of Jamaican cuisine and Caribbean culture in general, not a celebration of our city's most abrasive citizens and their global colleagues. —BW



403-527-3371 ext. 7601, historyinthehillssociety.com.

Ignite! Festival of Emerging Artists

WHEN: Tuesday, June 5 to Saturday, June 9
WHAT: Sage Theatre's annual showcase of work from emerging artists in theatre, music, dance and visual art.
WHERE: Pumphouse Theatre, 2140 Pumphouse Ave. S.W. and West Village Theatre, 2007 10th Ave. S.W. 403-264-7243, sagetheatre.com.

The Hills Are Alive

WHEN: Wednesday, June 6 to Sunday, June 10
WHAT: Music and dance cultural festival featuring instruction in music, dancing and craft-making and Métis history, elders storytelling, Michif lessons, tours and more.
WHERE: Eagles Nest Ranch, Elkwater (three-and-a-half hours southeast of Calgary). 403-526-0756, miywasin.ab.ca.

Spruce Meadows National

WHEN: Wednesday, June 6 to Sunday, June 10
WHAT: The best show-jumping athletes and horses from throughout the world compete while you enjoy shopping, pony rides, face-painting, wagon rides and the Re/Max Prairie Dogs.
WHERE: Spruce Meadows, 18011 Spruce Meadows Way S.W. sprucemeadows.com.

Decimate MetalFest

WHEN: Thursday, June 7 to Sunday, June 10
WHAT: With Citizen Rage, Ninjaspy, The Order of Chaos, Filth, Widow's Peak, Insurrection, Benevolent Like Quietus, From the Wolves and more.
WHERE: Distortion, 3828 Macleod Tr. S. showpass.com.

Brooks Pro Rodeo

WHEN: Friday, June 8 and Saturday, June 9
WHAT: Competitors from across North America gather to participate in the high-stakes rodeo events. The fun also includes carnival games, midway rides, beer gardens, live entertainment, parade and more.
WHERE: Silver Sage Community Corral, Brooks (two hours east of Calgary). brookskinsmen.ca.

Doors Open Cochrane

WHEN: Friday, June 8 and Saturday, June 9
WHAT: A behind-the-scenes look at town facilities and local businesses, including Studio West Foundry & Gallery, Krang Spirits and Half Hitch Brewing Company.
WHERE: Around Cochrane. doorsopencochrane.ca.

Inglewood Night Market

WHEN: Friday, June 8; Friday, July 13; Friday, Aug. 10; Friday, Sept. 14 and Saturday, Sept. 15.
WHAT: Up to 50 vendors, including artisans, artists, urban and rural farmers and food trucks. Also, live music, beer and wine patio at Cafe Gravity and street food at Bite Groceteria.
WHERE: 10th Street and 9th Avenue S.E. inglewoodnightmarket.ca.

Third ACTION Film Festival

WHEN: Friday, June 8 to Sunday, June 10
WHAT: Celebrating aging and older adults through films and talks. Featuring features, shorts, animation and documentaries that either feature older adults in leading roles or address issues faced by older adults.
WHERE: Glenbow Museum Theatre, 130 9th Ave. S.E. thirdactionfilmfest.ca.

Summer Skirmish

WHEN: Saturday, June 9 and Sunday, June 10
WHAT: Watch re-enactments and demonstrations, Viking raids, medieval duels, gladiatorial combat, musketry and cannonades. Interact with heroes of battle dressed in period costumes and uniforms.
WHERE: The Military Museums, 4520 Crowchild Tr. S.W. summerskirmish.com.

Banff World Media Festival

WHEN: Sunday, June 10 to Wednesday, June 13
WHAT: The world's largest multi-platform production and development marketplace and conference. Guests include Mélanie Joly, Minister of Canadian Heritage; Robert Greenblatt, chairman of NBC Entertainment; and Nany Abraham, executive vice-president, documentary programming, HBO.
WHERE: The Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel, 405 Spray Ave., Banff. banffmediafestival.com.

Spruce Meadows Continental

WHEN: Wednesday, June 13 to Sunday, June 17
WHAT: A five-star tournament with world-class show jumping in a relaxed atmosphere with free admission and parking.
WHERE: Spruce Meadows, 18011 Spruce Meadows Way S.W. sprucemeadows.com.

JazzYYC Summer Festival

WHEN: Thursday, June 14 to Sunday, June 17
WHAT: Featuring Chelsea McBride's Socialist Night School, Eric Alexander Quartet, John Roney, Allison Au, Hilario Duran, The Heavyweights Brass Band, Maya Rae, Melody Diachun, Yuri Honin Acoustic Quartet and more.
WHERE: Various venues. jazzyyyc.com.

Waterton Wildflower Festival

WHEN: Thursday, June 14 to Tuesday, June 19
WHAT: Step into a veritable bouquet of wildflowers in the wildflower capital of Canada. The spectacular setting of Waterton Lakes National Park is home to more than 1,000 vascular plant species including half of all wildflower species found in Alberta.
WHERE: Waterton Lakes National Park (three hours south of Calgary). 1-877-780-1998, watertonwildflowers.com.

Pig & Pinot Festival

WHEN: Friday, June 15
WHAT: Presented by City Palate in support of Calgary Meals on Wheels. Sip and savour a global selection of red and white pinot wines while sampling the pork-centric creations of 12 teams of chefs competing for the Divine Swine trophy.
WHERE: Hotel Arts, 119 12th Ave. S.W. citypalate.ca.

Royal Canadian Family Circus

WHEN: Friday, June 15 to Sunday, June 17
WHAT: A 50-year circus tradition that features the Duo Guerrero four-man high-wire act, Chinese acrobats, aerial strap artists, juggler and more.
WHERE: CrossIron Mills, 261055 CrossIron Blvd, Rocky View. royalcanadiancircus.ca.

All Sport One Day

WHEN: Saturday, June 16
WHAT: Kids ages six and up can try a new sport at one of over 60 activities across the city (registration required).
WHERE: Various venues around Calgary. sportcalgary.ca.

Kids Can Catch

WHEN: Saturday, June 16
WHAT: This get-together has a real hook, as kids and adults (those with fishing licences) are invited to try their luck with a rod and reel.
WHERE: Mitford Park, 201 West Rock Rd., Cochrane. cochrane-tourism.ca.

Okotoks Parade & Children's Festival

WHEN: Saturday, June 16
WHAT: A fun day full of free activities including a community pancake breakfast and the annual parade, followed by the children's festival with well-known family entertainers, face painting, crafts, bouncy castles and more.
WHERE: Elizabeth Street, Okotoks. 403-938-4404, okotoks.ca.

Train Days

WHEN: Saturday, June 16 and Sunday, June 17
WHAT: Featuring model train displays, a children's train ride, railway tours, pancake breakfast and a Father's Day brunch buffet.
WHERE: Aspen Crossing, west of Mossleigh (one hour outside of Calgary on highway 24). Reserve your brunch spot at 1-866-440-3500 or aspencrossing.com.

