

The Consumer/Survivor Information Resource Centre of Toronto

BULLETIN

**Information for consumer/survivors of the mental health system,
those who serve us, and those who care about us.**

*Distributed through generous support from the Community Support and Research Unit (CSRU)
of the Centre for Addiction & Mental Health (CAMH)*

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Thank You!

The renovation is complete and we are back! A brief history of events: We moved from our office on the 3rd floor in the old Victorian house at 250 College St. to the alternate milieu suite in the Mall at 1001 Queen West, back in November (2008). The hospital decided to take the alternate milieu suite down and build a new office for us. We moved to an office on top of the cafeteria for 3 weeks while the renovations were carried out. Now we are back in the Mall, in our brand new office. The ceiling is open to the sky lighted roof of the Mall and is trimmed with natural cedar slats and a couple of funky textile sails. Natural light just pours in. It feels much more spacious with the new layout and it is very well ventilated. The hospital has also put in a powerful ceiling fan that we can adjust to bring warm air in or out, as needed. Outside our office in the Mall there are now trees and shrubs, newly upholstered chairs and patio tables with umbrellas. A new wood floor in an area adjoining the office creates a distinctive seating area. In other words, our office is absolutely lovely. Come up and see us sometime!

We would like to acknowledge the generosity of CAMH, and especially the members of the Mall Momentum Committee: Susan Piggott, Manny Gitterman, Mary Anne Quance, Diana Capponi, Lucy Costa, Carrie Clark, Janet Procter, Eva Ingber, Debbie Katz, Anja Kessler, Robin Rowe, Michael Taylor, Amer Shafei, Andrew Aris, Andrea Reynolds, Lisa Brown, Peter Ritchie, Kathy Belmonte, and Marianna Georgakakis; Jackie Monders, designer; Linda Snow, telecom wizard; the construction crew; the maintenance team; Frank the Mover; and everyone else involved in creating such a great space for us.

We are happy to announce that the FREE TAX CLINIC is up and running. Maintenance is arriving today to put up our brochure racks and we need to stock them with mental health related flyers, brochures and pamphlets that are relevant and useful to you. We want to make the information we have as relevant to you as we possibly can make it. That applies to the *Bulletin*, of course, but also to everything we do... the literature display, the Consumer/Survivor Information Sessions, the Yak and Snacks, phone centre, and drop-in. That's where you come in. We're looking for help and advice. If you think we should have information about a certain topic or service, tell us and we'll try to get copies, or if you come across something good while you are out and about (and not shy!!), PLEASE ask for copies to be sent to us or bring them to the Centre yourself. We would also welcome flyers and pamphlets about various mental health and addictions-related programs and services from agencies around the city. We would be thrilled to learn about current peer support groups and activities to expand our knowledge base and be able to provide this information to visitors and callers.

Helen & Colleen

Newsbytes

Wellesley Institute critical of 2009 Ontario Budget. According to the Wellesley Institute (a Toronto-based non-partisan think tank concerned with healthcare reform and other social determinants of health), the 2009 Budget fails Ontarians with respect to affordable housing, health equity and social innovation. The Institute charges that the budget reduces core funding for the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, ignores non-profit organizations that provide service to those most in need and ignores health inequality across Ontario. “[W]hile non-profit organizations contribute a bigger share to the province’s GDP than the auto sector, they have been virtually ignored.” (“Provincial Budget Fails to Address Equity and build Ontario’s Economy” - Ontario’s Provincial Budget 2009 – Wellesley Institute Media Release). Visit <http://wellesleyinstitute.com/ontario-s-provincial-budget-2009-wellesley-institute-press-release>.

Closure of final 3 developmental disability institutions. The Ministry of Community and Social Services announced the closure of Huronia Regional Centre in Orillia, Rideau Regional Centre in Smiths Falls, and Southwestern Regional Centre in Chatham-Kent, on March 30, 2009. The news release states “the government has fulfilled its commitment to end the era of institutional living for people with a developmental disability”. (“Ontario closes institutions for people with a developmental disability”. Ministry of Community and Social Services News Release – March 31, 2009). Visit <http://www.mcsc.gov.on.ca/mcss/english/> for full story and related links.

