



Midsummer Festival

by Wiccanfest

WORKSHOP PRESENTERS

Biographies & Full Workshop
Descriptions



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	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY			FRIDAY			SATURDAY			SUNDAY	
9	Brunch											
10-11	Merry Meet! 	Ground Yourself: Somatic Breathwork Sonia Location TBD	Herb Walk Laurie Benson Registration		Herb Walk Laurie Benson Registration			Herb Walk Laurie Benson Registration			Closing Ritual & Travel Blessing	
11:30-12:30		Psychic Development Workshop (Part 1) Kati Location TBD	Make Your Own Blend Kimi Location TBD		 Tapping into Sacred Surrender and the Magic of Allowing Diana Location TBD	Laughter Yoga Celeste Rose Location TBD	The Art of Swordplay Ronin Coyote Field	Salix Sally Ritual: A Celebration of Summer's Spirit Coyote Field				
1-2		The Living Altar: Energy, Polarity, and Sacred Space Hajni Location TBD	Writing A Ritual Janice Location TBD	Wander and Wonder Alden Registration	 Kraken Kafe Melia Wildwood Garden Sign up required!	Ritual Movement and Sacred Rhythm Willow & Rikki LaCoste Location TBD	The European Witch Hysteria - Popular History, Paganism, and The Truth Part 1 James Carter Location TBD	Initiatory Covencraft (Cass & friends) Castalia Location TBD	Modern Pagan historiography of the witch hysteria Part 2 James Carter Location TBD	Elders Tea Laurie Benson Location TBD	Somatic Witchcraft Sonia Location TBD	Community Clean-Up Help us return the site to the way we found it and keep our Mother Earth thriving! Take only memories, leave nothing but footprints
2:30 - 3:30		Making a Ritual Cord Castalia Location TBD	Shaping Salix: Weaving the Willow Woman of Summer Hajni Coyote Field		Psychic Development Workshop (Part 2) Kati Location TBD	Mead Making Hanna Dining Hall	12 Ways to Ecology Brendan Myers Location TBD	The Scented Path A 2-Hour Journey Through the History, Magic & Art of Perfumery Nick Morcenick Location TBD Sign up required!	Community Drum Circle Drum Dr. Location TBD	Bonfire Dancing Cherica Location TBD		
4-5		REGISTRATION OPENS at 3pm Meet, Greet & Mingle Remember to sign up for a volunteer shift at Registration!	Yoga Nidra - A Midsummer guided relaxation practice Celeste Rose Location TBD	The Fourth Female: naming a modern feminine stage Willow Location TBD	Adorning Salix Sally: Dressing the Spirit of Summer Hajni Coyote Field	Chakra Alchemy: A Reiki Journey of Clearing & Protection Chantelle Location TBD	Awaken Your Creative Magic Willow The Craft Hut		Ritual Janice Location TBD	Toilet Bombs!! Kimi Location TBD	Drama Workshop Laurie Benson Location TBD	
5	Supper											
7	Opening Ritual Fire & Drumming Main Fire	Nelson Dennis Multiinstrumentalist & DJ Live in Concert Wildwood Hall			Bardic Competition Wildwood Hall			Witches & Wizards Ball ft. Aphrodite Unbound & Chris Devlin Wildwood Hall Whispers & Stories Ember Fire				The circle closes at 3 PM on Sunday, so gather your gear, say your goodbyes, and slip away before the goblins put you to work. Merry Meet, Merry Part, and Merry Meet Again!
8		Fire & Drum Main Fire Whispers & Stories Ember Fire			Aurarah Live in Concert Wildwood Hall Whispers & Stories Ember Fire							
9												
10												



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Biographies & Workshop Descriptions

ALDEN



Alden loves woodworking, carving, foraging, bonsai, gardening, writing, but mostly learning. Someone once described him as more or less average. Alden is a proud father of a misfit family unit. He is a druid with the AODA, and a member of the Board of Directors for the Midsummer and Harvest Festivals. Alden likes to share his passions with everyone. Alden enjoys apologizing for stupid things he's done, which is often. Alden is never really wrong, but will also never admit it. He has a big mole above his left eye, blonde hair, probably wearing a tunic and a big green cloak if you are looking for him.

WANDER & WONDER

Continuing from Harvest, we will start to compile any information we have from our Harvest Fest hike, and using the map we can decipher new areas to explore to uncover new flora and fauna as we continue to create our local field guide.



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APHRODITE UNBOUND



JAYE MARSH and RIKKI LACOSTE are the founding leaders of Aphrodite Unbound, an eclectic ensemble performing their own music, covers, and planned and improvised soundscapes that marry ancient beats, as if Dead Can Dance flirted with Björk and went to dance around a bonfire to 100 wild drummers.

**LIVE IN CONCERT FOR THE
WITCHES & WIZARDS BALL ON
SATURDAY NIGHT!!!**

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AURORAH



A classical pianist, vocalist, percussionist and composer, Aurorah weaves sonic tapestries using threads of piano, powerful vocals, live synthesizer & percussion layering, and electronic production : each song a work of art.