VegFest

WHEN: Saturday, June 16
WHAT: Outdoor vegan lifestyle festival featuring speakers, musicians, cooking demos, and samples including a vegan-certified beer garden.
WHERE: Shaw Millennium Park, 1220 9th Ave. S.W. vegfestcalgary.com.

Wings & Wheels

WHEN: Saturday, June 16 and Sunday, June 17
WHAT: Celebrate Father's Day weekend with family-friendly activities, vintage vehicle show and shine, and helicopter rides.
WHERE: The Hangar Flight Museum, 4629 McCall Way N.E. thehangarmuseum.ca.

Xavier Rudd

WHEN: Saturday, June 16
WHAT: The world-famous Australian singer-songwriter brings his Storm Boy tour to the amphitheatre.
WHERE: Shaw Amphitheatre, Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity. 1-800-413-8368, banffcentre.ca.

Banff Marathon

WHEN: Sunday, June 17
WHAT: Starting in the picturesque mountain village of Banff, participants run through a series of natural, wildlife and historical stages. Runs include marathon, half-marathon and 10K.
WHERE: Starting in Banff's Central Park. banffmarathon.com.

Medicine Hat JazzFest

WHEN: Sunday, June 17 to Sunday, June 24
WHAT: Bringing the best of jazz to southern Alberta.
WHERE: Various locations around Medicine Hat. medicinehatjazzfest.com.

Canmore International Improv Festival

WHEN: Wednesday, June 20 to Sunday, June 24
WHAT: Ten shows provide a wide variety of improv experiences, with performers from Norway, France and Holland alongside *Showstopper! The Improvised Musical* from England.
WHERE: Artspace, 950 8th Ave., Canmore. canmoreinternationalimprovfest.ca.

Pops in the Park

WHEN: Wednesday, June 20 and Thursday, June 21
WHAT: Presented by Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra. Light-hearted musical evening includes a western barbecue.
WHERE: Heritage Park, 1900 Heritage Dr. S.W. 403-571-0849, calgaryphil.com.

Sled Island Festival

WHEN: Wednesday, June 20 to Sunday, June 24
WHAT: Annual independent multi-venue music and art festival showcasing emerging and established local talent alongside national and international musicians and artists. Headliners include The Flaming Lips, Shabazz Palaces, Deerhoof and Lido Pimienta.
WHERE: Various venues in Calgary's downtown and Beltline. sledisland.com.

Cochrane Street Market

WHEN: Thursday, June 21; Thursday, July 19; Thursday, Aug. 16; Thursday, Sept. 13
WHAT: Market vendors, artisans, food trucks, music, buskers and late night shopping at local businesses.
WHERE: 1st Street W., downtown Cochrane. cochrane-tourism.ca.

Guy Weadick Days

WHEN: Thursday, June 21 to Sunday, June 24
WHAT: Honouring one of the fathers of the Calgary Stampede with chuckwagon races and rodeo.
WHERE: High River Agricultural Grounds (southwest corner of Hwy 2A and 543), High River. highriverag.com.

BuskersFest

WHEN: Saturday, June 23
WHAT: Entertainers of all ages busk throughout the streets of downtown Okotoks for this fun, free street festival that also features a street market with over 100 vendors from Market Square.
WHERE: Elizabeth Street, Okotoks. 403-938-4404, okotoks.ca.

Calgary Track Takeover

WHEN: Saturday, June 23
WHAT: Canada's track-and-field athletes turn downtown Calgary into a showcase of speed, strength and grace that will try rush hour commuters to shame.
WHERE: Downtown Calgary. athleticsalberta.com.

Des Canyons aux Étoiles by Olivier Messiaen

WHEN: Saturday, June 23
WHAT: Hear Olivier Messiaen's masterful grand orchestra piece as it was originally composed, in nature.
WHERE: Shaw Amphitheatre, Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity. 1-800-413-8368, banffcentre.ca.

International Adventure Film Festival

WHEN: Saturday, June 23
WHAT: A showcase for some of the best adventure films from around the globe. The Adventure Fair features Waterton-based outdoor adventure specialists to give you tips on how best to enjoy all the area has to offer.
WHERE: Waterton Lakes Opera House, 309 Windflower Ave., Waterton (three hours south of Calgary). mywaterton.ca.

Parkland Summerfest

WHEN: Saturday, June 23
WHAT: Community festival for all ages with musical performances by Loverboy.
WHERE: Park 96, Parkland Community Centre, 14660 Parkland Blvd. S.E. parklandsummerfest.com.

Water Valley Celtic Festival

WHEN: Saturday, June 23
WHAT: Some 150 musicians performing in nine weather-protected venues. Camping available.
WHERE: Water Valley (about 40 minutes northwest of Calgary). watervalleycelticfestival.org.

Ponoka Stampede

WHEN: Tuesday, June 26 to Monday, July 2
WHAT: Rodeos, pro chuckwagon races, beer gardens, fireworks and a midway. Performances by Clint Black and Dallas Smith.
WHERE: Ponoka Stampede grounds, Ponoka (two hours north of Calgary). 403-783-3120, ponokastampede.com.

Spruce Meadows Pan American

WHEN: Tuesday, June 26 to Sunday, July 1
WHAT: The tournament now combines events from the former Canada One and Pan American tournaments and features riders from throughout North America.
WHERE: Spruce Meadows, 18011 Spruce Meadows Way S.W. sprucemeadows.com.

FrogFest

WHEN: Friday, June 29 to Monday, July 2
WHAT: Music festival with Alex Ginella Band, Andrew's Pale Horses, Copperhead, Crooked Spies, Raleigh, River Jacks, The Ashley Hundred, The Bitterweed Draw, The Shiverettes, The Tequila Mockingbird Orchestra and more.
WHERE: The Lillypad, Rocky Mountain House (two-and-a-half hours northwest of Calgary). frogfest.ca.

Shakespeare by the Bow

WHEN: Friday, June 29 to Sunday, Aug. 19

JAZZ, FROM LUNCH TO DINNER

JazzYYC's Summer Jazz Festival is an all-day affair. It starts each day at noon with lunch-hour outdoor concerts along Stephen Avenue. It then closes with late-night jams from the John Roney Trio at the Ironwood.

June 14-17 at various venues. jazzyyyc.com.

Big Heat, Big Fun

While it may lack some of the whoopla associated with last year's celebration of the 150th anniversary of Confederation, good ol' reliable Canada Day arrives July 1.

Naturally, the holiday is celebrated around town, but each passing year means one more guest receives a pancake breakfast at Heritage Park's Canada and Dominion Day bash. This year, the first 2,018 people to buy admission receive a meal that will fortify them for the parade, mini horses and dancing to come.

Spruce Meadows expands the focus beyond our home and native land with the North American (July 4-8), which combines show jumping and family fun.

Horses of a different sort ride to the fore as the Calgary Stampede begins its 10-day run July 6. This year's fun includes concerts headlined by Blue Rodeo, Luke Bryan and Brad Paisley.

