

Northern Spirits ... a resounding success!

It all began in September, 2007, when over 50 northern youth participated in a workshop led by Sheryl Kimbley, Voices of the North, which covered all aspects of performing and producing a Musical Showcase. The talent level and the support of parents and friends were phenomenal. Twenty five youth were then selected to return to Prince Albert to experience the time of their lives on the weekend of October 4 – 8th to participate in the First Annual Aboriginal Music and Arts Festival in Prince Albert.

Highlights for the Northern Spirits youth included:

- Listening to Donny Parenteau and Eekwal, two of many presenters at a full day workshop designed by Sask Music, specifically for Aboriginal Youth and emerging artists to learn about the music industry.
- Meeting Tom Jackson while shaking hands and welcoming participants to the Aboriginal Music and Arts Festival Gala Banquet.
- Attending the Waniska Showcase and seeing performers such as Leela Gilday, Shane Yellowbird and many other nationally recognized Aboriginal Artists.
- Rehearsing, producing and performing in the Northern Spirits Showcase at the EA Rawlinson Center in Prince Albert
- Performing with the Voices of the North back up singers and New Horizon musicians.
- Sharing the stage with Chief Lawrence Joseph, Grand Chief Ron Michel and Prince Albert Mayor, Jim Scarrow. These leaders congratulated the youth and encouraged them to follow their dreams.
- Receiving a standing ovation from an audience of over 300 proud parents and friends.
- Giving live interviews on CBC, MBC and seeing pictures of their performance in the Prince Albert Daily Herald and other northern newspapers.
- Listening to MBC broadcast the Northern Spirits performance throughout northern Saskatchewan on the Saturday night following the Showcase.

Northern Spirits was developed through a partnership between Musqua Entertainment / Voices of the North, the Northern Sport, Culture and Recreation District and Missinipi Broadcasting Corporation (MBC).

Funding was provided by the Government of Saskatchewan, Prevention and Support Program and the Prince Albert Aboriginal Music and Arts Festival. PAGC also provided their gymnasium at no charge and participation on the Northern Spirits committee on behalf of the PAGC Sport and Recreation department.



PRESS RELEASE

To: Northern Saskatchewan Media / Communities
From: Northern Spirits Organizing Committee
Date: September 24, 2007
Re: Northern Spirits Showcase, Aboriginal Music and Arts Festival

Northern Spirits is a partnership between Voices of the North, the Northern Sport, Culture and Recreation District and Missinipi Broadcasting Corporation (MBC). Together, we worked with Northern Communities to reach and attract creative and talented youth, ages 12 to 18, who were interested in all forms of the arts, music, visual arts, technical support, drama etc. These youth were encouraged to apply to participate in a 3 day Northern Spirits workshop held in Prince Albert on September 7 & 9, 2007.

After the three day workshop, 25 participants were selected to return to Prince Albert to present the,

Northern Spirits / Voices of the North Showcase Performance

The showcase will be a key component of the activities and attractions associated with the inaugural Aboriginal Music and Arts Festival (AMAF) happening in Prince Albert from October 4 to 8, 2007.

The venue and stage will be decorated with the art of the Northern Spirits participants. There will be a youth producer, youth stagehands, youth performers and a youth emcee. The Showcase will have live Voices of the North band and back up singers. The youth will be mentored and supported throughout the entire process. Families and community members will be encouraged to attend.

Further information about Northern Spirits available at amaf2007.com, www.nscrd.com or by calling Sheryl Kimbley at (306) 980-8501, Margaret Duncombe at (306) 763-6390 or your area Northern Sport, Culture & Recreation District Area Coordinator.

Northern Spirits Saturday, October 6, 2007 @ 2:00pm:

EA Rawlinson Centre; 142-12th St. West

For Tickets, call 1-306-765-1270

Seating: \$15.30

Attached are the 25 youth selected for the Northern Spirits Showcase.

NORTHERN SPIRITS SHOWCASE 2007

PARTICIPANTS

Barry Morin
Gillis Clarke
Jarret Laliberte
Matthew Pederson
Nina Iron
Corrine Sylvestre
Donavan Billette
Lacey Sylvestre
Reeva Cummings
Robin Noltcho
Erin Aubichon
Kaleigh Armenko
Ryan Desjarlais
Sherilyn Clarke
Betsy Renee Guetre
Jessie Wuttunee
Courtnall Flett
Janine Young
Regan Misponas
Arlene Morin
Dakota Caisse
Samantha McKay
Amber Lavallee
Amanda Goller
Charmaine Linklater

COMMUNITY

Big River
Buffalo Narrows
Buffalo Narrows
Buffalo Narrows
Canoe Narrows
Dillon
Dillon
Dillon
Dillon
Dillon
Ile a la Crosse
Ile a La Crosse
Ile a la Crosse
Kinoosao
La Loche
Meadow Lake
Pakwaw Lake
Pakwaw Lake
Pinehouse Lake
Prince Albert
Prince Albert (originally from Ile a la Crosse)
Prince Albert (originally from Beauval)
Timber Bay
Wakaw
Wollaston