A versatile performer with original music, reimagined covers, and interdisciplinary collaborations, providing deep and tangibly moving.

**LIVE IN CONCERT ON
FRIDAY NIGHT!!!!**

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BRENDAN MYERS



Brendan Myers, PhD, author of 26 books on basically bloody everything, is old enough to remember WicCan Fest in the 90s, and now lives in a hobbit-hole in west Quebec. Look for him on the web at brendanmyers.net

12 WAYS TO ECOLOGY

We are, among other things, an environmentally informed spiritual community. So it behooves us to know how ecosystems work. Brendan's Twelve Ways is a short talk on the principles of ecology as a science, and the implications of those principles for guiding our spiritual lives. Based on (and expanded from) a chapter in his book *The Circle Of Life Is Broken*.



CASTALIA



Castalia has been part of the Wiccanfest-Midsummer community for over 40 years. She has served in both public and private groups, with a special interest in Astrology, Divination, and the Modern Witchcraft Movement. She is known for her music featuring harp and guitar and has several CDS released in North America.

MAKING A RITUAL CORD

Whether for empowering your rituals or doing cord magic, having a ritual cord can be very useful. In this workshop, we will use hand-knitting to make and charge up a ritual cord in the colour of your choice.

INITIATORY COVENCROFT (CASS & FRIENDS)

This form of practice has been foundational in the development of our modern pagan movement. Nowadays, it tends to be somewhat discreet, hidden and even secretive. Finding reliable information about it can be challenging unless one knows where to look. Come listen to practitioners as they share what they love about their Craft. Hear about topics such as initiation, tradition, and the seeking process.



CELESTE ROSE

Celeste is dedicated to your well-being, and provides holistic treatments tailored to your unique needs. Whether you seek relaxation, pain relief, or spiritual growth, she is here to support you on your healing journey.

LAUGHTER YOGA

Participants will start seated. I will bring us to the present moment through breath. We will learn the history of Laughter yoga and how it came to be. We will learn the physiological benefits of laughter yoga. Participants will learn a few ways that the mind works in relation to the body and how these techniques of using the breath and laughter cultivates resilience, a child like sense of wonder, pain relief, stress relief and more. We then stand up and do the practice. This involves being guided through a series of laughter prompts, breath work and silly phrases we say all together. Participants will be moving around the space together laughing and cheering, perhaps crawling on the ground (depending on the space) and ends in laying down. No supplies are needed except participants can bring a blanket to lay on or sit on if desired. An hour is perfect. I am a certified laughter yoga teacher and have run many classes already in groups. It is a great activity to open up people's hearts and break the ice. I would suggest during the morning or day time, and near the beginning of the festival - although really can be placed at anytime in the schedule.



CELESTE ROSE

YOGA NIDRA

This session will guide participants through Yoga Nidra, a traditional yogic sleep meditation practice designed to bring the body into deep rest while maintaining awareness.

Participants will experience:

- Guided body awareness and systematic relaxation
- Breath awareness techniques
- Nervous system regulation and deep rest
- Visualization and subconscious integration
- Accessing a meditative state between waking and sleeping

This practice is rooted in yogic tradition (Yoga Nidra) and is highly effective for reducing stress, supporting healing, and restoring energy.

Participants will leave feeling deeply relaxed and with tools they can use for rest, sleep, and emotional balance.

Suitable for all ages that can stay resting for an hour and listening to the guided practice.

Participants only need to bring something to lay on, a yoga mat / blankets / pillow if desired.



CHANTELLE



Chantelle is an energy worker, sacred space holder, and community builder who has been guiding women through healing, connection, and self-discovery since 2020. Through women's circles, retreats, workshops, and spiritual practices, she creates nurturing spaces where people feel seen, supported, and empowered to reconnect with themselves. Her work blends intuition, collective healing, feminine energy, nature connection, and intentional rituals designed to inspire personal growth and transformation.

Alongside her spiritual work, Chantelle brings years of leadership and caregiving experience through her work in early childhood education and daycare leadership, where compassion, guidance, and community care remain at the center of everything she does. She is deeply passionate about creating environments – both physical and energetic – that encourage healing, authenticity, creativity, and belonging.

Whether she is leading a circle beside a fire, guiding a healing experience, creating journals and reflective prompts, or holding space for meaningful conversations, Chantelle's mission is to help others embrace their own Spiritual Rebel Era and step fully into their power.



CHAKRA ALCHEMY: A REIKI JOURNEY OF CLEARING & PROTECTION

Step into a sacred space and awaken the subtle energies within. In this intimate, Reiki-infused workshop, you will be gently guided through a deeply personal energetic experience designed to realign, cleanse, and protect your chakras.

Through intuitive practice and mindful ritual, we will learn to read the whispers of our energy centers, clear what no longer serves, and weave protective boundaries that support our spiritual and emotional well-being. Expect a blend of grounding guidance, quiet reflection, and a touch of the mystical as you reconnect with your inner power.