July also offers many chances for road trips. The Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity keeps summer classy with *Orphée+* (July 12 and 14), a new production of the Gluck/Berlioz opera that presents "an electronic, baroque burlesque descent into hell." The centre offers somewhat lighter fare July 15, as *Candide* takes over the Shaw Amphitheatre.

Vul-Con (July 27-29) brings three days of *Star Trek*-related fun to the otherworldly town of Vulcan. Those who are content to let the world come to them should check out Fiestaval Latin Festival (July 20-22), the Calgary Folk Music Festival (July 26-29) and the Calgary Arab Festival (July 28-29). —BW

WHAT: Theatre Calgary and emerging Alberta actors present *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*.
WHERE: Prince's Island Park. theatrecalgary.com.

Calgary International Jerk Festival
WHEN: Saturday, June 30
WHAT: A food and music festival highlighting Jamaica's famous jerk dishes while celebrating the broader Caribbean culture.
WHERE: Calgary Rotary Challenger Park Society, 3688 48th Ave. N.E. eventbrite.com.

Canadian Roots Music Celebration
WHEN: Saturday, June 30
WHAT: Featuring The Deep Dark Woods, Barney Bentall, Good For Grapes, and Elk Run & Riot.
WHERE: Shaw Amphitheatre, Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity. 1-800-413-8368, banffcentre.ca.

Family Festival Music Camp Fundraiser
WHEN: Saturday, June 30
WHAT: Featuring games, silent auction, paint party, birthday cake, fireworks and music from a live band and DJ.
WHERE: The Great Canadian Barn Dance near Hill Spring (two hours south of Calgary). 1-866-626-3407, gcbd.ca.

July

Canada Day at Eau Claire
WHEN: Sunday, July 1
WHAT: A free event featuring free ice cream (while supplies last), face painting, airbrush tattoos, petting zoo and more.
WHERE: Eau Claire Market Plaza, 200 Barclay Parade S.W. canadadaycalgary.ca.

Canada Day at Fort Calgary
WHEN: Sunday, July 1
WHAT: Celebrate the nation's birthday at the place our city began. Free pancake breakfast at 9 a.m. (first-come, first-served), music, food trucks and family activities.
WHERE: Fort Calgary, 750 9th Ave. S.E. fortcalgary.com.

Chestermere Canada Day Celebration
WHEN: Saturday, July 1
WHAT: Family-friendly celebration of Canada Day. Events start with a pancake breakfast and ends with fireworks. In between there is entertainment, bunny races, a book sale food trucks and more.
WHERE: John Peake Park, 100 John Morris Way, Chestermere. 403-207-7050, chestermere.ca.

Cochrane Canada Day Family Festival
WHEN: Sunday, July 1
WHAT: Celebrate Canada's birthday with live entertainment, roving performers, food trucks and more.
WHERE: Mitford Park, 201 West Rock Rd., Cochrane. cochrane-tourism.ca.

Heritage Park Canada & Dominion Day Celebration
WHEN: Sunday, July 1
WHAT: Celebrate Canada Day the old-fashioned way with a free pancake breakfast for the first 2,018 guests followed by a parade down main street, entertainment, mini-chuckwagon races and more.

WHERE: Heritage Park Historical Village, 1900 Heritage Drive S.W. 403-268-8500, heritagepark.ca.

Spirit Wind—Calgary Organ Festival
WHEN: Monday, July 2 to Thursday, July 5
WHAT: Celebrate the pipe organ and the people who play them with the Royal Canadian College of Organists.
WHERE: Various venues. calgaryorganfestival.ca.

Music in the Plaza
WHEN: Wednesday, July 4 to Wednesday, Aug. 29
WHAT: Bring the family and a picnic, or reserve a table on the patio of the Selkirk Grille restaurant and enjoy free outdoor concerts every Wednesday evening. A new artists plays each week.
WHERE: Heritage Park Historical Village, 1900 Heritage Drive S.W. 403-268-8500, heritagepark.ca.

Spruce Meadows North American
WHEN: Wednesday, July 4 to Sunday, July 8
WHAT: Equestrian tournament with the Spruce Meadows North American Show Jumping Championship, family entertainment and shopping opportunities.
WHERE: Spruce Meadows, 18011 Spruce Meadows Way S.W. sprucemeadows.com.

Blue Rodeo
WHEN: Friday, July 6
WHAT: The iconic Canadian band returns to Banff for its annual concert.
WHERE: Shaw Amphitheatre, Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity. 1-800-413-8368, banffcentre.ca.

Calgary Exhibition and Stampede
WHEN: Friday, July 6 to Sunday, July 15
WHAT: The Greatest Outdoor Show on Earth is a 10-day festival showcasing the city's western and agricultural heritage. It features a rodeo, chuckwagon racing, contemporary shows, music, midway attractions and more.
WHERE: Stampede Park. calgarystampede.com.

La fête franco-albertaine
WHEN: Friday, July 6 to Sunday, July 8
WHAT: Camping festival celebrating Franco-Albertans. Featuring mini-golf, hiking, a bike rally and more.
WHERE: David Thompson Resort, Nordegg (three hours northwest of Calgary). 1-888-810-2103, fetefrancoalbertaine.ca.

Mexifest
WHEN: Friday, July 6 and Saturday, July 7
WHAT: A family-oriented, multicultural arts and entertainment festival highlighting the Mexican Culture and promoting cross-cultural experiences.
WHERE: Eau Claire Market Plaza, 200 Barclay Parade S.W. mexifest.ca.

Roundup MusicFest
WHEN: Wednesday, July 11
WHAT: Annual Stampede concert. This year, a portion of the proceeds will go to Canadian Armed Forces personnel and their families.
WHERE: Shaw Millennium Park, 1220 9th Ave. S.W. roundupmusicfest.com.

Foothills Bucking Horse Futurity
WHEN: Thursday, July 12
WHAT: Cowboys get their chance to win a large cash prize while competing in the Foothills Bucking competition. Enjoy concessions and a beer garden and let the best man win.
WHERE: Cochrane Lions Rodeo Grounds, 109 5th Ave. W., Cochrane. cochrane-tourism.ca.

Orphée+
WHEN: Thursday, July 12 and Saturday, July 14
WHAT: A re-imagined production that looks to explore the gripping and timeless love story of Orpheus and Eurydice through the lens of today's technology.
WHERE: Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity. 1-800-413-8368, banffcentre.ca.

24 Hours of Adrenalin
WHEN: Friday, July 13 to Sunday, July 15
WHAT: This race has become one of the most popular relay mountain-biking events in North America.
WHERE: Canmore Nordic Centre, 1988 Olympic Way, Canmore. 24hoursofadrenalin.com.

Cyclepalooza
WHEN: Friday, July 13 to Sunday, July 22
WHAT: A community-driven, do-it-yourself bicycle festival with a variety of bike-related events.
WHERE: Around Calgary. cyclepalooza.ca.

Big Slam
WHEN: Saturday, July 14
WHAT: A day of skate, surf, bike polo, and music from Lagwagon, Seaway, Little Destroyer, Whitey Houston, Bad Animal, Living With Lions, Sellout and Bearings.
WHERE: Brewery Flats of Inglewood. bigwinterclass.com.