“Wet” house produces positive results. A research study from the University of Washington finds that allowing alcoholic residents in homeless shelters to continue drinking has several positive results. The research, conducted on 95 individuals in a Seattle program called Housing First, estimates a 4 million dollar savings in public costs during the year of the study. The residents had lower rates of being jailed and going to emergency rooms than those waiting for shelter. In addition, consumption of alcohol by residents decreased from 15.7 to 10 drinks daily from the start of the study to a year after. The study was published in the Journal of the American Medical Association on April 1, 2009. (“Wet’ Homeless Shelters Can Save Public Money, Study Says”. Joint Together. April 2, 2009). For full story visit <http://www.jointogether.org/news/research/summaries/2009/wet-homeless-shelters-can.html>.

U.S. Task Force advocates screening teens *without symptoms* for depression. The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force, a medical panel which establishes guidelines for primary-care treatment reports that approximately 2 million U.S. teens experience depression and most go undiagnosed and untreated. The task force’s recommendation, published in the April edition of the *Pediatrics* journal, is annual screening for kids without symptoms of depression. This recommendation goes further than the pediatrics academy recommendation that doctors should screen youth who are at high-risk for depression. (“Panel advises depression screening for U.S. teens” Chicago - Updated Mon. Mar. 30 2009 1:26 PM ET, The Associated Press). For full story visit http://www.ctv.ca/servlet/ArticleNews/story/CTVNews/20090330/teens_depression_090330/20090330/.

Dog reunited with family after 4 months alone on island. Pet dog, Sophie Tucker, fell overboard into very choppy waters off the Queensland coast (Australia) last November. She managed to swim to a largely uninhabited island 5 nautical miles away and to survive there for four months until discovered by rangers. The dog’s owner heard that rangers had rescued a feral dog and decided to contact them just in case. Sure enough, it was her dog! "She surprised us all. She was a house dog and look what she's done, she's swum over five nautical miles, she's managed to live off the land all on her own," Griffiths [dog’s owner] said. "We wish she could talk, we truly do." (Source: The Sidney Morning Herald. “Dog Overboard Found Four Months Later”, April 6, 2009, 1:54 pm). For full story visit <http://news.smh.com.au/breaking-news-world/dog-overboard-found-four-months-later-20090406-9u4m.html>.

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Wish List

We have received requests for a microwave oven, an air conditioner, and a futon or futon and frame. One subscriber needs a briefcase and a basic printer for a small business he is starting up. One of our readers runs a pet sitting business and has bartered cat sitting for having a website set up to advertise her business. She needs a home computer for maintaining the site once it is up. If you can fulfill a request, would like to make a request, or have an item (in good condition) you would like to donate, please give us a call at 416-595-2882 or email us at <mailto:csinfo@camh.net>.

Job Postings

Please note that we have a bulletin board at the Centre where we post jobs that we don't receive in time to publish in the Bulletin. It may be worthwhile for jobseekers to drop by periodically and check the board.

ACORN Canada Seeks Community/Social Justice Organizers

Application Deadline: 5/24/2009

Now in our 5th Year, ACORN Canada continues to build a national movement for social and economic justice by organizing low and moderate-income communities for more power and social change. ACORN Canada is made up of more than 20,000 low and moderate-income member families, in 20 local chapters of ACORN throughout the country, organized democratically through community organizing.

Responsibilities: Community Organizers carry out a variety of outreach and organizing activities related to current ACORN campaigns and projects. Our process involves doorknocking, housemeetings, phonebanks, mass meetings, and action! Community Organizers work to recruit new members, help mobilize for community change, develop new grassroots leadership, and conduct campaigns around community issues. Organizers work on local, city-wide, province wide, and national campaigns.

Qualifications: No formal experience is necessary, but a commitment to social justice is required. Training provided. Persons with multiple language abilities and from diverse backgrounds are encouraged to apply.

Full and Part time positions are available.

Email your resume to: (Toronto office) <mailto:acorncanada@acorncanada.org>; (Ottawa office) - <mailto:onacornot@acorncanada.org>.; (Hamilton office) - <mailto:hamiltonacornho@acorncanada.org>; and include 'organizing position' in the subject line.

Compensation Type: Salary

For more information email Josh Stuart at acorncanada@acorncanada.org or visit <http://acorninstitute.ca/index.php?id=1861>.

For complete job posting and full details visit <http://www.charityvillage.com/>.

The Council of Canadians Seeks an Administrative Assistant

The Council of Canadians is a national public interest group opposed to deeper integration with the United States and increased corporate control, and committed to protecting and reclaiming Canadian sovereignty by promoting better democracy. The Administrative Assistant (Regional) Organizing Team, under the direction of the Organizing Director, is responsible for providing administrative support to the Regional Organizer, collaborating with other members of the Organizing Team to ensure that work of the Team is effectively planned and implemented; and to ensure the effective and efficient functioning of the Regional Office.

