

## PREVIEW OF THINGS TO COME

# This week is Artsweek (and it won't be weak)

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From September 26 to October 5, downtown Peterborough will be celebrating Artsweek: an annual celebration of all things arts in the jewel of the Kawarthas.

The ten action-packed days of Artsweek are sated with showcases, performances and workshops at a variety of locations, highlighting the work of both local and international talent. The festival culminates with a daylong street festival

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on Saturday, October 4, featuring the live music of The County Boys and The Burning Hell, a Latin and swing dance performance and instruction by Trent Latin Swing Dance Club, a community mural project, children's craft activities,



Writers at last year's Cooked and Eaten 20-minute Word Project

a fire performance by Spatch, and many more engaging and exciting activities.

Artsweek began last Friday, September 26 with opening ceremonies at Showplace Performance Theatre. One of the night's highlights came from Kevin Quain, mad-bastard balladeer, who performed his Tom Waitsy numbers at the Spill Coffee Bar to a very intimate audience of fans and staff members. The guided tours of art installations *Blink*, by a team of artists such as local renaissance man Jonas Bonnetta, Erin Parker and April Steele, seemed to be another notable highlight, as wide-eyed art lovers lined the city's sidewalks gazing upon the amazing installations. On Sunday, *Necropolis*, a play by Don Nigro, directed by Bea Quarrie and starring Beau Dixon and An Kosurko, took place at Showplace Performance Centre. *Necropolis* tells the story of an American journalist and a young sniper's relations in war torn Europe. It will also be performed at 7 pm on Monday, September 29, once again at Showplace.

Another spectacular event coming

up this week is the 20 Minute Word Project. Presented in partnership with the Cooked and Eaten Reading Series, the 20 Minute Word Project is “a feast of short order writing,” featuring a panel of six writers who have to “prep, fry and serve up a satisfying, rib-sticking meal of a story within 20 minutes.” The

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panel for this year's 20 Minute Word Project is Jean Grieg, Anya Gwynne, Wes Ryan, Esther Vincent and the downtown “voice in Town Ward”: Dean Pappas. The 20 Minute Word Project takes place on Tuesday, September 30 at 7pm.

While the hub of Artsweek events is the downtown core, there are a few events happening in other locations around our great little city. At 12:40pm on Thursday, October 2, *Seal Woman Speaks*, “an original monologue from the Seal Woman's perspective,” written and performed by Hilary Wear, will be taking place on campus at The Stone Circle, just off parking lot X, beside the entrance to Enweying Building at Gzowski College. At the Peterborough Centennial Museum and Archives atop Armour Hill is *Camera Obscura*: “a functioning camera obscura, designed and built by Mark L. Craighead.” *Camera Obscura*, displayed and demonstrated by Craighead on Saturday, October 4 and Sunday, October 5, from 12pm to 2pm and 3pm to 5pm, allows “the public to understand where the fundamentals of photography originated.”

While these events may or may not pander to your tastes, remember there are literally dozens of other very exciting art shows, interactive workshops, daring theatre, original dance, music, and film events happening throughout the city during Artsweek. Look for one of the Artsweek programs of listings and happenings in your favorite downtown businesses and shops, or check out the Artsweek website for more events that suit your tastes: [www.artsweekpeterborough.com](http://www.artsweekpeterborough.com).