

Friends of Halifax Common invite you to

CELEBRATE the COMMON 250

DAILY EVENTS

ARTS & MUSIC

Piano in the Park

October 4, 5 & 6, 10:00 AM–7:00 PM
South Common, IWK Newman Garden's Gazebo, University Ave. (#20)

Drop by and play the piano at the Newman Garden's Gazebo.

TALK

Faith, Belief and Practice in Common

October 4, 5 & 6, various times
Temples, Mosques, Synagogues, Churches

Festival organizers have invited faith based groups in their gatherings over the weekend, to reflect on the theme of the gift and responsibility of that which we share in common, not only land, air, and water, but also global food security, striving for peace and well-being.

ARTS & MUSIC

Slideshow—Halifax Common: Past and Present

Alvin Comiter, Photographer & archival images by Renée Gruszecki

October 4 & 5, 6:30–11:00 PM
Central Common, Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History, eastern exterior wall, Bell Rd. (#1)
Outdoor slide show of archival materials and present-day photos of the Halifax Common

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4

WALK

Guided Tour of the Public Gardens

Serena Graham-Dwyer, Friends of Public Gardens

October 4, 10:00–11:00 AM
South Common, Horticultural Hall Plaza (in front of Uncommon Grounds Café), Halifax Public Gardens (#3)

The tour covers the history of the Gardens as well as information about the plants and trees. Tours will be cancelled in the event of rain and are limited to 20 people.

WALK

Citadel Hill and Its Relationship to the Common

Hal Thompson, Parks Canada

October 4, 12:00–1:00 PM
Main Gate at the Citadel, 5425 Sackville St. (#12)

A walk around the Citadel starting at the harbour side gate, going to the west side, the Garrison Grounds and the glaciis overlooking the Commons and Camp Hill.

ARTS & MUSIC

Artist Reception and Toast

October 4, 5:30–7:00 PM
Central Common, Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History (#1)

Meet the artists, discover their work and raise your glass to toast the Common.

TALK

Panel Discussion The Halifax Common: 250 Years of Community Use

Susan Markham-Starr, Susan Tirone, Karen Gallant are welcomed by Bill Lewis, moderated by Peggy Cameron

October 4, 7:30–9:30 PM
Central Common, Royal Bank Theatre, Room 1013, QEII Health Centre, 1796 Summer St. (#6)

Halifax Common has hosted cows, cricket, circuses, Catholics, military, Sir Paul and skaters. Susan Markham-Starr will lead a quick stroll through the history of the Halifax Common, to look at changing uses of this public space and tell us about the decision-makers. Dr. Susan Tirone & Dr. Karen Gallant will discuss the value of public meeting places in promoting active citizenship and how the development of public open spaces can positively or negatively affect leisure, health, creativity and conversations.

Dr. Susan Markham-Star, Professor Emerita, Acadia University has written the most comprehensive document about the Halifax Common. Dr. Susan Tirone, PhD, Professor, Associate Director, College of

Sustainability, Dalhousie University Dr. Karen Gallant, PhD, Assistant Professor, School of Health and Human Performance, Dalhousie University

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5

LEISURE & SPORT

Meditation Instruction & Practise

October 5, 9:00–10:00 AM
South Common, Victoria Park fountain (#21) / Central Common, rain venue Nova Scotia Museum of History (#1)

A dozen meditation instructors will offer meditation instruction and lead meditation to whoever comes. Imagine 250 participants!

LEISURE & SPORT

Yoga Instruction

Steve Murray, Yoga Instructor at Breathing Space Yoga Studio

October 5, 11:00 AM
Baseball diamond 7, North Common (North Park St. and Cornwallis St. crosswalk) (#11)

One-hour Hatha yoga class

TALK

The Common and the Halifax Explosion

Richard Rudnicki, Historical Artist

October 5, 10:00 AM
North Common, near the Armoury (Baseball Diamond 7/8) (#11)

Immediately after the Halifax Explosion, panic-stricken survivors, many needing medical aid, fled to the Common hoping to escape a second explosion. The artist's research for a painting of this 10-minute period will be revealed.

WALK

Historical Walk of the South Common

Gary Shutlak, Archivist, NS Archives

October 5, 11:00 AM
South Common, Main gate, Halifax Public Gardens, corner Spring Garden Rd. and South Park St. (#2)

This walk will explore the houses, history and streets of the South Common.

LEISURE & SPORT

Henna Tattooing

Sushma Paul, Artist

October 5, 11:00 AM–3:00 PM
Central Common, beside Pavilion (#9)

Free Henna Tattoos in the tradition of the Punjab. These intricate and beautiful tattoos are not permanent but will last for several weeks.

WALK

Guided Tour of Public Gardens

Karen Guenther, Guide

October 5, 12:00 PM
South Common, Horticultural Hall Plaza (in front of Uncommon Grounds Café), Public Gardens (#3)

History of the Gardens with information on the statuary, plants and trees. Tours are limited to 20 people and will be cancelled in the event of heavy rain.

WALK

History of the Poor House

Peter McGuigan, Historian & Author

October 5, 12:00 PM
South Common, Robie St. at South St. (#16)

A walk describing the history of the Poor House and the Poor House Pond

LEISURE & SPORT

Bike Maintenance Workshop

Bike Again and other cycling volunteers

October 5, TBA
Central Common, Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History (#1)

Brought to you by volunteers from the cycling community and Bike Again, come learn how to fix and maintain your bike.