Listed Qualifications Include (but are not limited to): Minimum of one year's experience in administration/administrative systems, preferably in a campaigning environment; Commitment to the Council's values, vision and direction; Knowledge and experience in assisting with constituency building (organizing, mobilizing, motivating individuals and groups) and in supporting event and actions;

This is a part time term position of 12.25 hours per week, and is based in Toronto, Ontario. We offer a unionized environment, excellent benefits, a pay scale of \$14,450 per year and the chance to make a difference!

Send your resume, in confidence, by 4:30 pm, Wednesday April 22, 2009 to <mailto:hr@canadians.org>.

Quote competition # CoC-2009-03 on application: Administrative Assistant Organizing Team (Ontario-Quebec).

Compensation Type: Salary Amount: \$14,450

For more information visit: <http://www.canadians.org>

For complete job posting and full details visit <http://www.charityvillage.com/>.

CAMH Peer Recovery Facilitator (4 positions) (09165E)

Peer Recovery Facilitator (4 positions) (09165E)

Initial Assignment: Schizophrenia Program

Position Description:

The Peer Recovery Facilitator will work as a member of a diverse inter-professional team to facilitate and support clients in their recovery process. Drawing from your lived experience of mental health and/or addiction challenges you will facilitate clients in their determination of their own unique goals and objectives. You will work as a coach and liaison, collaborating with clients to advocate for themselves. Your role will include bridging/and accompanying clients into the community, as well as linking people with community resources of their choice. You will provide a source of encouragement and hope, partnering with clients as they move towards their visions. This role focuses on being a shared learner with clients, rather than being a helper, therapist or treatment provider. You will connect with clients on an individual basis and also as a group facilitator. You will have an understanding and appreciation of the recovery model. In this role, you will provide education about recovery and peer support to staff and students. As part of the team, you will be expected to contribute to program development, research and educational activities on the service. This position reports to the manager of the service, and you will receive clinical support facilitated by the Advanced Practice Clinician. You will provide services reflective of the diverse needs of the clients and their families. Some evening and/or weekend hours may be required. In this role, you will work across several units to facilitate groups, work with individuals to address Concurrent Disorders and connect clients with community resources. One position will be in Peel at our Mississauga site, the others will be primarily at our Satellite offices in the downtown Toronto area.

Qualifications:

The successful candidate in this unique role will have lived experience of mental health and/or addictions challenges. You have a strong understanding of the psychiatric consumer/survivor community. You possess excellent organizational, communication and interpersonal skills enabling you to work within a collaborative and diverse inter-professional team. Effective leadership, decision-making, organizational and problem solving skills are required. Your skills will include the ability to be flexible, self-reflective and supportive. You demonstrate an ability to relate to consumers from a peer perspective, as well as communicate to a health care team with an understanding of the recovery model. Having the ability to work effectively as a team member in a dynamic and a fast-paced multidisciplinary environment is essential. You will provide services reflective of the needs of the clients and their families. You will demonstrate self-awareness and purposeful self-disclosure, be familiar with relevant legislation including the Mental Health Act and the CAMH Bill of Client Rights. You will demonstrate awareness of diversity issues and the personal impact of discrimination faced by people with mental health and addictions challenges. You possess knowledge in the areas of group facilitation, community resources, the recovery process and the peer support role. Previous participation in training on Peer Support/Recovery would be an asset. Ability to use computers and learn new computer programs is required. Experience working with clients, staff, and organizations of diverse backgrounds are required. Bilingualism or the ability to speak a second language is considered an asset. Training and supervision will be provided for this position.

Please Note: These 4 (four) part-time, permanent positions are part of the OPSEU Bargaining Unit. These positions are 0.5 FTE (two and a half days/week).

Salary Range: \$17.80 – \$21.96 per hour

Please forward your résumé to:

Human Resources

Centre for Addiction and Mental Health

1001 Queen Street West

Toronto, Ontario M6J 1H4

Fax: (416) 583-4316 E-mail: jobs@camh.net

Closing Date: April 21, 2009

File Number: 09165E (Please remember to include the File Number when applying.)

As an employment equity employer CAMH actively seeks Aboriginal peoples, visible minorities, women, people with disabilities, (including people with who have experienced mental health and substance use challenges), and additional diverse identities for our workforce.