Candide
WHEN: Sunday, July 15
WHAT: Leonard Bernstein's comic operetta is based on Voltaire's tale of an innocent young man's journey through a life filled with colourful characters.
WHERE: Shaw Amphitheatre, Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity. 1-800-413-8368, banffcentre.ca.

Westerner Days Fair & Exposition
WHEN: Wednesday, July 18 to Sunday, July 22
WHAT: Central Alberta's largest summer celebration. Enjoy five days of free entertainment, midway rides, fair food, pony chuckwagon races, agricultural shows and more.
WHERE: Westerner Park, 4847A 19th St., Red Deer. westernerdays.ca.

Dance Action Lab
WHEN: Thursday, July 19 to Saturday, July 21
WHAT: The culmination of an eight-week choreographic development process, featuring several pieces by emerging dancers and artists.
WHERE: DJD Dance Centre, 111 12th Ave. S.E., dsilve.ca.

Beef & Barley Days
WHEN: Friday, July 20 to Sunday, July 22
WHAT: Festivities include a rodeo, fireworks, pancake breakfast and one of the best parades in rural Alberta. There's also a trade and craft show, kids' games and activities, pet show, ball games, food vendors, a roast beef dinner and more.

WHERE: Carstairs (one hour north of Calgary). 403-337-3341, carstairs.ca.

Calgary Ribfest
WHEN: Friday, July 20 to Sunday, July 22
WHAT: Competitors from across Canada fire up the grills and whip up their secret sauces to compete for rib supremacy. The real winners are the folks who come to watch and eat.
WHERE: Max Bell Centre Festival Grounds, 1001 Barlow Tr. S.E. calgaryribfest.ca.

Fiestaval Latin Festival
WHEN: Friday, July 20 to Sunday, July 22
WHAT: A celebration of Latin American culture in Calgary featuring live music, dance lessons, food, beer gardens and a kids' area.
WHERE: Olympic Plaza, 228 8th Ave S.E., Calgary. fiestaval.ca.

Langdon Days
WHEN: Friday, July 20 to Sunday, July 22
WHAT: A small-town celebration of community spirit. Includes a slo-pitch tournament, parade, pancake breakfast, horseshoe tournament, kids activities, live music, car show and more.
WHERE: Langdon Community Park, Langdon (30 minutes east of Calgary). goodlucktown.ca.

South Country Fair
WHEN: Friday, July 20 to Sunday, July 22
WHAT: A planet-friendly, peace-oriented, outdoor-camping-style roots-and-folk-music festival (with spoken word and other forms). Featuring John Wort Hannam, Fin de Fiesta Flamenco, The Wine Soaked Preachers, and more.
WHERE: 249 Lyndon Road, Fort Macleod. southcountryfair.com.

Medieval Day
WHEN: Saturday, July 21
WHAT: Pretend sword fighting and jousting for kids. Food trucks and vendors for all.
WHERE: Cochrane Public Library, 405 Railway St. W., Cochrane. cochrane-tourism.ca.

Parks Day & Creekfest
WHEN: Saturday, July 21
WHAT: The Friends of Fish Creek set out to raise awareness of the importance of preserving and protecting local watersheds. The fun includes theatrical presentations, guided walks and games for the kids.
WHERE: Bow Valley Ranch, Fish Creek Provincial Park. friendsoffishcreek.org.

Taste of Okotoks
WHEN: Saturday, July 21
WHAT: Experience all of the delicious food and drinks Okotoks has to offer. The streets are closed for this pedestrian-friendly event that includes live music, food, family fun and crafts, boutique shops and an artisan street market.
WHERE: Elizabeth Street, Okotoks. 403-938-4404, okotoks.ca.

Jens Lindemann
WHEN: Sunday, July 22
WHAT: See the internationally renowned trumpet soloist and Order of Canada recipient.
WHERE: Shaw Amphitheatre, Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity. 1-800-413-8368, banffcentre.ca.

Calgary Folk Music Festival
WHEN: Thursday, July 26 to Sunday, July 29

WHAT: Eight stages featuring more than 70 local and international artists. Headliners include Joe Jackson, Alvvays, Bahamas, Stars, and A Tribe Called Red.
WHERE: Prince's Island Park. calgaryfolkfest.com.

Center of Gravity
WHEN: Friday, July 27 to Sunday, July 29
WHAT: The hottest beach festival in Canada, with a lineup that includes Wu-Tang Clan, Action Bronson, Elephante and GTA.
WHERE: Kelowna City Park, Kelowna, B.C. centerofgravity.ca.

Historic Calgary Week
WHEN: Friday, July 27 to Monday, Aug. 6
WHAT: Presented by the Chinook Country Historical Society. Showcasing our history, culture and community through walks, tours, programs, presentations, family events, museums and community visits.
WHERE: In and around Calgary. 403-261-4667, chinookcountry.org.

Terminus
WHEN: Friday, July 27 to Sunday, July 29
WHAT: Dark electronic, synth and industrial festival featuring Mesh, Statiobloom, Android Lust, Empathy Test and more.
WHERE: Dickens Pub, 1000 9th Ave. S.W. terminus-festival.com.

Vul-Con
WHEN: Saturday, July 27 to Sunday, July 29
WHAT: Three days of *Star Trek*-related fun. Guests include Tucker Smallwood, Rekha Sharma and Stephanie Niznik. The fun includes costume contest, auctions, vendors and a parade.
WHERE: Vulcan (one-and-a-half hours from Calgary). 403-485-2994, vulcanconvention.com.

Willow Creek Gospel Music Jamboree
WHEN: Friday, July 27 to Sunday, July 29
WHAT: A weekend celebration of western Canada's gospel musicians. Performers include Keepers of the Faith Quartet, Taito Family Singers, Trudel Family and more.
WHERE: Granum (one-and-a-half hours southeast of Calgary). gospelmusicjamboree.com.

Calgary Arab Festival
WHEN: Saturday, July 28 and Sunday, July 29
WHAT: Free, family friendly event featuring Arabian traditions, such as folk dance, traditional music, food, customs, arts, and much more.
WHERE: Olympic Plaza, 228 8th Ave. S.E. yycarabfest.com.

CentreFest
WHEN: Saturday, July 28 and Sunday, July 29
WHAT: Red Deer's international street performer festival. Downtown Red Deer comes alive with street performers of all kinds including contortionists, jugglers, magicians and others.
WHERE: Downtown Red Deer. centrefest.ca.

Chestermere Water Festival
WHEN: Saturday, July 28
WHAT: Watch the wakeboard competition, sample the food trucks, take a boat tour, have a blast with your kids in the Kids Fun Zone, browse the Artisan Market or visit the beer gardens. The night ends with fireworks.
WHERE: John Peake Park, 100 John Morris Way, Chestermere. chestermere.ca.



August Goes Boom

The final full month of summer is all about explosions. GlobalFest (Aug. 16-25), a fireworks duel between international competitors, is the headliner, but there's also an explosion of flavour at Taste of Calgary (Aug. 9-12), where you can sample food and drinks from a salvo of local restaurants and beverage companies.

