

Turkish Festival Events (July 17-25)

July 13, 2010 · Filed Under [Festival News](#), [News](#)



The Festival grounds will open at Confederation Park from noon to 9 p.m. on Saturday, July 24 and Sunday, July 25. Featuring all of the following:

The **Youth Folk Dance and Music Ensemble** of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism from the Republic of Turkey will be joining us for spectacular demonstrations of Turkish Folklore and the Whirling Dervishes. They will feature dances from the Thrace, Marmara, Black Sea, Aegean, Central Anatolia, Eastern Anatolia, and South Eastern Anatolia regions.

Toronto rapper-songwriter **Evren Ozdemir** will also be taking stage. Evren penned the lyrics to "We Could Be The Same" for Istanbul rap-rock band maNga, which came in second at the splashy 55th Eurovision Song Contest in Oslo, Norway on 29 May 2010.

The Festival classic, Toronto Turkish singer **Murat Toy** will be joining with traditional Turkish pop, folk and arabesque songs. Murat has published three albums to date and is a popular invitee to all celebratory events.

Polish and Romanian dance groups will be taking stage not to mention local, young, up and coming talent like **Ayda Khan**. She was featured on oprah.com for "Oprah's Search for the World's Most Talented Kids", recently she performed at the legendary Apollo Theater in Harlem, New York City. In 2008, she took 1st place for her singing talent in the Junior Category at the Stars on the Rise Contest which took place during the Central Canada Exhibition's Ottawa SuperEx.

A **Traditional Karagöz & Hacivat Puppeteer**, a **Turkish Ceramic Çini Artist**, as well as a **Water Marbling (Ebru)** and **Calligraphy Artists** are all coming from



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Turkey. A local **Henna Artist** will also be present. Descriptions of the art forms are as follows.

Karagöz and Hacivat

Karagöz (meaning blackeye in Turkish) and Hacivat (also written Hacivad) are the lead characters of the traditional Turkish shadow play, popularized during the Ottoman period. The central theme of the plays are the contrasting interaction between the two main characters: Karagöz represents the illiterate but straightforward public, whereas Hacivat belongs to the educated class, speaking Ottoman Turkish and using a poetical and literary language. Karagöz's native wit always gets the better of Hacivat's learning (but his money-making ventures always fail). Artist: Mr. Suat Veral

Water Marbling (Ebru)

Paper marbling is a method of aqueous surface design, which can produce patterns similar to marble or other stone, hence the name. The patterns are the result of color floated on either plain water or a viscous solution known as size, and then carefully transferred to a sheet of paper (or other surfaces such as fabric). This decorative material has been used to cover a variety of surfaces for several centuries. It is often employed as a writing surface for calligraphy, and especially book covers and endpapers in bookbinding and stationery. Part of its appeal is that each print is a unique monotype. Artist: Ms. Seydanur Celebi

Turkish Calligraphy

Turkish Calligraphy, basically, is the writing of Latin letters applied within the esthetics of Calligraphy, which has received interest to a certain degree in the last 30 years. The scribes usually display their skills at fairs and exhibitions as they produce works of Calligraphy in a few seconds without any template, in the presence of visitors with customized on-demand applications. The Admirers of this art ask the scribe to write a person's name, the name of a company, or beautiful saying on cards, key rings, plates and tablets to use as ornaments of gifts. Artist: Mr. Murat Cabuk

Turkish Ceramic (Çini)

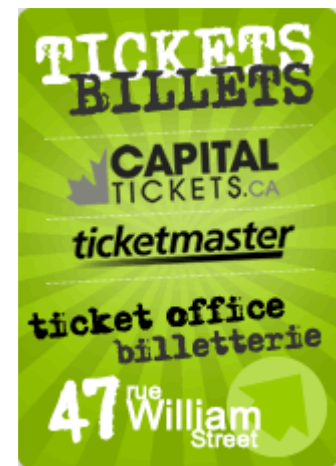
Turkish tiles have a very long history, going as far back as the 8th century A.D., "Çini" which has an important place in traditional Turkish art, derives from middle Asia which came with the Seljuk's to Anatolia. Çini became a very important part of architecture for both Anatolian Seljuk's and the Ottoman Empire. Its products show the beauty of the lifestyle of Palaces to mansions, from fountains to caravansaries. Artist: Mr. Abdullah Ercan Ozer

Henna

Henna or Hina (*Lawsonia inermis*) is a flowering plant used since antiquity to dye skin, hair, fingernails, leather and wool. The name is also used for dye preparations derived from the plant, and for the art of temporary tattooing based on those dyes. Additionally, the name is misused for other skin and hair dyes, such as black henna or neutral henna, which do not derive from the plant. Artist: Ms. Shameena Begum

Whirling Dervishes of Rumi

They perform their praise of God in the form of a "dance" and music ceremony called the Sema, which involves the whirling from which the order acquired its nickname. The Sema represents a mystical journey of man's spiritual ascent through mind and love to "Perfect". Turning towards the truth, the follower grows through love, deserts his ego, finds the truth and arrives at the "Perfect". He then



returns from this spiritual journey as a man who has reached maturity and a greater perfection, so as to love and to be of service to the whole of creation. The Sema was practised in the semahane (ritual hall) according to a precisely prescribed symbolic ritual with the dervishes whirling in a circle around their sheikh, who is the only one circling around his axis. The Sema is performed by spinning on the right foot. The dervishes wear a white gown (symbol of death), a wide black cloak (symbol of the grave) and a high brown cap (symbol of the tombstone). Performers: Youth Folk Dance and Music Ensemble

[Ottawa Turkish Festival Events Schedule](#)

What to expect on Festival Grounds?

- Performances of Turkish Folk Dances, Whirling Dervish of Rumi and Live Turkish Music by the Youth Folk Dance and Music Ensemble of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism from the Republic of Turkey.
- Watch an Ebru (Water Marbling) painting demonstration on paper and Classical Calligraphy Drawing.
- Relax at the Turkish Oriental Corner, decorated with pillows, rugs, arts, handicrafts, traditional jewelry and more.
- Enjoy Turkish cuisine, sample gourmet foods including kababs, donair vegetarian & olive oil dishes, Gözleme (Turkish Pancake), Börek (Turkish Flaky Pastry), Manti (Turkish Ravioli), as well as drinks like Ayran (Turkish Buttermilk). A meal would not be complete without desert! Taste Baklava, Turkish delight and more.
- Don't miss popular Turkish coffee and tea served in an authentic setting
- Let your kids enjoy all sorts of activities: face painting, games, cotton candy, the inflatable village and more!
- Browse the different vendors and booths for books, souvenirs, fine arts and crafts.
- Visit our employment corner to discuss career opportunities with Law Enforcement Agencies.
- Support charitable organizations like Northern Lights Educational Services (NLES) providing top quality Child Care services and the Canadian Institute of Intercultural Dialogue (CIID) hosting monthly Interfaith Dialogue Talk Series (IDTS).
- Plan your trip to Turkey, to the land of ancient civilizations! Pickup a copy of touristic brochures available at our information booth.

The festival website is: www.ottawaturkishfestival.com

Tags: [Evren Ozdemir](#), [Murat Toy](#), [Ottawa Turkish Festival](#), [Traditional Karagöz & Hacivat Puppeteer](#), [Whirling Dervishes of Rumi](#), [Youth Folk Dance and Music Ensemble](#)

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