Employment Matters

St. Christopher House Employment Preparation Program (EPP)

St. Christopher House
1033 King St. West
Toronto, ON M6K 3N3
Tel: 416-848-7980 ext. 244
Fax: 416-848-7985
www.stchrishouse.org

Employment Preparation Program works with individuals 18 and older who:

Have less than/ or Grade 12 education and are currently unemployed or working less than 20 hours per week;

- Have had jobs, but only in one particular area and want to do something different, but don't think they can find something new on their own;
- Need an up-to-date resume, cover letter and job search experience;
- Don't know how to find work or can't seem to make it past an interview;
- Not confident entering the labour force.

A good option for any adult over the age of 18 who has less than/or Grade 12 education and has experienced employment barriers in the past. Our program runs for up to 16-weeks and is specifically designed to fit the needs of each participant. Participants meet with an Employment Counsellor/ Job Developer who assesses their needs, assisting them to develop a realistic return to work action plan in order to secure and maintain employment. Part of this may include short and long term job exploration, job search strategies, and job maintenance coaching. We can help set up free voice mail for 3-months, provide TTC for those who qualify and provide in-house referrals for free income tax clinics, computer skills and GED / educational upgrading. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to connect with an EPP staff member. Call 416-848-7980 x 244 or fax 416-848-7985. Visit <http://www.stchrishouse.org/>.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Inclusion of an announcement is *not* an endorsement of the views of any organization or individual.

C/S Information Centre Free Tax Clinic

Our clinic has gotten off to a late start this year due to our recent move but the Tax Clinic is up and running and **we are booking appointments now.**

We do the current tax year – 2008 - and also previous years. We go back as far as Revenue Canada allows – 10 years.

We only do simple tax returns following the guidelines set by Canada Customs and Revenue Agency:

- single person: income under \$25,000;
- couples and persons with dependants: under \$30,000;

Unfortunately, if your taxes involve any of the following conditions we cannot do them at our Clinic:

- bankruptcy,
- rental income,
- self-employment income,
- capital gains,
- death of spouse during the 2008 tax period.

To allow us to complete your taxes please bring the following papers:

- T4 slips, if you have any,
- T5007 slips,
- rent receipts or letter from your landlord,
- statement of property tax (if you own your home).

To book an appointment please call the Centre at 416-595-2882. Be sure to let us know if you have more than one year of taxes to do so we can schedule a longer appointment for you.

Comee Laaugh Yourr Heeaad offff!! Stand Up For Mental Health Comedy Showcase

Featuring: Graduates of the 2009 Winter Program

Stand Up For Mental Health teaches people with mental illness to take control by turning their problems into comedy! Program led by Emma Árdal under the direction of Michael Cole. Stand Up For Mental Health aims to reduce public stigma around mental illness and spread a message of hope and empowerment. Everybody welcome!

When: Wed. April 29 @ 7pm

Where: 40 Orchard View Blvd., Room 200 (1 block north of Eglinton subway station, on the west side of Yonge Street)
Call 416-486-8046 for information. Admission is FREE!

The Mad Pride Toronto 2009 Organizing Committee is delighted to announce: The Bobbie Nahwegahbow Memorial Award

Bobbi Nahwegahbow was an active member of Psychiatric Survivor, Mad Pride, Women's and Native rights communities in the city of Toronto. Psychiatric Survivor Archives Toronto, The Lakeshore Asylum Cemetery Project, Parkdale Activity Recreation Centre, The Native Centre, The Friendly Spike Theatre Band, St. Francis Table, and Toronto Rape Crisis Centre. These are but a few of the organizations which benefited from this energetic, passionate and righteous human being who was dedicated to equality rights for everyone.

Although Bobbi Nahwegahbow passed on November 4th, 2007, her tenacious example will always be remembered by the people she worked with.

In her memory, the Mad Pride Organizing Committee has established a \$250.00 award in her name, to be presented during Mad Pride Toronto celebrations in July 2009.

The committee requests suggestions from the community in the spirit of who best exemplifies the work which Bobbi actively nourished. These nominations should be made in the form of a simple statement not more than one page in length, which highlights the person or group's contributions to our community. Please send to either friendlyspike@primus.ca or Friendly Spike Theatre Band, #210-2466 Dundas Street West, Toronto M6P 1W9.

Nominations will be reviewed and decided on by the Mad Pride Organizing Committee.

Please submit nominations along with your and your nominee's contact info not later than April 30th, 2009.