Authors gather to witness literary combustion at When Words Collide (Aug. 10-12), while corn-eating competitors at Taber Cornfest (Aug. 23-25) try to keep it together. Country Thunder (Aug. 17-19), with Dierks Bentley, Toby Keith, Dean Brody and Eric Church, strikes at Prairie Winds Park, and it's an outbreak of colour for the annual Calgary Pride Festival (Aug. 24 to Sept. 3)—the annual pride parade falls just outside of August, on Sunday, Sept. 2.

The month ends with a sonic explosion: it's a competition year for the Honens Piano Competition (Aug. 30 to Sept. 8) and competitors receive a burst of \$100,000 in cash; and while it's an off year for the Banff International String Quartet Competition, the Banff Centre of Arts and Creativity hosts the Banff Centre International String Quartet Festival (Aug. 31 to Sept. 2) which means there's a volley of concerts featuring past winners Dover Quartet (2013) and Rolston String Quartet (2016) and 2016 runners-up Tesla Quartet and Castalian String Quartet. —JR

Foothills Highland Games

WHEN: Saturday, July 28
WHAT: Competitive event dedicated to furthering Scottish culture and sees over 3,000 spectators and 350 competitors from across Alberta and neighbouring provinces. Competitions include piping and drumming, dance and heavy events.
WHERE: St. John Paul II Collegiate School, 53 Cimarron Dr., Okotoks. foothillshighlandgames.com.

Pet-A-Palooza

WHEN: Saturday, July 28 and Sunday, July 29
WHAT: Pet festival featuring a bulldog race, on-site teeth cleaning, trims, red carpet photo ops, live music and vendors.
WHERE: Eau Claire Market, 200 Barclay Parade S.W. petapaloozawest.com.

A Tribe Called Red

WHEN: Sunday, July 29
WHAT: The DJs mix traditional pow wow vocals and drumming with cutting-edge electronic music to celebrate their Aboriginal culture.
WHERE: Shaw Amphitheatre, Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity. 1-800-413-8368, banffcentre.ca.

Calgary International Blues Festival

WHEN: Monday, July 30 to Sunday, Aug. 5
WHAT: A week-long blues party culminates (Aug. 3-6) in four days and nights of mainstage performances by the likes of Lil Ed and The Blues Imperials, Chicago Blues Reunion, Dawn Tyler Watson, Jim Byrnes, Pops Chubby and more.
WHERE: Mainstage at Shaw Millennium Park, 1220 9th Ave. S.W. calgarybluesfest.com.

august

Movie at the Meadows

WHEN: Wednesdays in August
WHAT: Movies for families on the big screen under the stars.
WHERE: Spruce Meadows, 18011 Spruce Meadows Way S.W. sprucemeadows.com.

Calgary Fringe Festival

WHEN: Friday, Aug. 3 to Saturday, Aug. 11
WHAT: Indoor Theatre Festival presenting theatrical acts from around the globe. Featuring inclusive and accessible arts programming and an environment of artistic freedom and expression. 100 per cent of ticket revenue paid to the artists.
WHERE: Venues around Inglewood and the downtown core. calgaryfringe.ca.

Loud as Hell Festival

WHEN: Friday, Aug. 3 to Sunday, Aug. 5
WHAT: Western Canada's "decibel-breaking heavy metal festival" features Fit For An Autopsy, Archspire, Into Eternity, Ninjaspy, West of Hell, stab, twist, pull, and Eye of Horus.
WHERE: Dinosaur Downs Stampede Grounds, Drumheller. loudashell.com.

Nanton Roundup Days

WHEN: Friday, Aug. 3 to Monday, Aug. 6
WHAT: The parade goes Monday, but the fun goes all weekend, with a slo-pitch tournament, the Nite Rodeo Finals and fun throughout the town.
WHERE: Nanton. nantonchamber.com.

Strathmore Stampede

WHEN: Friday, Aug. 3 to Monday, Aug. 6

WHAT: Events include the second-most famous Running with the Bulls event (patterned after Spain's Pamplona), daily entertainment, chuckwagons and the third-largest CPRA Rodeo.
WHERE: Strathmore exhibition grounds, (25 minutes east of Calgary, Highway 817). 403-934-5811, strathmoreag.com.

Canmore Folk Music Festival

WHEN: Saturday, Aug. 4 to Monday, Aug. 6
WHAT: A family-oriented folk, blues, country and world-music event featuring Buffy Sainte-Marie, Ruthie Foster, Jon and Roy, Gunning & Cormier and many, many others.
WHERE: Centennial Park, 5th Avenue and 5th Street, Canmore. 403-678-2524, canmorefolkfestival.com.

Chasing Summer Festival

WHEN: Saturday, Aug. 4 and Sunday, Aug. 5
WHAT: Two days of electronic music courtesy of a lineup that includes Martin Garrix, DJ Snake, Kaskade, Dillon Francis, RL Grime, Borgore, Cash Cash and more.
WHERE: Max Bell Centre Festival Grounds, 1001 Barlow Tr. S.E. chasingsummerfestival.com.

Floating Lantern Peace Ceremony

WHEN: Saturday, Aug. 4
WHAT: Ceremony to commemorate Hiroshima-Nagasaki and build a culture of peace. Includes music, children's and youth choirs, speech by Douglas Roche, and the launch of 2,000 lanterns (for rent, minimum \$5).
WHERE: Olympic Plaza, 228 8th Ave. S.E. ploughsharescalgary.ca.

Inglewood Sunfest

WHEN: Saturday, Aug. 4
WHAT: A feisty summer festival in the heart of Inglewood. At this all-ages event you can discover a great new band, be wowed by street performers, jump in the kids' bouncer, choose a perfect summer patio or search for a trendy fashion.
WHERE: Mainstreet Inglewood, 9th Avenue S.E. inglewoodsunfest.ca.

The Sheepdogs

WHEN: Saturday, Aug. 4
WHAT: A night of beef-and-boogie, twin-axe riffs, hooks, shuffles and long-haired esthetic.
WHERE: Shaw Amphitheatre, Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity. 1-800-413-8368, banffcentre.ca.

Heritage Day

WHEN: Monday, Aug. 6
WHAT: Celebrate Heritage Day at the place that does it best. Welcome new Canadians at an official Citizenship ceremony, ride an authentic steam train, hit the antique midway rides and explore the people and places from our past.
WHERE: Heritage Park Historical Village, 1900 Heritage Dr. S.W. 403-268-8500, heritagepark.ca.

Tour de Bowness Street Festival

WHEN: Monday, Aug. 6
WHAT: A festival of competitive bike racing, artisans, food trucks, music, kids activities and more.
WHERE: Along Bowness Rd. N.W. mainstreetbowness.com.

Human Rights Forum

WHEN: Tuesday, Aug. 7 to Saturday, Aug. 11
WHAT: Presented by UNAC-Calgary and GlobalFest. Panel discussions on a variety of topics including homelessness, labour rights, food dignity, education

and urban arts, and future generations.
WHERE: John Dutton Theatre, Central Library, 616 Macleod Tr. S.E. 403-569-9679, globalfest.ca.