This is a space for softness and strength, for releasing stagnant energy and calling in clarity, balance, and protection. Whether you are new to Reiki or already walking a spiritual path, you are welcome to come as you are.

What You'll Experience:

- Guided chakra reading and intuitive awareness
- Energy clearing techniques rooted in Reiki practice
- Simple protection rituals to carry into daily life
- A calming, magical atmosphere for reflection and renewal

ADORNMENT, FEAST AND IRON

Step into a space where connection, tradition, and energy intertwine.

This workshop is an invitation to reconnect with your feminine energy through simple, sacred acts; sharing food, braiding hair, and adorning the body with henna. These timeless traditions invite softness, creativity, and presence, while fostering deep connection with yourself and children.

Set intentionally beside the forge, we honour the balance of energies within us all. The warmth, strength, and fire of the masculine meets the intuitive, flowing, and nurturing essence of the feminine.

Through touch, creativity, and shared experience, we weave these energies together. Come as you are.

Leave feeling connected, grounded, and a little more whole.



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CHERICA



ChERICA is an award-winning mostly-bellydance performer who has been dancing in shows and festivals across Canada and the United States since 2016, both as a soloist and together with the Hamilton-based dance collective Steel City Slither (on IG @steelcityslither). She is also a witch who has been forging her own path for many years, in addition to being an educator, a metalsmith, an astrologer, and a dabbler in many other arts. You can follow her magical and creative exploits on instagram at @cherica_nova or facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/ee.en.cee>.

BONFIRE DANCING

Fire up your footwork and frolic with the flames. This workshop will focus on skills, moves, and dance concepts that will translate directly to dancing around the fire, so you'll be ready to bust a move on the beach.



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CHRIS DEVLIN



Chris Devlin is an award-winning Singer & Musician from Cobourg, On. He is a fixture of Northumberland's Music Scene, performing Solo or with Madman's Window, The Concert Band of Cobourg and more. Chris has entertained audiences from Toronto to St. John's.

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DIANA PASCOS



I'm Diana, Emotional Freedom Coach & Content Creator. Certified in Advanced EFT / Tapping, Coaching, Energy, Breathwork & more.

My mission is to guide you in uncovering & releasing the unconscious barriers that are keeping you from living at your highest purpose and potential.

Guiding you in your evolution as a human and soul. Bridging above and below, within and without, and coming into alignment.

TAPPING INTO SACRED SURRENDER AND THE MAGIC OF ALLOWING

Magic doesn't happen in the future; it happens in the breath you are taking now. Yet, so often, our energy leaks into the future as we fret over how our desires will manifest or cling to a rigid vision of how things must be. The attachment acts like a kink in a garden hose, slowing the flow of the Divine to a trickle.

In this EFT Tapping journey, we return to the power of the present moment. By surrendering our blueprints and our "shoulds" in this very moment, we stop blocking the view and become wide-open vessels for the magic that is already trying to reach us.



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DRUM DR.



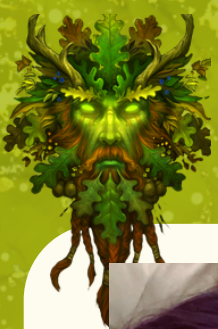
Nelson has been playing drums for over 40 years. He started in the Chinese Kung Fu drum tradition and went on to study West African percussion. Currently he is using community music making to build and strengthen communities.

COMMUNITY DRUM CIRCLE

A nearly continuous hour of playing various percussion. Session begins and ends with open jam. Please be on time and bring your drum and alternate percussion (shakers, singing bowls, bells, etc, if available).

Sandwiched in the middle will be a short lesson in structure, tempo and dynamic.

Using rhythms, we can discover voices and perform community building magic.



THE LIVING ALTAR: ENERGY, POLARITY, AND SACRED SPACE

The altar is more than the table itself – it is the living energy created by the elements placed upon it and the intention behind them. In this workshop, we will explore how the altar reflects both the inner self and the wider universe, becoming a sacred space for transformation, focus, and connection. Discover how working with the flow of energy through the altar can help align will, spirit, and ritual purpose.

HAJNI

Hajni serves on the board of Wic-Can Fest, which sounds very official until you realize she can also be bribed with raspberry Cove Soda and snacks of almost any variety. A lover of books before bed, bad ghost television, and long walks on the beach (budget permitting), she has mastered the sacred art of ripping weeds violently from flower beds while pretending it's "gardening." Though she dreams of joining a real ghost hunt, Hajni is fully aware she would also be the first person to scream, abandon the group, and accidentally leave someone behind if an apparition actually appeared. Balance is important. Her path into the pagan world arrived through music, a late-night fishing trip, and the kind of open meadow that practically demands a life-changing experience. Since then, she's wandered the edges, dove into the deep end, and gathered wisdom, stories, and probably a few questionable playlists along the way. When she's not serving the community, playing with her dogs, or training her child, Hajni strives to be a friend to everyone she meets. She is deeply honored to serve the community (and mildly concerned that the ghosts are finally catching on to where she lives.)