Nominators/recipients may choose to remain anonymous.



DiverseABILITY Fair 2009 Community Access Empowerment

Tuesday April 28
11:30am - 3pm

Birchmount Community Centre
93 Birchmount Road (at Kingston Road)

Birchmount Bluffs Neighbourhood Centre and community partners invite you to connect with valuable resources and community members at our 6th annual resource fair.

Employment Services	ODSP, OW and CPP Services
Supportive Housing	Anti-Poverty Coalitions
Seniors Services	Inclusive Recreation Services
Health Care Services	Accessible Youth Services
Holistic Therapists	Advocacy Resources
Developmental Services	Life skills Resources

Panel Discussion • Community Consultation Session • Awards of Achievement • Refreshments

Attendant services will be provided. To RSVP and make inquiries, contact 416-396-7606 or david@bbnc.ca.

Grassroots Initiatives for Social Inclusion

Monday, April 20th from 10:00 - 12:30
The Raging Spoon – 761 Queen Street West
A free networking lunch will follow

The Innovators' Council is pleased to invite you to an upcoming event entitled "Grassroots Initiatives for Social Inclusion" which will be held on April 20th at the Raging Spoon.

This event will focus on several initiatives that have been developed and led by individuals from marginalized groups. Presenters will offer personal perspectives on why these projects are important and how consumer-led projects contribute to more inclusive organizations and communities.

"Grassroots Initiatives for Social Inclusion" will be facilitated by members of *Voices From the Street* and *The Dream Team* and will include presentations by:

- Representatives from *Sketch*, an organization that engages street-involved and at-risk youth through art.
- Representatives from *COSTI Immigrant Services* discussing their programming that has been developed through the input and experiences of newcomer Canadians.
- Representatives from *519 Church Street Community Centre's Trans Access Project* discussing their work providing workshops and policy assistance to shelters and the City of Toronto to make services more accessible to transsexual/transgendered people.

If you are interested in attending, please contact Mandy Ashton at mashton@fredvictor.org by Wednesday, April 15th. Be sure to register early, **space is limited**.

PLACES TO GO... PEOPLE TO SEE...

Free and Low-Cost Events for April 15 - April 30

Art

Wednesday, April 15 – Sunday, April 26 at 1 – 6 pm. Opening Reception: Wednesday, April 15 at 7 to 10 pm. **OCAD ON QUEEN: Kathleen Connor, Samantha Crowhurst, Cydney Langill, Rowland Meyer & Marie-Josée Pirri.** *5 Degrees of Normalcy: Harvesting the Past, the Personal and the Present* The OCAD Faculty of Art Sculpture/Installation Program, in collaboration with InterAccess Electronic Media Arts Centre, Board of Directors, Lennox Contemporary and Gallery 1313, is pleased to present its 2009 exhibition series "OCAD ON QUEEN". This series of seven exhibitions is made possible by the generous support of the Nora Vaughan Bequest to the Sculpture/Installation program. For a period of two weeks it will feature the multi-media works of fourth-year Sculpture/Installation thesis students in professional gallery contexts, located in the dynamic Queen Street West area. Gallery 1313. 1313 Queen Street West. Call 416-536-6788. FREE

Call for Participants/Submissions. Deadline for artist submissions: May 16. The **BIG on Bloor Festival** is coming again! After the huge success of last year, they will once again be closing 2 1/2 km of Bloor Street to create Canada's longest street festival on June 20 from 1 to 9 pm. Are you an artist with ideas looking for a space? Bring your ideas to the table! We are looking for artists to get involved with their ideas **now!** We are looking for all kinds of art - visual, conceptual, performance, music, dance, drama, storytelling - whatever you do. We are looking for art that could be site-specific, large-in-scale, participatory or collaborative, activity-based, engaging the topic of "people, place and public space" and/or address social issues specific to the neighbourhood. Make it hands-on, engage the audience. The more creative the better. Community Organization? Want to highlight your services and get engaged with the community? Join us at BIG on Bloor! Deadline for booking tables: June 6. Visit <http://www.bigonbloor.com/festival/>.