Milky Way Nights

WHEN: Thursday, Aug. 9 to Saturday, Aug. 11
WHAT: See astronomers in their natural habitat: under dark moonless skies. Late night public observing is a unique opportunity to see deep sky objects such as a "summer salad" of planets including Venus, Mars, and Jupiter.
WHERE: Rothney Astrophysical Observatory, east side of Highway 22, south of Highway 22X. 403-931-2366. ucalgary.ca/rao.

Taste of Calgary

WHEN: Thursday, Aug. 9 to Sunday, Aug. 12
WHAT: Discover Calgary's global cuisines from a mix of unique restaurants and beverage companies. Plus get a taste of Calgary's great musicians. Sampling tickets \$1 each; admission is free.
WHERE: Eau Claire Festival Plaza, 200 Barclay Parade S.W. tasteofcalgary.com.

Pioneer Acres Museum Annual Show and Reunion

WHEN: Friday, Aug. 10 to Sunday, Aug. 12
WHAT: All of Pioneer Acres equipment will be running, but the Allis Chalmers and Rumely tractors and equipment will be specially highlighted.
WHERE: Pioneer Acres, Highway 9 and Township Road 274, near Irricana (45 minutes northeast of Calgary). 403-935-4357, pioneeracres.ab.ca.

Southern Alberta Music Festival

WHEN: Friday, Aug. 10 and Saturday, Aug. 11
WHAT: Kick back while listening to country, blues, folk and rock 'n' roll from the likes of Drew Gregory, Renegade Station, Nitelife, Steel Timber, Larry Vannatta and others. A portion of ticket sales will be donated to STARS.
WHERE: Aspen Crossing, west of Mossleigh. (one hour outside of Calgary on highway 24). aspencrossing.com.

When Words Collide

WHEN: Friday, Aug. 10 to Sunday, Aug. 12
WHAT: A festival for readers, writers, artists and publishers of commercial and literary fiction. Including genres, YA, children's books and poetry. Guests include Peter V. Brett, Harold Johnson, Erin Lindsey, Sam Morgan, Deanna Raybourn, and Arthur Slade.
WHERE: Delta Calgary South, 135 Southland Dr. S.E. whenwordscollide.org.

Calgary Dragon Boat Race & Festival

WHEN: Saturday, Aug. 11 and Sunday, Aug. 12
WHAT: Over 1,850 competitors work as teams to manoeuvre the massive long boats. Also includes cultural performances and entertainment, kids' activities, food trucks, beer gardens and more.
WHERE: North Glenmore Park, 7305 Crowchild Tr. S.W. calgarydragonboatsociety.com.

Calgary Police Rodeo

WHEN: Saturday, Aug. 11
WHAT: Grounds open at 8 a.m., with a free children's carnival. Rodeo action kicks off at 1 p.m. Tickets at the gate. Barn dance to go at 8 p.m.
WHERE: Cochrane Lions Rodeo Grounds, 109 5th Ave. W., Cochrane. calgarypolice rodeo.com.

Dear Rouge & The Boom Booms

WHEN: Saturday, Aug. 11
WHAT: The Juno winning Breakthrough Group of the Year and The Boom Booms, voted best unsigned band five times by *Georgia Straight* readers.
WHERE: Shaw Amphitheatre, Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity. 1-800-413-8368, banffcentre.ca.

Japanese Festival Omatsuri

WHEN: Saturday, Aug. 11
WHAT: Discover Calgary's global cuisines from a mix of unique restaurants and beverage companies. Plus get a taste of Calgary's great musicians. Sampling tickets \$1 each; admission is free.
WHERE: Eau Claire Festival Plaza, 200 Barclay Parade S.W. tasteofcalgary.com.

No Greater Love

WHEN: Saturday, Aug. 11 and Sunday, Aug. 12
WHAT: Christian music fest featuring Big Daddy Weave, Tenth Avenue North, Zach Williams, Plumb, 7eventh Time Down, Jordan Feliz and more.
WHERE: Chief Goodstoney Rodeo Lands, Stoney Nakoda First Nation, Morley. nogreaterlove.ca.

Marda Gras Street Festival

WHEN: Sunday, Aug. 12
WHAT: A free family-friendly event featuring live music, dance and cultural performances, kids' activity area, food trucks, and the ever-popular Pet Pageant.
WHERE: 33rd Avenue between 18th Street and 22nd Street. 403-685-5667, mardagrass.ca.

GlobalFest

WHEN: Thursday, Aug. 16 to Saturday, Aug. 25
WHAT: GlobalFest showcases cultural pavilions, ethnic food, performance stages, night market, international bar, children's activities and, of course, the Trico Homes International Fireworks Festivals, featuring pyrotechnic displays choreographed to music.
WHERE: Elliston Park, 1827 68th St. S.E. 403-569-9679, globalfest.ca.

Canadian Rockies East Coast Kitchen Party

WHEN: Friday, Aug. 17 to Sunday, Aug. 19



The dragon boats are the obvious headliner of the Calgary Dragon Boat Race & Festival, but the experience is augmented by music, a kids' play zone, food trucks and beer gardens.

Aug. 11-12 at North Glenmore Park. calgarydragonboatsociety.com.



Feeding Frenzy

While Labour Day marks the unofficial end of summer, the coming of fall doesn't mean the end of festivals.

The harvest season brings plenty of foodie events. BBQ on the Bow—established in 1993 and Canada's oldest sanctioned barbecue competition—gets saucy at the Montgomery Community Centre (Sept. 1-2). Those who prefer to cook at home can stock up at the Calgary Produce Marketing Association Harvest Sale (Sept. 8-9). Circle (Sept. 8) combines the passions of YYC Food Trucks and Village Brewery to a local-music soundtrack. The Kiwanis Apple Festival (Sept. 22-23) celebrates the fruit with the edible—baking—and inedible—bouncy castles. And the Rocky Mountain Wine & Food Festival (Oct. 12-13) arrives with some ideas about what to serve during the holidays.

Those whose interests lie outside the culinary have options, too. Spruce Meadows closes out its summer season with the Masters (Sept. 5-9), which features the two- and four-legged stars of show jumping. The Calgary International Film Festival (Sept. 19-30) fills theatres with movies from around the world, and Wordfest (Oct. 8-14) gathers local, national and international authors for readings and other fun. —JR

Brewery & the Beast

WHEN: Sunday, Aug. 19
WHAT: Calgary's ultimate festival of meat offers protein-focused creations from local chefs and restaurants. Plus live music from The Electric Timber Co.
WHERE: Fort Calgary, 750 9th Ave. S.E. breweryandthebeast.com/calgary.

Okotoks Show and Shine

WHEN: Sunday, Aug. 19
WHAT: Featuring classic, vintage custom, special interest vehicles, entertainment, and food vendors throughout the day in Olde Towne Okotoks.
WHERE: Elizabeth Street, Okotoks. okotoksshowandshine.ca.