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HANNA



I'm a naturally chaotic spirit, always chasing curiosity and drawn to new experiences wherever they lead. I thrive on that unpredictable energy—turning it into momentum to explore, learn, and push past my limits. Whether it's diving into unfamiliar skills or embracing challenges head-on, I channel that chaos into something meaningful, using it as a driving force to shape my path and achieve what I set my mind to.

MAKE YOUR OWN MEAD

Step into the ancient art of mead-making in this hands-on workshop designed for beginners and curious creatives alike. You'll learn the fundamentals of fermenting honey into delicious, personalized mead. Whether you're a DIY enthusiast or a beverage lover, this class offers a fun and flavorful introduction to one of the world's oldest fermented beverages.



JAMES CARTER

James is a devotee of the Egyptian Goddess Isis, a ceremonial magician in the Solomonic current, and a First Degree in Odyssean Wicca. He is one of the founders of and priesthood for Silver Circle, a Wiccan temple operating out of Hamilton, Ontario, and is an organizer for Hamilton Pagan Pride Day. James enjoys making a variety of ritual tools, incenses, leatherwork, and other witchy fashion items and sells them under the shop name Crown and Crescent.

THE EUROPEAN WITCH HYSTERIA - POPULAR HISTORY, PAGANISM, AND THE TRUTH

Part One: Join us as we examine the underlying causes of the European witch hysteria (commonly called by some pagan authors 'the Burning Times'), what actually happened, why it happened, and how it became an international tragedy. We will be looking at pre-Christian attitudes towards witchcraft, the development of the myth of the Witches' Sabbath, the attempts to connect witchcraft with heresy, what the Inquisition did and didn't do, the anatomy of a witch trial, notable texts, and what happened in Salem.

MODERN PAGAN HISTORIOGRAPHY OF THE WITCH HYSTERIA

Part Two: We will discuss how the myth of the Burning Times developed, from Enlightenment historians trying to understand the cause of the hysteria to Victorian folklorists inventing reasons for it, then look at how and why modern pagans embraced this myth before accepting a more historical understanding and finally closing with how we still see this kind of social hysteria today.



JANICE CARDIE



Janice Cardie has been a devoted member of the WCC since 1979, bringing decades of experience, leadership, and passion to her work. Over the years, she has guided countless rituals, taught a wide range of classes, and now serves in a leading role within the Priesthood. A pioneer in the community, Janice established the first Canadian festival of its kind, this very festival, leaving a lasting impact on the growth and visibility of Pagan and Wiccan traditions in Canada.

Her knowledge and presence have taken her to numerous festivals and conferences across both Canada and the United States, where she continues to inspire and educate. In addition to her community leadership, Janice serves as a Pagan/Wiccan Chaplain within Correctional Service Canada, offering spiritual guidance and support within the federal prison system. Through her lifelong dedication, she embodies service, wisdom, and a deep commitment to her spiritual path.

RITUAL CONSTRUCTION (PART 1)

Part One is an immersive seminar on crafting ritual from the ground up. We'll examine every pivotal question—why ritual matters, what shapes it, and how time and place influence its impact. Participants will then collaborate in small groups to create individual components of a ritual, each contributing to a shared theme, culminating in a powerful exercise in collective creation.

RITUAL (PART 2)

In this open ritual, participants come together to bring the rituals created in Part 1 to life. Guided by the group, attendees will collectively shape and perform a shared ritual.

Open to all—no prior experience needed—this workshop invites creativity, collaboration, and reflection as we explore the power of ritual in community.



KATIE GAJDACS (EMESE)

Katie's journey into psychic phenomena began in childhood, sparked by the guidance of her Godmother and a curiosity that never left her. Since 1986 she has been developing her gifts across an extraordinary range of traditions and teachings.



She learned to read Tarot in Australia before immersing herself in the Spiritualist community in Toronto and Lilydale from 1992 onwards – serving as an active member and lecturer of the Psychic Society of Toronto for seven years. Her mediumship studies took her to the Britten Memorial under Reverend June Straders, Springdale for trance mediumship and séances under Reverend Doreen Bald, and Lily Dale, New York for Insider Training with Reverend Eileen Thomas. Drawn equally to mystical knowledge, Katie spent four years studying Kabbalistic Mysticism under one of Toronto's most respected Kabbalists, Rabbi Chezi Nagar.

Today Katie is a Priestesse in the Odyssean Tradition and a proud member of the Wiccan Church of Canada – bringing decades of lived, studied, and deeply practiced wisdom to everything she shares.

PSYCHIC DEVELOPMENT (PARTS 1 AND 2)

Psychic Development is a two-part workshop series designed to gently open and strengthen your intuitive gifts in a safe, grounded, and supportive environment. Part One lays the foundation – exploring the nature of psychic phenomena, learning to work with white light for protection, and discovering the rich landscape of divination practices available to you.