Dance

Tuesday, April 21 at noon. **Canadian Opera Company.** *Dance Series: Accidents Happen.* Sarah Doucet and Brenden Jansen, dancers; Walter Willems, sound and video; Jenn Goodwin, creator and director. Richard Bradshaw Amphitheatre. 145 Queen St. West. Call 416-363-8231. FREE

Sunday, April 26 at 1 – 5 pm. Toronto Dance Day Committee & Dance Umbrella of Ontario present **International Dance Day 2009.** An afternoon of free dance activities at Yonge-Dundas Square will feature a variety of dance forms and Toronto-based performers. On stage and off the stage, the square will be alive with assorted performances, interactive dance presentations, open classes and information on an array of dance styles and traditions. We are

excited to feature bboy battles, capoeira matches, Nia demonstrations, contemporary choreography, belly dancing, Thriller workshops, ballroom lessons, hip hop routines, dance-theatre shows, African dance, TDSB students, and more. Situated in the open heart of Toronto, this special public event offers an eye-opening and interactive experience, highlighting Toronto's rich, diverse and inclusive dance community. This event is fun for all and everyone is encouraged to participate! Yonge-Dundas Square (southeast corner of Yonge and Dundas). Call 416-504-6429 or toll-free 1-800-919-5019 or visit <http://www.danceumbrella.net/>. FREE

Festival

Saturday, April 25 to Sunday, May 3. **The Mayworks Festival of Working People and the Arts** hits the streets across Toronto! For further details about the celebration call 416-535-8779 or email barryaw@rogers.com or visit <http://www.mayworks.ca/> or visit www.socialistaction.org/ca.htm. FREE unless otherwise listed.

- Saturday, April 25 at 3:30 – 4:30 pm. Hear **Favianna Rodriguez** speak on art as a political act and see her exhibit of political posters. Favianna Rodriguez was chosen as one of *Utne Magazine's* 50 visionaries in 2008 and promises to have a fantastic exhibition. Toronto Free Gallery. 1277 Bloor St. West. FREE
- Sunday, April 26 at 10 am – noon. **Family Fun Day!** The Mayworks Festival presents a morning of music, movement, munchies and imagination for the young and the young at heart! Using voice, drama and hands-on materials Aaron Bell, Ojibway Storyteller, will bring the stories of a people who have lived beside us for the past five hundred years to vibrant life. Audience participation and hand drums will make this presentation unique. Children's entertainer, Charlie Kert's, interactive concert contains original songs and unique covers of rock standards. There will be singing, chanting, dancing, rhythm and movement, flash cards and hand jives on jam mats and in a mini-mosh pit! This is no sit down concert! Dress up, tune in and rock out with Charlie Kert! Steelworkers Hall. 25 Cecil Street. FREE
- Tuesday, April 28 at 7 - 10 pm. **Pride and Solidarity.** A jam-packed evening that will trace the histories and currents of queer political movements in Canada and the United States. *Hannah in Bedlam* is a monologue written and performed by acclaimed Toronto artist Christina Starr. Two documentary films by award-winning filmmaker Nancy Nicol will also be screened, which capture the victories and struggles for same-sex relationship recognition and marriage in Canada and the United States: *Politics of the Heart* (68 min, 2005) and *One Summer in New Paltz* (54 min, 2008). A question and answer period with Nancy Nicol and Fred Hahn, the first openly gay man elected to a full-time officer position in CUPE in 2006. Co-presented with Night at the Indies. Co-sponsored by CAW Queer Caucus, CUPE Ontario Pink Triangle Committee, OPSEU Rainbow Alliance, and Elementary Teachers of Toronto Political Action Committee. Buddies in Bad Times Theatre. 12 Alexander Street. \$5-\$10 (sliding scale)
- Wednesday, April 29 at 6 - 8 pm. **Artists as Workers: Digital Story Circle.** A digital story is a two to five minute video created by people of all ages - they share their own life stories through voice, images, music and other found objects in their lives. This workshop is a sample of the start of that process. Facilitated by Jennifer La Fontaine from the Toronto Centre for Digital Storytelling, the workshop will blend individual narrative and oral history to support personal and community transformation. The theme of artists as workers will guide the evening, and at the end of the story circle, a few digital stories will be shown. Toronto Public Library. Parliament Public Library. 269 Gerrard Street East. Second Floor. Call 416-393-7663. FREE

Thursday April 30 at 10 am to 8:30 pm. York University Department of Music. **World Music Festival.** Steve Ancuso's Cuban Music Ensemble; Brian Katz's Klezmer Ensemble; Isaac Akrong Mande's Drumming Ensemble; Larry Graves' Ghana Drum and Dance Ensemble; Rick Lazar's Escola de Samba; and others. Martin Family Lounge. Rooms 219 and Room 235. York University. Accolade East Building. 4700 Keele St. Call 416-736-2100 x 22926 or visit <http://www.yorku.ca/finearts/music/events/world.htm>. FREE

