



October 26, 2022

An Explosion of Talent: First Light Announces the 2022 Spirit Song Festival Line Up

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

St. John's, NL – First Light today announced the award winning lineup for this year's Spirit Song Festival. The festival returns to St. John's downtown core November 20th thru 26th for a week-long festival full of music, art, film, dance, culture and more. Now in its 10th year, the Spirit Song Festival is bigger and better than ever. You do not want to miss this.

"Spirit Song festival began as a seed 10 years ago and has grown into a festival of art which transcends cultural boundaries, brings us together, and acts as a binding force to unite us all," says Executive Director, Stacey Howse. "Spirit Song ignites passion for Indigenous arts and culture and allows us the space to not only celebrate, but pass on cultural knowledge for generations to come."

With 5 performance venues, over 20 musical and dance acts, comedy, film, art exhibits, demonstrating artists, and more, it's the biggest celebration of indigenous arts and culture in Atlantic Canada.

The line up this year is a mix of local and international talent. Musical acts include Snotty Nose Rez Kids, Logan Statts, Deantha Edmunds, Alan Syliboy and the Thundermakers, Eastern Owl, Maggie Paul, Immali and more.

Love dance? Notorious Cree, Native Pride Dancers, Sarah Prosper, Jeanette Kotowich will be here, just to name a few. For the film buffs, a film night at The Rooms, screening the Spirit Song documentary, performance by Wapek Muin, and the culinary delights of Chef Justin Iglorite. Looking for laughs? Take in the eccentric Indigenous comedy of Janelle Niles.

And art lovers will *love* Heart of the Root at Emera Innovation Centre, a digital exhibition of five Indigenous artists from Newfoundland and Labrador, curated by Meagan Musseau. The full schedule will be available on November 2 at www.spiritsong.ca

There really is something for everyone.

The festival is enjoyed by Indigenous and non-Indigenous audiences alike. Spirit Song aims to support and promote Indigenous artists, strengthen our sense of community, as well as provide an opportunity for the greater public to experience the incredible work created by Indigenous artists from across Canada.

Spirit Song Festival 2022 is made possible by the financial and community support of Canadian Heritage, Canada Council for the Arts, Coast 101.1, The Government of Canada, ArtsNL, Alt Hotel, The Arts and Culture Centre, The National Arts Centre, RBC, WaterWerks Agency, Neighbourhood Dance Works, The Rooms, Eastern Edge Gallery, and Lawnya Vawnya.

All events are free of charge and everyone is welcome, this is your opportunity to experience the beauty and diversity of Indigenous cultures. For more information visit spiritsongfestival.ca. Tickets will be available online November 4, 2022.

First Light is a registered non-profit that has been serving both the Indigenous and non- Indigenous communities in St. John's since 1983. One of over 125 Friendship Centres, First Light provides programs and services rooted in the revitalization, strengthening, and celebration of Indigenous cultures and languages in the spirit of trust, respect, and friendship.

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