Part Two goes deeper, guiding you through a third eye meditation, an introduction to Neuro-Linguistic Programming and its role in psychic work, and hands-on exploration of spirit guide communication, remote viewing, and psychometry. Bring objects or photographs you feel drawn to work with – the most surprising discoveries often come through what we hold in our hands. Whether you are just beginning to trust your intuition or looking to sharpen gifts you have carried for years, this series meets you exactly where you are and gives you practical tools to take home with you.



KIMI BOIS

Kimi has been studying the uses of essential oils for over 15 years. She enjoys sharing the wonderful benefits of essential oils with everyone in workshops as well as with products, through her business: A Scented Path.

She is also a very talented hula hooper who has lots of tips and tricks up her sleeve.

Check out her vending tent for amazing products and to learn some hoola hoop tips & tricks!

MAKE A BLEND

Gather round and come create a unique or previously created essential oil blend. Use as a perfume, or concentrate to add scent to a base like bath salts, creams or body spray. Keep the blend, and your recipe!

Essential oils are concentrated and need to be handled with care. Please be sure to listen to the caution message at the beginning of the workshop for safest and most enjoyable use.

TOILET BOMBS!

Back by popular demand these little balls of super cleaning power are great for cleaning toilets, sinks and even great as a shower streamer! Come make some with me and take some home yourself!

Those with sensitivities to particles in the air might need to use a mask or face covering.



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LAURIE BENSON



Laurie has been around the Festival Circuit for more years than she can remember, raising her kids along with the tribe that now runs this circus. Herb Walker and Forager, Artist and Performer, Storyteller and Teacher, she is always available for a heart to heart or a chinwag.

HERB WALKS

Tour this majestic site to get to know our plant allies and their edible, medicinal and magickal attributes. As foraging and wildcrafting are becoming more popular, it is important to know who is who in the plant world and to know how to harvest ethically. Each walk and talk will take a different route, keeping to roads and paths to avoid Poison Ivy (which I will point out to you!) so there aren't too many challenges for mobility.

If people want to continue past the hour and explore more challenging, rocky shoreline walks, that can be an option as well! Meet at the entrance/check in area after breakfast.

ELDERS TEA

Following a tradition established by Kaleidoscope Gathering you are welcome to join a select panel of Elders for tea (herbal or traditional) and treats to hear the stories of the past Festivals and perhaps to learn from our mistakes. Feel free to ask questions and receive dubious answers as we all seek to find our paths in this community. Bring offerings for the group if you wish and be prepared for hilarity.

DRAMA & IMPROV WORKSHOP

Do you want to become more involved in the main rituals but are worried about your performance abilities? Laurie is a long time professional theatre and voice actor and teaches young performers stage acting. Anyone can have a big voice and "presence" and you don't need to memorize a script if you know the basics of what you are presenting. We all need to be able to participate in group rituals comfortably and have fun doing it! There are also a lot of tips in making a Bardic performance more noteworthy! Let's have fun embodying the elements, exploring deity types and finding our strengths through humour, character and storytelling! And yes, all ages and abilities can participate!



MELIA KEOGH

Hiya!



My name is Melia Keogh, and I've been part of this amazing community since I was born, so I'm very excited to finally start making my own way and offering things back to all the wonderful people here.

The arts are a big part of who I am, and have been pursuing an artistic career my whole life. My main artistic passions are along the lines of drawing and cooking, but I also like to explore music as well. I've been taking art classes and practicing for as long as I can remember, and I've gained a great respect for fellow artists. I love to learn, create and share with the people around me, and I personally feel that it's never too late or too early to pick up something new.

Channeling my creativity into my work and my faith has helped me as a person. We are all on a long journey, always learning and changing, so I hope to encourage others to do the same, even in small ways, to make our world even more beautiful.



MELIA KEOGH

KRAKEN KAFE

Kraken Kafe would like to invite you to a special afternoon tea party, Friday afternoon!

You can sit and relax, chatting with friends while we dish out dainty snacks, confectionery and tea at your pleasure!

Kids and adults, anyone is welcome to come for some tea, treats, music and company

There is a small fee of \$25 to help us cover the cost of ingredients

There will be 3 time slots, with 5 people per slot.

They are as follows:

11 am until 11:45 am

12 pm until 12:45 pm

1 pm until 1:45 pm



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MELIA KEOGH

Kraken Kafe Faerie Tea

Hedgewitch's Breakfast - croissants with pesto and cheese

These savory buns come to us straight from the kitchens of a friendly woodland witch. The warmth from her oven can still be felt in each bite

Summer Elf Tart - mini quiche with sundried tomatoes and mushrooms

Delicious little pies made of the finest vegetables elfhand could forage. They tell us that these go wonderfully with a little bit of spiced preserves

Pixie's Bounty - crostini with lemon marmalade and apple cheddar

A highly sought after treat amongst all faeries alike. Though the nature of how the pixies source their ingredients is a secret between them. We are of the opinion that a farmer somewhere is missing their produce

Forest Sprite Tart - mini earl grey cheesecakes with blackberries

A gardener from the deep woods has gifted us some of his favourite treats. The herbs and fruits used to make them gathered from his personal garden.

