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arts council – conseil des arts

NEWS RELEASE

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Sod turning marks beginning of Orléans Arts Centre construction

Orléans, Ontario – The shovels will finally hit the ground today in a sod turning ceremony that marks the beginning of construction of the Orleans Arts Centre.

After almost 20 years of tireless effort and advocacy, Arts Ottawa East (AOE) will finally see its dream of a professional arts facility in the east end become a reality with this afternoon's event.

“This is a great day for the arts and the entire community,” says AOE Executive Director Christine Tremblay. “Finally, artists and arts groups from all disciplines will have a venue in the east end where they can come together and grow. This is a dream come true.”

The Orléans Arts Centre will have a profound effect on the cultural life of the city. It will play a vital, catalytic role in ensuring artists are given the forum they need to nurture creativity and audiences are given access to dynamic and thought provoking arts programming in a facility that matches creative excellence. The centre, which is scheduled to open its doors in the Spring of 2009, will be a community focal point and gathering place for young and old, offering English and French programs and entertainment at all levels.

Today's event will include performances by local artists and a photo opportunity with the Orleans Arts Centre Partners, Arts Ottawa East, Gloucester Pottery School, *Mouvement d'implication francophone d'Orléans*, Orleans Young Players and Visual Arts Centre, Orleans.

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About Arts Ottawa East

AOE is a vibrant, pro-active not-for-profit community arts council dedicated to promoting, supporting and developing the practice and appreciation of the arts at all levels in Ottawa. AOE inspires and assists arts organizations and individual artists who create and present the visual, performing, media and literary arts in our community and who contribute to our cultural landscape. An umbrella organization representing more than 70 arts organizations and well over 16,500 individuals, AOE responds to the needs of its membership and the vast community it serves, providing them with information, resources and services.

For more information, please visit www.artsoe.ca.

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Source: Micheline Joannis, Development/Communications Coordinator, Arts Ottawa East, 613-749-4978, micheline@artsoe.ca.