Lectures/Presentations

April 23 at 1 – 5:30 pm. The Social Economy Centre of the University of Toronto presents **Purchasing Our Futures** panel presentations and webcast. Our daily news is filled with reports of people losing their jobs, of industries cutting back and local businesses closing. In these troubled economic times, how can we support the future of our communities? How can we invest in sustainable community development while at the same time contributing to wider economic change? The Social Economy Centre of the University of Toronto invites you to an afternoon of discussion about social purchasing and local community investment. Two exciting panels anchor the afternoon. Ontario Institute for Studies in Education. University of Toronto. First Floor Library. 252 Bloor St. West (St. George subway station). Visit <http://socialeconomy.utoronto.ca> to RSVP. This event will also be webcast live. Registration required (except for webcast). FREE

Media/Film

Tuesdays to Saturdays from April 3 – April 18 at noon – 6 pm. Opening Reception: Friday, April 3 at 7 – 10 pm. **The Images Festival. Outer and Inner Space.** A co-presentation with the Images Festival curated by Jacob Korczynski and Serena Lee with Jo SiMalaya Alcampo, Liam Crockard, Mark Pellegrino, Megan Rooney, Brad Tinmouth and Matthew Williamson. While the Images Festival has a long history of supporting student projects through the ongoing *S is for Student* screening of film and video, this exhibition co-presented with XPACE marks the first time that student media art work occupies a gallery at the festival. The projects in Outer and Inner Space introduce an emerging generation of artists whose images cross boundaries of film and video, and negotiate formations of identity through the popular and the personal. XPACE Cultural Centre. 58 Ossington Ave. Call 416-849-2864 or visit www.xpace.info/. FREE

Music

Sunday, April 26 at 2 pm. **CAMMAC.** *Ontario Music Centre Participants Concert.* Toronto Public Library. Northern District Library. 40 Orchard View Blvd. Call 416-393-7610. FREE (donations welcome)

Sunday, April 26 at 2 pm. City of Toronto. **Scarborough Music Lovers Orchestra.** Scarborough Civic Centre. 150 Borough Drive. Call 416-396-7766. FREE

Sunday, April 26 at 7:30 pm. **Music at Glenview.** *Brother Sun, Sister Moon, an Earth Week Hymn Festival.* Glenview and Eglinton St. George's Choirs and Salvation Army North Toronto Band are performing. Eglinton St. George's Church. 35 Lytton Blvd. Call 416-488-1156. Reception follows. Proceeds to Greening Sacred Spaces. Freewill offering.

Thursday, April 30 at noon. **Canadian Opera Company.** *Jazz Series: Cuba to the Caribbean.* Cuban, Brazilian, and Caribbean music including salsa, merengue, timba, and bolero. Latin Jazz Ensemble, Ruben Vazquez, director. Richard Bradshaw Amphitheatre. 145 Queen St. West. Call 416-363-8231. FREE

Thursday, April 30 at noon. **Massey Hall & Roy Thomson Hall.** *Ode to Youth - 12th Annual Free Choir & Organ Concert.* Hamilton Children's Choir; High Park Choir of Toronto; Shawn Grenke, organ; Zimfira Poloz, conductor. Roy Thomson Hall. 60 Simcoe St. Call 416-872-4255. FREE

Peer Support and Recreation

Ongoing. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday at 1 - 8 pm. Closed on Wednesdays. **What Next! Peer Support/Drop-in Centre.** A non-profit organization run by and for people who have experienced mental health or mental health and addiction challenges. A sample of the social and recreational activities scheduled for April include: meditation/relaxation, social drop-in, tea & coffee, birthday celebrations, WRAP program, walking group, movie night, men's support group, Bingo, art (watercolour), cultural outings, euchre, and more! The Red Cross Building. 1859 Leslie Street (east side of Leslie - 1 short block north of York Mills). To become a What Next! member please call 416-449-4555. For more information visit www.whatnextdropin.ca. Membership is free and almost all activities are free.