Brownies! - just normal brownies

No real brownies were harmed in the procurement / creation of THESE brownies

Mushrooms! - meringues with milk chocolate

Gathered from a faerie ring, deep in the forest, these delicate mushrooms should be eaten with caution. Lest you go wandering into the woods, looking for more.

Starleaf Seed Pod - chocolate and raspberry truffles

The starleaf is a rare plant, only found in the most well tended garden in the Faerie realm. Once every hundred years, it bears a clutch of seed pods, which the King has graciously shared with us. We would now like to share them with you!

Moon Dragon Eggs - butterfly pea flower cakes

A brave adventurer journeyed deep into the mountains to the lair of the Moon Dragon. He offered her a bottle of starlight in exchange for a clutch of her prized eggs.



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NELSON DENNIS



Meet Nelson Denis entertainer and multi-instrumentalist, and one-man musical experience. With the ability to play 20+ instruments across countless genres and eras, Nelson brings unforgettable energy to every event, from intimate campfire singalongs to full-scale celebrations. Nelson Denis started performing at the age of 13. Decades later this multi-instrumentalist plays upwards of 30 instruments. He can take you from atmospheric cocktail & dinner music, to showmanship & humor, to singalongs & Dancing the night away!

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NICK FAUNUS

Magick, Plants and the Living Mysteries of Nature
Nick Faunus has spent more than fifty years exploring the many ways in which plants, people, the planets, and the unseen world are connected.

Originally from North Staffordshire in the United Kingdom, Nick has lived and worked with his family for more than forty years on an organic herb farm in the Ontario countryside. The farm has been organically certified since 1986 and is home to Faunus Herbs.

Nick is an experienced herbalist, astrologer, occultist, musician, and lifelong student of mystical traditions. His interests range from practical herbal medicine and organic agriculture to plant folklore, planetary correspondences, ritual, divination, music, visual art, perfumery, and the creative imagination.

In his talks, Nick draws on decades of experience to explore the older magical understanding of the natural world: the idea that herbs are not simply ingredients or commodities, but living presences with histories, personalities, symbolic meanings, and traditional powers of their own.

A seasoned and entertaining speaker, Nick has presented seminars and workshops throughout Canada and the United States.

Join Nick during the day at the white Geodesic Dome for a lively journey through magical plants, astrology, occult traditions, music, creativity, and the enduring medicinal mysteries of the living world.

Live music will be part of the gathering, and audience participation is warmly welcomed.

And watch for amazing special appearances by the Bubble Elf. Be prepared to be flabbergasted!



NICK FAUNUS

A 2-HOUR JOURNEY THROUGH THE HISTORY, MAGIC & ART OF PERFUMERY

Discover the secrets held within a single drop of scent.

What is the smell of divinity? Of power? Of memory?

For thousands of years, perfume has been more than just a pleasant fragrance. It has been a tool of priests and pharaohs, a weapon of merchants and seducers, and a pathway to the deepest parts of the human brain.

Join us for an immersive 2-hour class led by Nick Faunus who will open their personal collection of essential oils—gathered over more than 50 years—for a rare, hands-on olfactory experience.

In this class, you will:

- **Travel the Silk Road of Scent:** From the first recorded chemist, Tapputi in ancient Mesopotamia, to the revolutionary steam distilleries of Persia's Avicenna, and the perfume-soaked courts of Egypt and Europe.
- **Smell History:** Experience rare and exceptional samples of the very materials that shaped civilizations—Kyphi, Frankincense, Rose Otto, Oud, Labdanum, and classic Eau de Cologne—from a collection five decades in the making.
- **Unlock the "Magic" of Mood:** Learn why the scent of frankincense was used to reassure Catholic bankers in Renaissance Florence, and how you can use the same principles of psychology and biochemistry to influence emotion, memory, and perception.
- **Create Your Own "Sinful Entourage":** Move from history to hands-on. Learn the simple, ancient art of maceration to capture the scent of fragrant flowers in oil and alcohol. Then, guided by our instructor learn to blend your own personal signature scent.

This is not a lecture. It is an experience for your senses.

Space is limited. Reserve your place on the scented path today!



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PATAKIN DRUM GROUP

As night falls, gather with us around the sacred fire—the heart of our festival and a beacon for joy, rhythm, and connection. All are welcome to drum and dance and share in the magic of community beneath the stars.

Whether you're meeting old friends or kindling new bonds, this is a space to let your spirit move and your heartbeat sync with the rhythm of the circle. Stay for a moment or until the sun rises—this fire will burn through the night, fed by laughter, music, and wild, sacred joy.

Bring your drum, your voice, your feet—or simply your presence.

Join us nightly at the sacred fire with Patakin drum circle and dance the night away!



