

**CALL FOR ARTISTS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE INAUGURAL  
DIWALI IN VERNON FESTIVAL 2018**



*Photo: Shiamak Vancouver | headliner of 'Diwali in Vernon Festival'*

*Diwali in BC* and the Vernon & District Performing Arts Centre Society are thrilled to announce the inaugural annual **Diwali in Vernon Festival 2018**, taking place at multiple locations in Vernon as part of the *Diwali in BC* festival occurring province-wide. The Festival will culminate in a multicultural showcase of diverse artists from different backgrounds. Activities throughout the week shall include workshops, discussions, dance performances, musical performances, cultural activities, crafts and a wide range of other possibilities.

We are currently looking for performers, speakers, artists and workshop instructors to participate in our 2018 Festival. The proposed activities should be relevant and appropriate to the multicultural themes of the Festival and the underlying theme of Diwali, more popularly known as the festival of light in India. The Festival will aim to showcase artists from Vernon and the Okanagan region. Other national artists visiting Vernon specifically for this festival will also be performing.

**The festival will run Tuesday, October 9<sup>th</sup> to Saturday, October 13<sup>th</sup> with the final show at the Vernon & District Performing Arts Centre on Saturday, October 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm.**

We are interested in submissions from a wide range of emerging and established artists with diverse backgrounds including but not limited to Indigenous, South Asian or South Asian influenced artists and performers practicing traditional or contemporary performing arts. Artists performing a fusion of cultures will also be considered. Our Festival is committed to engaging with values of inclusivity and equity within our communities. We strongly encourage submissions from individuals who self-identify as being from underrepresented backgrounds or from communities that often feel marginalized.

Solo, duet and group performers are welcome to apply. Dance or music performances can be from 5 minutes in length up to 20 minutes. Performances longer than 10 minutes shall only be considered from professional artists. Emerging artists are encouraged to keep their performances to a maximum of 5-10 minutes in length.



Diwali in BC



VERNON & DISTRICT  
PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE SOCIETY

**All artists are asked to submit an application with the following information:**

- Full contact information for the principal artist and/or group leader, including name, mailing address, email and phone number
- A performance history for the group and/or principal artists/performers
- Examples of recent work: this can be YouTube videos, websites, photos
- A short description (under 100 words) of your proposed performance
- Your availability for the dates mentioned above
- Your fee expectation if selected
- If you are affiliated with any union then please specify the same
- Please specify whether you live and perform in Vernon and if not then please specify where you would be traveling from and whether any expenses are expected to be covered by the festival
- If you have any specific technical requirements to perform then please mention the same

**Incomplete applications will not be considered. Artist bookings are limited. Due to limited staff and budget, we are unable to provide feedback and a response to each and every application. Unfortunately, we will only be able to contact artists we are interested in booking for this year. However, we will maintain your submission for considerations in future years of the Festival.**

**PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION BY EMAIL TO: [erin@ticketseller.ca](mailto:erin@ticketseller.ca)**

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS is FRIDAY, JULY 27 at 4:00PM**

**About Diwali In BC:**

Diwali in BC is honoured to have its home on the unceded territories of the Coast Salish people of the x<sup>w</sup>məθkwəyəm, Skwxwú7mesh, and Səlílwətał Nations. It is a new initiative founded and produced by Rohit Chokhani. After producing and curating numerous Diwali celebrations over metro Vancouver for the last four years, culminating in a Jessie Richardson theatre award, Rohit is embarking on this new, bold and ambitious initiative to make the Diwali Celebrations province-wide over the next five years. This initiative was founded in 2017 in metro Vancouver during its launch year of 2017. The second annual Diwali in BC celebrations will take place over 5 weeks from Oct-Nov, 2018. Diwali in BC is a multicultural festival that aims to showcase emerging and established artists from diverse backgrounds to celebrate the festival of lights during the annual Indian New Year. [www.diwalibc.ca](http://www.diwalibc.ca)

**About Vernon & District Performing Arts Centre Society:**

The Vernon & District Performing Arts Centre Society acknowledges that we are on the northern part of the unceded Okanagan First Nation territory and that many of the descendants of the Suqnaquinx still live here. As a multidisciplinary presenter, the VPDAC Society presents 24-30 touring performances each season as well as approximately 50 community engagement activities in our 750 seat venue. We provide opportunities for the community to see professional touring shows, and educate audiences through the high quality and diverse nature of these presentations. Under the new "Spotlight" banner, our Presentation Season includes the Spotlight Dance Series, Spotlight Theatre Series, Spotlight Kids' Series, Spotlight First Stages Series, and the Spotlight Special Presentation Series. Subscriptions for all can be found on [www.ticketseller.ca](http://www.ticketseller.ca), and more information on the society can be found at [www.vdpac.ca](http://www.vdpac.ca).