Lethbridge Whoop-Up Days

WHEN: Tuesday, Aug. 21 to Saturday, Aug. 25
WHAT: Pro rodeo, food, games, a midway and more.
WHERE: Exhibition Park, 3401 Parkside Dr. S., Lethbridge. exhibitionpark.ca.

Motion Notion

WHEN: Thursday, Aug. 23 to Monday, Aug. 27
WHAT: The electronic music festival has an eclectic lineup of internationally renowned and beloved regional electronic artists. Plus riverside camping, workshops, a vendor village, performers, public art wall and more.
WHERE: Beaverfoot Lodge, 4220 Beaverfoot Rd., Golden, B.C. motionnotion.com.

Taber Cornfest

WHEN: Thursday, Aug. 23 to Saturday, Aug. 25
WHAT: Celebrate the return of this delicious staple crop with a corn-eating competition, midway, exhibitions and more.
WHERE: Confederation Park, Taber (three hours southeast of Calgary). 403-223-2265, taber.ca.

Calgary Pride Festival

WHEN: Friday, Aug. 24 to Monday, Sept. 3
WHAT: Festival celebrating our city's diverse and inclusive community through a variety of events including concerts, plays, parties, history walks, panel discussions, and the free signature Parade and Pride in the Park.
WHERE: Various locations. pridecalgary.ca.

Okotoks Pro Rodeo

WHEN: Friday, Aug. 24 to Sunday, Aug. 26
WHAT: Contestants from Canada, the U.S., Europe, Asia and Australia compete in bareback, barrel racing, bull riding, tie down roping, saddle bronc, steer wrestling, team roping, wild horse racing and mutton bustin'.
WHERE: Okotoks Agricultural Society, 306 Ave. E., Okotoks. okotoksprorodeo.com.

Carifest

WHEN: Saturday, Aug. 25
WHAT: Celebrate Caribbean arts and culture with local, international and Caribbean entertainment, food, art and more. Also, parade down Stephen Avenue starting at Olympic Plaza.
WHERE: Parade starts at Olympic Plaza and goes down Stephen Avenue; festival at Shaw Millennium Park, 1220 9th Ave. S.W. carifest.ca.

Country Kickback

WHEN: Saturday, Aug. 25 and Sunday, Aug. 26
WHAT: Western Canada's rural history comes to life with slow tractor races, threshing and baling

demonstrations, sheep shearing and a family scavenger hunt.

WHERE: Heritage Park Historical Village, 1900 Heritage Dr. S.W. 403-268-8500, heritagepark.ca.

Okotoks ChillFest

WHEN: Saturday, Aug. 25
WHAT: Taste the chili cook-off creations or register a team and compete. Spice up your weekend with children's activities, live music, and an outdoor artisan street market.
WHERE: Elizabeth Street, Okotoks. okotoks.ca/chillfest.

Shaw Charity Classic

WHEN: Wednesday, Aug. 29 to Sunday, Sept. 2
WHAT: One of two Canadian stops on the PGA Champions Tour.
WHERE: Canyon Meadows Golf & Country Club, 12501 14th St. S.W. shawcharityclassic.com.

Honens Piano Competition and Festival

WHEN: Thursday, Aug. 30 to Saturday, Sept. 8
WHAT: Pianists compete for \$100,000 prize and Bo-Yon Koh, Min-Jeong Koh, Jon Kimura Parker, Garrick Ohlsson, Luca Buaratto, and Szymon Nehring perform in concerts during the festival.
WHERE: Various locations, 403-299-0140, honens.com.

Banff Centre International String Quartet Festival

WHEN: Friday, Aug. 31 to Sunday, Sept. 2
WHAT: Born out of the Banff International String Quartet Festival, and held in competition off-years, this festival delivers world-class concerts from competition alumni and special guests exploring repertoire from across the centuries.
WHERE: Rolston Recital Hall, Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity. 1-800-413-8368, banffcentre.ca.

fall

Calgary Oktoberfest

WHEN: September
WHAT: Similar to the original Munich festival, which celebrates local beer and food, Calgary Oktoberfest will feature a wide selection of local craft and Bavarian beers and delicious foods to sample from, along with authentic Oktoberfest music, dancers, games, and more.
WHERE: Location TBA. albertabeerfestivals.com.

BBQ on the Bow Festival

WHEN: Saturday, Sept. 1 to Sunday, Sept. 2
WHAT: Annual Kansas City BBQ Society sanctioned barbecue competition and outdoor culinary festival.
WHERE: Montgomery Community Centre, 5003 16th Ave. N.W. bbqonthebow.com.

Cochrane Lions Labour Day Rodeo

WHEN: Saturday, Sept. 1 to Monday, Sept. 3
WHAT: This lively rodeo includes all the classic events: bareback, saddle bronc, bull riding, steer wrestling, barrel racing and more.
WHERE: Cochrane Lions Rodeo Grounds, 109 5th Ave. W., Cochrane. cochranerodeo.com.

Cochrane Labour Day Parade

WHEN: Monday, Sept. 3
WHAT: An annual parade through historic downtown Cochrane. It begins at 10:30 a.m.
WHERE: Cochrane. cochrane-tourism.ca.

Spruce Meadows Masters

WHEN: Wednesday, Sept. 5 to Sunday, Sept. 9
WHAT: The best athletes from the world's top show-jumping nations compete for prize money and international acclaim. Also, family entertainment and shopping opportunities.
WHERE: Spruce Meadows, 18011 Spruce Meadows Way S.W. sprucemeadows.com.

Calgary Produce Marketing Association Harvest Sale

WHEN: Saturday, Sept. 8 to Sunday, Sept. 9
WHAT: Stock up on fresh fruits and vegetables at great prices. Come early, bring a dolly or wagon, then stay and enjoy a full day at Heritage Park. Proceeds benefit the Alberta Children's Hospital, Calgary Community Kitchen and Heritage Park.
WHERE: Heritage Park, 1900 Heritage Drive S.W. 403-268-8500, heritagepark.ca.

Chestermere Country Fair

WHEN: Saturday, Sept. 8
WHAT: A celebration of the harvest that includes a parade, bicycle-decorating contest, zucchini car races, farmer's market, mutton bustin' and more.
WHERE: 201 West Chestermere Dr. chestermereagriculturalsociety.com.

Circle

WHEN: Saturday, Sept. 8
WHAT: Travelling carnival of local food, beer, music, art and performance from the imaginations of BassBus, YYC Food Trucks and Village Brewery.
WHERE: Location TBA. circlethewagons.ca.

Cochrane Classics Car Club Show and Shine

WHEN: Saturday, Sept. 8
WHAT: Come and enjoy the assortment of classic automobiles.
WHERE: Cochrane. cochrane-tourism.ca.

Alberta Dance Festival

WHEN: Thursday, Sept. 13 to Saturday, Sept. 15 and Thursday, Sept. 20 to Saturday, Sept. 23
WHAT: Dancers' Studio West's two-week festival features new works by up to 12 Alberta-based and Alberta-connected choreographers. It is typically a showcase for younger choreographers but always includes works by more mature artists as well.
WHERE: Pumphouse Theatre, 2140 Pumphouse Ave. S.W. dswlive.ca.

