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For Immediate Release –

Rotary Centre for the Arts Announces Summer Arts Blast Camp Lineup Including New Teen Jazz Camp

(Kelowna, B.C.) - The Rotary Centre for the Arts (RCA) is adding a new Jazz Camp for Teens led by professional jazz musicians Craig Thomson, Nick Dyson, and Joe Auty open to those 12 years old and older. This is in addition to the RCA's enriching art camp featuring Arts Blast camps for children 5-10 that sell out each summer.

The **RCA Jazz Camp** is a special 5-day camp designed to help jazz musicians develop their musical creativity by improvising over several styles of music including the blues, R&B soul-funk, and popular jazz "standards". They will also be coached on refining their technique within instrument-specific classes. Students will be able to enjoy their instructors performing with other local professionals regularly and will perform their own concert in the Mary Irwin Theatre at the end of the camp.

"The Okanagan needs more opportunities for youth to play jazz and learn from some of BC's best music teachers. As a jazz fan, I want to make sure musicians have the opportunity to hone their skills and expand what they can do as jazz players. Each registrant will have five days to focus on jazz and only jazz," says Community and Educational Programming Specialist, Andrew Stauffer.

The RCA Jazz Camp will run from August 14 – 18 and is open to students and adults ages 12 and up. Generously sponsored by Yamaha.

Arts Blast Summer Camps feature exciting themes and expert artist-instructors. In the 4 and 5-day camps, instructors Angela Roy will teach music, Brock Gratz will teach drama, and Marissa Thomson will teach dance. These camps offer the opportunity for children to be engage with the arts where they can focus on creativity, build confidence, and make new friends in a fun and supportive environment.



"Arts Blast is one of the highlights of the summer. Some campers come year after year," comments Community and Educational Programming Specialist, Andrew Stauffer. From "Messy Week" to "Deep Sea Adventure", each week will have a different theme pertaining to its activities.

4- Day Camps:

July 4 - 7: Messy Week - Some of the greatest artistic achievements have been great, big messes. Now it's your turn to join in! Don't miss out on four days of gloriously messy art activities, combining dance, drumming, and storytelling.

August 8 - 11: Mad Scientists - This camp gives kids the chance to create science-inspired art. Explore your inner mad scientist, dance to the movement of molecules, and experience sound waves through music.

5-Day Camps:

July 10 - 14: Animal Planet - Whether our campers are inspired by the majesty of blue whales, their favourite pets, or the creatures of the Okanagan, this camp is sure to spark creativity among the young animal lovers in your family. Join us as we create and perform artwork inspired by animals from around the world, experimenting with dance, visual arts, and storytelling.

July 17 - 21: All Around the World - From West Coast hip-hop dancing and Japanese Suminagashi painting, to music from Brazil and West Africa, this week is filled with art activities inspired by people and places from around the world.

July 24 - 28: Dinosaurs! - Tyrannosauruses, Pterodactyls, Velociraptors! In this week of dinosaur-inspired activities, campers will create dinosaur models, have a Dino-stomp party, and play some colossal drumbeats, among other activities.

July 31 - August 4: Deep Sea Adventure - Five days of art featuring coral reefs, whales, and creatures of the deep. Join us as we combine visual arts, dancing, drumming, and storytelling in a creative exploration of the oceans.

August 14 - 18: Superheroes (Ages 5 - 8) - In this camp, you can be the hero you've always dreamed of! Soar among the skyscrapers through dance, design your perfect superhero outfit, or come up with your own thundering theme song.

August 21 - 25: Sounds Strange - Far from only being the medium of music, sound is all around us and is fun to play with. In this camp, kids will create artworks inspired by their favourite songs; create sounds to accompany skits (also known as Foley Art); and sync their movements to diverse playlists; and, of course, play some fun world music. They may even learn a little popular music history by the end of the week.



Arts Blast Summer Camps are funded by the Province of BC Community Gaming Grant. We are grateful for our community partnership with Mamas for Mamas to help send more kids to art camps.

Registration for each of these camps is now open and spots are filling up fast.

<https://rotarycentreforthearts.com/learn/camps/>

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About the Rotary Centre for the Arts (RCA)

Located in the heart of Kelowna's Cultural District, the [Rotary Centre for the Arts](https://rotarycentreforthearts.com/) is a multidisciplinary visual and performing arts centre. The RCA continually strives to improve the community's economic, cultural, and social quality of life by fostering participation in and appreciation of the arts. As a world-class venue celebrating creative expression through diverse art forms and disciplines, the Rotary Centre for the Arts is a unique City of Kelowna facility in which individuals of all ages and backgrounds come together to share in the excitement of strengthening art and culture in the Okanagan. The Rotary Centre for the Arts respectfully acknowledges that it is located on the unceded, traditional territory of the Syilx (Okanagan) people.