

CULTURAL PROGRAM

CUPE is excited to present a wonderful group of engaging, talented and progressive artists as part of our cultural program. Our National Convention 2015 program showcases cultural workers whose artistry supports us in our daily lives. They reflect our issues, fortify our spirits and reinforce our humanity. Once again, we recognize artists as workers and celebrate their contributions to the work of the labour movement and to our communities.

CUPE



DELEGATE'S RECEPTION

Sunday 8 p.m. – 11 p.m.
BC Ballroom, Fairmont Vancouver



CONVENTION OPENING

Monday 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
West Exhibit Hall A & B1

Break Syndical will launch our convention with their moving rendition of *Bread and Roses*, among other labour standards. Break Syndical is a unique musical group whose members come from the rank and file, and have had a presence on the social movement and trade union stage for more than 25 years. They fight injustice and work for change by participating in demonstrations, solidarity gatherings and conventions. Break Syndical retells the history of popular and working class movements, dealing with social issues affecting women, the unemployed and the homeless.

On the eve of our national convention, CUPE celebrates with the vibrant music and performance of **Aché Brasil**, a touring performance group based in Vancouver. Equal parts music, dance and acrobatics, they infuse the culture, traditions and music of Brazil in a spectacle of movement, colour and authenticity. Through music and dance, this high-energy group educates and entertains audiences of all ages about Brazil's cultural diversity. They have performed to enthusiastic audiences and received critical acclaim all over North America.

achebrasil.ca



Break Syndical will also be welcoming you to the convention floor Tuesday to Friday, between 1:20 p.m. and 2 p.m.

breaksyndical.org



CONVENTION OPENING CONTINUED

Monday 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

West Exhibit Hall A § B1



Ta'Kaiya Blaney will welcome us in song, along with Break Syndical, with her rendition of *Solidarity Forever*. Blaney is an activist, singer and actor from the Sliammon First Nation. When she was 10, she learned about Enbridge's proposal to build an oil pipeline from the Alberta oil sands to the Great Bear Rainforest, and wrote a song about her concerns. Now 14, she has spent the past four years writing songs, sharing her message – including at the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues – and continuing with her schoolwork. She is an advocate to improve the human condition, and the planet.

takaiyablaney.com



YOUTH FORUM

Monday 8 p.m. – 10 p.m.

Room 109-110



DJ Timothy Wisdom is a captivating performer and a scientist of sound. Timothy's tunes and unmistakable voice are at the forefront of West Coast Bass Music. His astonishing sets flow over every contemporary genre and tempo, fusing live MCing, singing, turntablism and incredible hype into a fully engaging show. His dedication to electronic music extends to his musical productions, found in the charts and record bags of sharp DJs across the globe.

timothywisdom.com

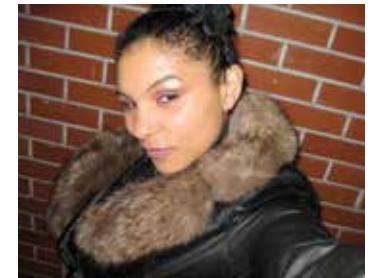
EQUALITY FORUM

Monday 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

West Ballroom B

ASANI is an Aboriginal women's trio. They are **Debbie Houle**, **Sarah Pocklington** and **Sherryl Sewepagaham**, all originally from Edmonton. ASANI seek to use the inspiration of their cultural heritage to create music that is accessible to a wide audience, and deliver a powerful message from their hearts. This circle of First Nations and Métis women have performed across Canada and internationally.

asani.org



Also performing at the Equality Forum are **Ndidi Cascade** and **Kia Kadiri**, both respected women in the hip hop community. Ndidi Cascade, of Nigerian-Italian-Irish-Canadian heritage, is a Vancouver born and based hip hop vocalist. She is also a songwriter, recording artist, educator and program facilitator. She is the founder of the "Word, Sound & Power" and "Elementalz" education programs. For almost 20 years, Kia Kadiri's unique style has kept her in demand as an instructor, performer, facilitator and mentor. She works with many different organizations, such as the Vancouver Biennale, ArtStarts, and Urban Ink Productions.

ndidicascade.ca
music.cbc.ca/artists/Kia-Kadiri



CONVENTION DRUMMING WITH DRUM MASTER KWASI AND YOU!

Drum practice:
Tuesday to Thursday,
at noon, on adjournment
Room 201

Performance:
Friday at 8:30 a.m.
West Exhibit Hall A & B1

Come join in the convention drumming group led by **Drum Master Kwasi**. Kwasi hails from Nigeria where he started drumming and performing at the age of 12. His drumming and entertainment career has taken him across North America, Canada, Europe, Africa and other parts of the world, playing rhythms from Nigeria, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Guinea, Senegal and the Senegambia.

Everyone is welcome! Drums provided. No experience necessary. Please join us and be part of the show!

africanartspercussions.blogspot.ca

CONVENTION DANCE

Tuesday 9:00 p.m. – BC Ballroom, Fairmont Vancouver

Get ready to dance to the vibes of Québec's **DJ Adam Doubleyou**. He's spinning your dance floor faves 'til late. He is renowned for his ability to move any crowd put in front of him.

Adam has DJed at events of every size and description all over Montreal and Ottawa before settling in Québec City in 2008, where he currently juggles multiple club residencies, music programming for retail stores, a radio show, and law school.

Come party as DJ Adam Doubleyou spins delegates into a frenzy!
Everyone is welcome! Don't miss it!

about.me/adamdoubleyou

CUPE CONVENTION CHOIR WITH DAWN PEMBERTON AND YOU!

Choir practice:
Tuesday to Thursday,
at noon, on adjournment
Room 202-203

Performance:
Friday at 8:30 a.m.
West Exhibit Hall A & B1



Everyone is welcome to the Convention Choir led by "the new queen of Canadian soul," **Dawn Pemberton**. Vibrant, genuine and soulful, Dawn has deep musical roots that take her powerful voice from gospel and soul to jazz, funk and world music. She currently directs the Roots 'N' Wings Women's Choir and teaches masterclasses and workshops all over Canada.

Everyone is welcome! No experience necessary. Just join and sing!

Dawn Pemberton will also conclude our convention, Friday on adjournment, by singing *Solidarity Forever*.

dawnpemberton.ca



GLOBAL JUSTICE FORUM

Wednesday, 8 p.m. – 11 p.m.

West Ballroom C & D



KASAMA is an acronym for *Kultura, Awit, Sayaw, Arte ng Manggagawang Artista (Culture, Song, Dance and*

Arts of Cultural Workers). KASAMA is a cultural arm of Migrante BC. It performs interpretative dances to highlight issues of migrant workers, women and victims of human rights violations. KASAMA has performed at different events and mass actions like International Human Rights Day, International Women's Day, and Vancouver Toxic Tour.



Sarita Galvez, Ramon Flores, Jorge Leyton and Rolo Presa are members of the Vancouver-based group **La Trova Nuestra**. Originally from Guatemala, Nicaragua, Chile and El Salvador, they are songwriters and interpreters of the Latin American Nueva Trova, which encompasses the tradition of social and political music and storytelling. Their music will bring to you the essence of the experimental popular culture in the music of Latin America.

CREDITS

The Cultural program was planned and produced by Linda Tanaka along with the help of Zoe Magnus, Kathryn Sutton, and Susan Zander.

Please support these cultural workers by buying their CDs, which will be available after their performances. To learn more about the artists please see the links to their websites.

For the duration of this program, all musicians are members of the Vancouver Musicians Association, AFM Local 145.

With thanks to the sound technicians, members of Unifor.