Cochrane Street Market

WHEN: Thursday, Sept. 13
WHAT: Enjoy market vendors, artisans, food trucks, music, buskers and late night shopping at local businesses.
WHERE: 1st Street W., Cochrane. cochrane-tourism.ca.

FozzyFest

WHEN: Thursday, Sept. 13 to Sunday, Sept. 16
WHAT: Featuring local and internationally acclaimed DJs, musicians and artists, food and merchandise vendors, workshops and spacious camping.
WHERE: Big Springs Campground, Lake Koochanusa, B.C. (four hours southwest of Calgary). fozzyfest.com.

Waterton Wildlife Festival

WHEN: Thursday, Sept. 13 to Sunday, Sept. 16
WHAT: Learn all about the diverse wildlife living in Waterton Lakes National Park, including white-tailed deer, big horn sheep, and black bears.

WHERE: Waterton (three hours south of Calgary). Information at 1-877-780-1998 or mywaterton.ca.

Beakerhead

WHEN: Wednesday, Sept. 19 to Sunday, Sept. 23
WHAT: An interactive smash-up of art, science and engineering. With engineered art, international ingenuity competitions, public performances, community challenges, backyard-built contraptions, and creations of your own making.
WHERE: Various locations. 587-351-7787, beakerhead.com.

Calgary International Film Festival

WHEN: Wednesday, Sept. 19 to Sunday, Sept. 30
WHAT: A 12-day showcase of up to 200 multi-genre films from Canada and over 40 other countries, highlighted by a series of gala events, awards and special presentations.
WHERE: Various cinemas around the city. 403-283-1490, calgaryfilm.com.

Airdrie Empty Bowls Arts Festival

WHEN: Saturday, Sept. 22
WHAT: A fundraiser in support of the Airdrie Food Bank, with music, hands-on demonstrations, local art and activities for kids. Hand-made pottery bowls will be available for a suggested \$20 donation.
WHERE: Airdrie Food Bank, 20 East Lake Way, Airdrie. emptybowlsairdrie.com.

Doors Open YYC

WHEN: Saturday, Sept. 22 and Sunday, Sept. 23
WHAT: See Calgary from a new perspective with behind-the-scenes tours of various city locations including historical sites, manufacturing plants, non-profits, sports and more.
WHERE: Various venues in Calgary. doorsopenyyc.org.

Kiwanis Apple Festival

WHEN: Saturday, Sept. 22 and Sunday, Sept. 23
WHAT: Apple-themed family fun including apple baking and tasting, activities and games, bouncy castle, face painting, live entertainment, farmers' market, silent auction and more.
WHERE: Kamp Kiwanis, 241001 Range Road 42. kiwanisapplefestival.org.

Railway Days

WHEN: Saturday, Sept. 22 and Sunday, Sept. 23
WHAT: Tour the cab of a steam engine, ride in a caboose, and enjoy lunch aboard a travelling rail car. Watch turntable and telegraphy demonstrations and be the first to see the newly restored Colonist Car.
WHERE: Heritage Park Historical Village, 1900 Heritage Drive S.W. 403-268-8500, heritagepark.ca.

Alberta Culture Days

WHEN: Friday, Sept. 28 to Sunday, Sept. 30
WHAT: Get a behind-the-scenes look at the rich art, culture and history of this authentic mountain community with a variety of exciting events and activities including artist receptions, tours, live performances and heritage interpretation.
WHERE: Events throughout Calgary and the rest of Alberta. culture.alberta.ca/culturedays.

Print It Yourself Festival

WHEN: Friday, Sept. 28 to Sunday, Sept. 30
WHAT: Come drop-in and get involved in Print It Yourself stations including linocut, child-friendly, silkstreet t-shirt and letterpress. No experience is necessary.
WHERE: Alberta Printmakers, 4025 4th St. S.E. 403-287-1056, albertaprintmakers.com.

Cochrane Outhouse Races

WHEN: Saturday, Sept. 29
WHAT: A friendly competition that sees teams of costumed locals race homemade outhouses down Cochrane's Main Street.
WHERE: Cochrane. cochrane-tourism.ca.

M:ST 9 Performative Art Biennial

WHEN: Tuesday, Oct. 2 to Sunday, Oct. 7
WHAT: Multiple performances and workshops at local artist-run centres, galleries, and the streets of downtown Calgary. Featuring the work of Jin-Me Yoon, Life of a Craphead, Miruna Dragan and Kylie Ward, and others.
WHERE: Various locations. mstfestival.org.

WordFest

WHEN: Monday, Oct. 8 to Sunday, Oct. 14
WHAT: Readers and writers come together to experience the power of story through a literary festival featuring local, national and international writers.
WHERE: Various venues in Calgary. 403-237-9068, wordfest.com.

YYComedy Festival

WHEN: Monday, Oct. 8 to Saturday, Oct. 13
WHAT: The YYComedy Festival is on a mission to bring more laughter to your life.
WHERE: Various venues in Calgary. yycomedy.ca.

Wide Cut Weekend

WHEN: Friday, Oct. 12 and Saturday, Oct. 13
WHAT: The roots music festival features Colin Linden, Jaxon Haldane, Gordie Tentrees, Belle Plaine, Sam Baker, The Georgia Fats, Maria Dunn, Ryland Moranz, Ridley Bent, Fats Kaplin & Kristi Rose and more.
WHERE: Various venues. widecutweekend.com.

Calgary Tattoo and Arts Festival

WHEN: Friday, Oct. 12 to Sunday, Oct. 14
WHAT: Featuring more than 400 of the best local and international artists, plus contests, retail exhibits and tattooing all weekend long.
WHERE: BMO Centre, Stampede Park. calgarytattooshow.com.

Rocky Mountain Wine & Food Festival

WHEN: Friday, Oct. 12 and Saturday, Oct. 13
WHAT: Calgary's biggest wine-and-food festival is back with a lineup of wine, beer, and spirits, and mouth-watering bites from some of Calgary's top restaurants. A portion of ticket sales will be donated to SAIT's culinary school.
WHERE: BMO Centre, Stampede Park. 403-228-0777, rockymountainwine.com.

Ghouls' Night Out

WHEN: Thursday, Oct. 25 to Sunday, Oct. 28
WHAT: A family-friendly event to get you in the Halloween spirit. Dress up the little ones and enjoy activities, games and spooky fun throughout the historical village. Tickets must be purchased in advance.
WHERE: Heritage Park Historical Village, 1900 Heritage Drive S.W. 403-268-8500, heritagepark.ca.

Banff Mountain Film and Book Festival

WHEN: Saturday, Oct. 27 to Sunday, Nov. 4
WHAT: Nine epic days of mountain stories, including profound journeys, unexpected adventures, and ground-breaking expeditions told by authors, photographers, and filmmakers from around the globe.
WHERE: Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity. 1-800-413-8368, banffcentre.ca.