RIKKI LACOSTE



RIKKI LACOSTE is what happens when rhythm becomes sentient. Part percussionist, part parade sorcerer, part architect of controlled musical chaos. Co-Director of the Patakin Drum Community and full-time curator of transcendent noise, Rikki has spent decades summoning impossible amounts of groove into alleyways, festivals, historical sites, and unsuspecting public gatherings. He has drummed through fire rituals, giant spectacles, street parades, and enough transformational arts projects to make linear career paths feel deeply embarrassing. His life-spanning music project Panthea continues to evolve somewhere between ancient ritual, cosmic transmission, and “this absolutely changed my brain chemistry.” When not leading Rhythms of the World workshops with master drummers from across the globe, he can usually be found building community through rhythm, summoning dance circles out of thin air, or casually turning public spaces into full-body spiritual experiences.



RONIN

Your Hedge-Knight of blue and white returns, steadfast in duty, to safeguard the forest folk beneath the ancient canopy. With blade and bond alike, I stand vigilant against any threat that dares disturb their peace. Through hardship and experience, I now pass on my knowledge of swordsmanship—teaching that strength must be guided by discipline and purpose. As long as the forest endures, so too shall I remain—its watchful protector and devoted guide.

THE ART OF SWORDPLAY

Our boffer workshop is designed with children in mind, but warmly welcomes participants of all ages and experience levels. Even the youngest aspiring knights can take their first steps into swordsmanship here, building confidence, coordination, and creativity along the way. We provide a safe, encouraging space where participants can practice techniques, explore movement, and immerse themselves in playful, engaging sword-swinging games and friendly duels.

Whether you're brand new or looking to sharpen your skills, the workshop blends learning with fun—fostering teamwork, imagination, and a love for the art of the blade in a supportive and inclusive environment.



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SONIA

Sonia here!

I have been fighting for my life since I was four and a half years old. From an early age, I became familiar with loss, mortality, and the darkness that can accompany survivor's guilt. My experiences as a cancer survivor, a NICU mom, a trauma survivor, and, more recently, navigating a medical accident involving my mother have profoundly shaped the way I view life.



These challenges led me to a powerful realization: healing myself required more than simply surviving—it called me to help educate, support, and facilitate healing in others.

My spiritual journey began over 20 years ago, and I continue to embrace the wisdom, knowledge, and growth that unfold along the path. As a busy mother and entrepreneur, I have dedicated myself to studying holistic health, naturopathy, trauma healing, somatic coaching and breath-work. Through my work, I create from the heart, drawing on both lived experience and professional training to inspire transformation and empower others on their own healing journeys.

Breath. Embody. Awaken



SONIA

SOMATIC WITCHCRAFT

Somatic Witchcraft blends body-based healing with intuitive and ritual practices. Rooted in nervous system awareness, breathwork, and embodied wisdom, this work invites people to reconnect with their intuition, release stored trauma, and access their natural magic.

Through somatic practices, ritual, and energetic awareness, I guide others back into their bodies where healing, clarity, and personal power live. This path honors the body as an oracle and transformation as an embodied experience.

GROUND YOURSELF: SOMATIC BREATHWORK

Your breath is the oldest magic you carry. This somatic breathwork sessions uses slow, intentional breathing to shift your nervous system into calm - quieting mental noise, easing anxiety, and rooting you fully in your body and the earth beneath you. Whether you arrive at Midsummer buzzing with excitement or carrying the weight of the everyday world, this practice meets you exactly where you are. Leave rooted, steady, and fully present for the magic ahead.



WILLOW



JAYE MARSH Classical flutist. Ambient menace. Professional forest witch with a recording setup.

She disappears into the Canadian wilderness, summons emotionally devastating flute music, and convinces composers to write soundtracks for moss. Founder of projects that sound fake until they sell out, she can be found teaching creatives how to turn artistic chaos into actual momentum while surviving entirely on iced coffee, intuition, and one unreasonably cinematic camera angle.

Part musician, part strategist, part nervous-system repair technician for burned-out artists who forgot they were brilliant. Currently building transformative events, recording albums in places with no cell service, and making the algorithm deeply uncomfortable.

RITUAL MOVEMENT & SACRED RHYTHM

Ritual is something we feel as much as we speak. In this experiential workshop we explore how movement, rhythm, and intention shape the energy of a circle. Participants will practice working with ritual tools, moving with a partner, and pacing larger circular movements supported by drumming and spoken word. Drawing from practices such as elemental purifications and ritual sweeps, we will learn how the body can help guide and focus ritual space.

We will also explore the role of percussion in ritual. The first rhythm we ever hear is the heartbeat in the womb, followed by the sound of voice and breath. Participants will learn how to drum sensitively in ritual by paying attention to pacing, energy, and the needs of the moment. Whether you feel confident moving in ritual or a little unsure, this workshop offers practical tools and a shift in perspective so your body can move with intention and ease.



WILLOW

AWAKEN YOUR CREATIVE MAGIC

Creativity lives in every one of us. It is not reserved for the chosen few, nor does it require perfection, skill, or the approval of others. In this workshop we will reconnect with the simple, powerful truth that creativity is every human's birthright.