Ongoing. 7 days a week. Various times during the day and evening. **The Yellow Door Learning Centre.** All are welcome to participate in a unique experience in a community fostering Imagination, Possibilities & Compassion. Our mission: to be a resource for individuals who are at a crossroads in their lives, and to develop more creative and compassionate ways of responding to the challenges of livelihood and homelessness. A sample of the social and recreational activities and workshops scheduled for March to June include: eco-chocolate making, watercolour painting, songwriting, line drawing, native perspectives on the environment, Kundalini yoga for addictions, karaoke, Drama Club, Women Stepping out of Depression Group, guided meditation in Native spiritual tradition, stress release, quilting, Scrabble Club, and more. 6 St. Joseph House (a Victorian townhouse at Yonge and Wellesley). 6 St. Joseph St. To register for a course drop by the House or call 416-923-8836 or email Darlene at darlene.desveauxoffice@sympatico.ca or visit www.6stjoseph.ca. All courses are FREE on a first-come-first served basis.

Theatre

Sunday, April 19 at 2 pm. **Closer. The award winning play by Patrick Marber.** "Lying is the most fun a girl can have without taking her clothes off. But its better if you do." Set in contemporary London, *Closer* tells the story of four people in the "body business". Dan the obituary writer, Alice the stripper, Anna the

photographer and Larry the dermatologist who, over a period of years, meet and fall in love. It has been described as a work that "gets under its audiences skin, a work in which Marber is alert to the cruel inequalities of love as the characters change partners in what sometimes comes over like a modern reworking of Coward's Private Lives." The Alumnae Theatre Company. 70 Berkeley Street. Call 416-364-4170 or email contactus@alumnaetheatre.com or visit <http://www.alumnaetheatre.com/index.html>. Read the director's blog at www.closetocloser.blogspot.com. Sunday Matinee performance at 2 pm is PWYC. Cash Only.

Volunteer



Pet Volunteer Foster Parents. Become part of an important service that provides foster care to pets when a consumer/survivor has to go into hospital. Or use the service if you need someone to care for your cherished pet when you can't. Contact Linda Chamberlain at Ichamb5702@rogers.com for information and application forms.



Workshops

Tuesday, April 28 at 7:30 pm. **History of the CNE Slide Show** presentation by Linda Cobon, Manager, Records and Archives. Toronto Public Library. Bendale Public Library. 1515 Danforth Rd. Call 416-396-8910 or visit <http://www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/>. Wheel Chair Accessible. FREE

Self Defence Courses. The 519 Community Centre. 519 Church St. To register call 416-355-6782 or email avp@the519.org. \$25 (sliding scale available)

- **Acts of Resistance: Queer Women Fight Back.** Wednesdays from April 15 to May 13 at 6:30 – 9:30 pm.
- **Gay, Bi, Trans Men's Self Defence.** Wednesdays from May 13 – June 17 from 7 – 9 pm.

Writing/Books

April 20 at 7 - 8:30 pm. University of Toronto Press and Toronto Women's Bookstore are pleased to host **Michele Landsberg and Marilyn Waring** on the launch of Professor Waring's new collection of essays, *1 Way 2 C the World*. Michele Landsberg is an award-winning Toronto Star columnist, and one of Canada's most distinguished feminists and social justice activists. In 2006, she was appointed to the Order of Canada. Marilyn Waring is a professor in the Institute of Public Policy at the Auckland University of Technology. She is internationally recognized as a leading feminist thinker, environmentalist, and social justice activist. Toronto Women's Bookstore. 73 Harbord Street. Call 416-922-8744 or visit <http://womensbookstore.com/contact.html>. FREE

April 16 at 7 – 8:30 pm. **One Book: The Politics of Poetry.** Moderated panel of political poets at Parkdale. Moderator: Charles Roach. Wide-ranging look at how politics plays a role in poetry. Featured poets include: Beatrix Hausner, Michael Broughn, Goran Simic. Special mention of *Loyalty Management*, Toronto's ONE BOOK for 2009. (Toronto Public Library has stocked some 790 copies of the book). Toronto Public Library. Parkdale Branch. 1303 Queen St. West. Call Joseph Romain at 416-393-7048 or email jromain@torontopubliclibrary.ca. FREE

To subscribe to the *Bulletin* or *The Wellness and Recovery Newsletter*, call the Consumer/Survivor Information Resource Centre of Toronto at 416-595-2882 or email us at csinfo@camh.net. The *Bulletin* is published twice a month on the 1st and 15th. The *Wellness and Recovery Newsletter* is a joint production of Community Resource Connections of Toronto (CRCT) and the C/S Info Centre. It is published 4 times a year. Both are posted on the CRCT website at www.crct.org, and both publications are free to receive. We encourage people to subscribe by email if they can so we have the resources available to mail to those who do not have access to a computer or the Internet.