

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 16, 2016

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What's Your Story - Storytellers Invited to Renton's Multicultural Festival

Renton, WA – Festival attendees are invited to share their stories at the Renton Multicultural Festival at the Piazza Park in downtown Renton on October 1, 2016 between 12:00pm to 2:00pm.

Inspired by national storytelling events like The Moth, the goal is to honor and celebrate diversity and the commonality of human experience through the art of storytelling. The festival will include a storytelling stage where anyone from the public can sign-up to tell a story. Stories will be video-taped and curated by the Renton History Museum. Everyone has a story to tell and no advance registration is necessary. Interested participants can enter their names at the event and will be selected randomly to tell their stories. The stories should be based on one of the following themes and limited to 4 minutes.

- What's in a name?
- The world at our doorstep
- A Tale of Two Cultures
- Ahead of the Curve

"Stories bring people together, evoke feelings, and connect people with each other in a meaningful and memorable way," said Mayor Denis Law. "One of the main goals of the festival is for the community to participate and storytelling is a great way to learn from each other and celebrate cultures."

Renton Multicultural Festival's opening night is on Friday, September 30, and features *Performances through Art* at the Carco Theatre from 6:00-9:00 p.m. Performances include African dancers, Bollywood dancers, Ukrainian performers, a fashion show by Miss India Washington contestants, and a closing performance by a leading jazz artist.

Saturday, October 1, will highlight *Power of Play*, as downtown Renton comes alive to celebrate music, dance, art, food and stories from all over the world. Attendees will have the opportunity to participate in games and activities and other multicultural experiences. Saturday's events will start at 11:00 a.m. and run through 3:00 p.m. at both the Renton Pavilion Event Center and Piazza Park in downtown Renton. Two stages of non-stop performances include African and Taiko drummers, Brazilian ensemble, Mexican performers, Mariachi bands, Filipino dancers, Lion dancers, Sikh Martial Arts dancers, Polynesian dancers, Bollywood music, and a Marimba ensemble. This family friendly festival is FREE to the public.

"What's Your Story" is co-sponsored by Tasveer. For more information about Tasveer visit Tasveer.org. For more information about the festival visit <u>rentonwa.gov/rentonfestival.</u>

About the City of Renton

The City of Renton, Washington, population 101,300, is located on the southeast shore of Lake Washington, just south of Seattle. Renton's strong economic base, diverse marketplace and favorable business climate have attracted the attention of nationally recognized companies that provide employees and their families with an outstanding quality of life. It is the home of Boeing, IKEA, the Seattle Seahawks and the eternal resting place of Jimi Hendrix. More information can be found at rentonwa.gov.

About Tasveer

Tasveer is a non-profit organization that engages and empowers the community through thought-provoking artistic work using tools such as films, forums, visual art and performances. For more information visit <u>Tasveer.org.</u>

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