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CONFEDERATION PARK, OTTAWA, July 13 – The City of Ottawa is gearing up to officially proclaim the Ottawa Turkish Festival within City perimeters. 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.

Bulgarian and Polish 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 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 Schedule 2010

All events are free of charge.

Event	Date	Time	Place
Festival Information Booth	July 3	1 p.m. – 8 p.m.	Bayshore Shopping Centre Centre Court, Main Level (near the elevator)
Festival Information Booth	July 10	9 a.m. – 9 p.m.	St. Laurent Shopping Centre Main Aisle (in front of Le Chateau)
Festival Information Booth	July 17	9:30 a.m. – 6pm	Rideau Centre 1st floor level, Centre Court (in between Epochs and Fruits & Passion)
Turkish Movie with English subtitles	July 17	2 p.m. – 4 p.m.	Ottawa Public Library – Main Branch 120 Metcalfe Street
<p>KELEBEK (Butterfly)</p> <p>It's 1996... almost five years before the 9/11 catastrophe... But the foundations of the catastrophe are being laid... Because it is a complex world and nothing starts a day early... It's Afghanistan... the hottest days of the civil war... Thousands of people who have lost their lives, properties, and homes are expecting the conflict to end... Yusuf and his friends, on the other hand, expect to go there for humanitarian purposes...</p> <p>“They say... A butterfly that flaps a wing right here can cause a storm in the Atlantic... So every one of us is like that butterfly, but with a difference... Our butterfly does not cause storms. It opens its wings and stands against the storms...”</p> <p>The Mawlawi father Ibrahim sees them off with these words as if he knows what will happen.. And while Yusuf and his friends are getting prepared to set out... Osama bin Laden is going across the Afghan border to his new headquarters... Yusuf and his friends meet innumerable people that year in Afghanistan, And one of these people is... A young man the world will know in September 11, 2001. <i>Source: www.filmkelebek.com</i></p>			
Turkish Cuisine Demonstration	July 18	Noon – 2 p.m.	Hartman's Independent Grocer 296 Bank Street
Documentary of Seb-i Arus (Whirling Dervishes Ceremony)	July 19	6 p.m. – 8 p.m.	Ottawa Public Library – Main Branch 120 Metcalfe Street
Flag Raising Ceremony	July 20	Noon – 1 p.m.	Ottawa Police Headquarters 474 Elgin Street
Turkish Language Classes	July 21	6 p.m. – 8 p.m.	Turkish Cultural Center 26 Thorncliff Place

Festival Opening Gala	July 23	3 p.m. – 5 p.m.	Ottawa City Hall 110 Laurier Avenue West
Festival Grounds	July 24 & 25	Noon – 9 p.m.	Confederation Park Corner of Laurier & Elgin St.

- Performances of Turkish Folk Dances, Whirling Dervish of Rumi and Live Turkish Music.
- 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 Intercultural Dialogue Talk Series (IDTS).
- Plan your trip to Turkey, the land of ancient civilizations. Pickup a copy of touristic brochures.