Together we will explore how creative expression can nourish our spiritual lives, inspire ritual, and bring joy to the everyday acts of making things with our hands and hearts. We will gently challenge the modern belief that creativity must be perfect, profitable, or impressive to be worthwhile.

Through reflection, playful exploration, and shared experience, participants will rediscover the creative spark that already lives within them. Come ready to experiment, to release expectations, and to discover just how creative you truly are.





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RITUALS & EVENTS



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OPENING & CLOSING RITUALS

OPENING RITUAL

Join us as we open the festival with intention, joy, and sacred connection. This ritual marks the beginning of our shared journey—calling the circle, welcoming all who gather, and awakening the energy that will weave through our time together. We will honour the spirits of the land, acknowledge those who came before us, and invite the blessings of the elements and our ancestors. Together, we set the tone for community, celebration, and magick. All are welcome—come as you are, and step into the circle with an open heart.

CLOSING RITUAL

Join us as we gently bring the festival to a close with intention, gratitude, and deep connection. This ritual marks the end of our shared journey—honouring the circle we have created, giving thanks to all who gathered, and releasing the energy that has carried us through our time together.

We will offer gratitude to the spirits of the land, acknowledge the paths we've walked, and send our blessings back to the elements and our ancestors. Together, we reflect, celebrate, and carry forward the magick we've woven as a community. All are welcome—come as you are, and step out of the circle with a full heart, grounded spirit, and lasting connection.





BARDIC COMPETITION

Do you carry a song in your heart, a tale on your tongue, or magick at your fingertips? We invite you to step into the sacred circle and share your gifts at our Bardic Competition—a celebration of creativity, expression, and the old ways of weaving wonder through word, rhythm, and performance. Whether you sing or strum, chant or charm, speak truth through poetry or laughter through storytelling, this is your stage. All forms of performance are welcome. All ages and skill levels welcome. Sign up at registration. Bring your courage—your voice is needed.





WITCHES & WIZARDS BALL

The moon is high, the magick is buzzing, and it's time to don your finest robes, cloaks, sparkles, and glam! Join us this evening for a night of magic, mischief, and merry-making at the Witches & Wizards Ball – with a very special performance of high-energy rhythms featuring two sets of entertainment...Aphrodite Unbound followed by Chris Devlin! Expect music, movement, and maybe even a little moonlit mayhem. Whether you're here for the dancefloor or the dazzling costumes, this is one revel you don't want to miss.





SALIX SALLY

Join us in a living, evolving ritual that honours Salix Sally, our willow woman and embodiment of summer's sacred feminine. From her gentle awakening and cleansing with flower waters, to her quiet days in the field receiving prayers and offerings, Sally becomes our vessel of blessings. Adorned with nature's gifts, she is brought forth in joyful procession and honoured in a community ritual of song, intention, and celebration of life in full bloom. Help breathe life into Salix Sally, the willow spirit of summer, as we awaken her from her winter slumber and begin to shape her sacred form. With hands and hearts, we'll gather natural materials—branches, bark, and vine—to weave her body anew. We will cleanse her with floral water, calling in the vibrant energies of the season. Come co-create this living effigy of joy, fertility, and summer's wild magic in an act of community, creativity, and intention. Salix Sally awakens once more... After resting through the seasons, our beloved willow woman is ready to be adorned again for Midsummer magic. Help us refresh her ribbons, flowers, charms, and blessings as we prepare her for the celebrations to come. Bring your creativity, your laughter, and a little midsummer enchantment to weave into her branches. Every ribbon tied and flower placed becomes part of the living magic of the festival. Come help Sally bloom again beneath the summer sky. A Celebration of Summer's Spirit Step into a living, evolving ritual that honours Salix Sally—our willow woman and sacred embodiment of summer's feminine energy. From flower-blessed awakenings to her gentle rest in the fields, Sally receives your prayers, offerings, and dreams. She is adorned with nature's gifts and celebrated in joyful procession, surrounded by song, intention, and community magick. Be part of this sacred honoring of life in full bloom.



WHISPERS & STORIES

Tucked away from the festival's wildest rhythms, The Ember Hearth offers a quieter fire for those who seek connection through story, song, and thoughtful conversation. Come sit beneath the stars, share tales of tunes, or simply listen as the flames dance and voices weave gentle magic. This is a space for kindred spirits, soft laughter, and the warmth of words.





NIGHTLY FIRE & DRUMMING

As night falls, gather with us around the sacred fire—the heart of our festival and a beacon for joy, rhythm, and connection. All are welcome to drum and dance and share in the magic of community beneath the stars. Whether you're meeting old friends or kindling new bonds, this is a space to let your spirit move and your heartbeat sync with the rhythm of the circle. Stay for a moment or until the sun rises—this fire will burn through the night, fed by laughter, music, and wild, sacred joy. Bring your drum, your voice, your feet—or simply your presence.