LEISURE & SPORT

Baseball

Facilitator Kenna Manos

October 5, 12:00–4:00 PM
Central Common, Canada Games Baseball Diamond (#10)

All ages and family pick-up baseball as well as clinics for kids. Fun for everyone.

2013 is the 250th anniversary of the Halifax Common. Friends of Halifax Common (FHC) invite you to Celebrate the Common 250 with 3 days of free public lectures, tours, art projects and festivities. Co-founded in 2006 by Peggy Cameron & Beverly Miller, FHC membership is open to anyone committed to caring for the Halifax Common in the spirit of the original 1763 land grant by King George III “for the use of the inhabitants of the Town of Halifax as Common forever”.

LEISURE & SPORT

Learn Nordic Pole Walking

Kat Kitchings, Instructor

October 5, 1:00 PM
Basketball courts west of the skatepark, pool and Pavilion, Central Common. (#17)

Join a hands-on workshop on the basics & fun of Nordic Walking. Learn why it is such an amazing, healthful activity. (12 pairs of poles are available for lending—first come, first-served. Got poles? Ensure they're Nordic Walking poles with Velcro strap.)

WALK

Camp Hill Cemetery: Life after Death

Chris Majka, Ecologist

October 5, 1:00 PM
Central Common, Camp Hill Cemetery, Main Gate near Summer St. and Sackville St. (#4)

A guided walk through the Camp Hill Graveyard to explore the flora and fauna of this corner of the Common.

ARTS & MUSIC

Maritime Brass Quintet concert Maritime Brass Quintet

October 5, 1:30–3:30 PM
South Common, Bandstand, Halifax Public Gardens (#15)

MBQ performs fun music concerts ranging from renaissance and baroque to jazz, folk & contemporary. While the core group is a quintet, concerts might feature any size ensemble, from solos to full-size brass bands.

ARTS & MUSIC

Drop By Drumming

Glenn Fraser, Drummer

October 5, 2:00–3:00 PM
North Common Fountain (#8)

Bring your drums and other instruments & a folding chair. Join us through a tour of West African, Cuban, Flamenco, Arabic and Brazilian rhythms and styles.

LEISURE & SPORT

Kite Flying

Kirk Jones & Katherine Van Blyderveen

October 5, 2:00–4:00 PM
North Common, Baseball Diamond 7/8 near corner of Cunard St. and North Park St. (#11)

Learn to fly unique, handmade Jamaican kites at super high altitudes.

WALK

If These Trees Could Talk

Stephen Cushing, Forester

October 5, 2:30 PM
South Common, Oland's Memorial Fountain, Victoria Park (#21)

A walking tour of the Halifax Common Urban Forest.

TALK

Historical Insights from Archaeology on the Halifax Common

Martin Huble, Curator of History, Nova Scotia Museum

October 5, 3:00 PM
Central Common, Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History, Lecture Theatre, 1747 Summer St. (#1)

A talk on recent archaeological finds on the Halifax Common

LEISURE & SPORT

Cricket on the Common: Talk and Demo

representative of NS Cricket Association

October 5, 3:00–4:00 PM
North Common, Baseball Diamond 10 across from the Pavilion, on Cogswell St. (#22)

Learn about Cricket & watch the NS Cricket Association playoffs

WALK

Guided Tour of All Saints Cathedral

Helen Ryding, Guide

October 5, 3:30 PM
South Common, All Saints Cathedral, 1330 Martello Street (front entrance) (#18)

Tour the art and architecture of All Saints Cathedral.

TALK

Military Use of the Common, 85th, WWI

Kevin Robins, Curator, Parks Canada

October 5, 3:30 PM
Central Common, Lecture Theatre, Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History, 1747 Summer St. (#1)

A talk on the military use of the Common with a focus on the 85th Battalion.

LEISURE & SPORT

Picnic & Popul Potluck everyone invited

October 5, 5:00–7:00 PM
Central Common, Common Roots Urban Farm, Robie St. at Bell Rd. (#5)

All Nations Drummers & Singers welcome you to a community Picnic & Popul Potluck, hosted by the Common Roots Urban Farm. Bring food to share, a picnic or purchase it at a popul truck. Invite friends.

TALK

Panel Discussion The Politics & Possibilities for the Commons in the Age of Austerity

Silvia Federici & George Caffentzis, moderated by Max Haiven, in partnership with NSCAD

October 5, 7:30–9:00 PM
Central Common, Royal Bank Theatre, Room 1013, QEII Health Centre, 1796 Summer St. (#6)

The 2008 financial crisis created a tidal wave of austerity, bankruptcies and bailouts, with disastrous human consequences. Is this just the latest phase of a centuries-old process of “enclosure” or privatization of common lands, resources and life? Can we reimagine our commons, and what we have in common to move to economic transformation, ecological sustainability, and social justice?

Silvia Federici, professor emerita, Hofstra University, is a world-renowned feminist scholar,

writer and activist. A veteran of the international Wages For Housework campaign and anti-nuclear struggles, she is author of several books. George Caffentzis, professor emeritus, University of Southern Maine, is a scholar and activist based in New York City. A member of the influential Midnight Notes collective he has written on capitalism, technology, education and the nature of money. He is an organizer with the New York-based Strike Debt movement.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6

LEISURE & SPORT

Musical Ride

Halifax Junior Bengal Lancers

October 6, 1:30–2:00 PM
Central Common, Bengal Lancers Paddock, 1690 Bell Rd. (#19)

The Halifax Junior Bengal Lancers will perform a half hour musical ride from 1:30–2:00 in celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the Halifax Common.

LEISURE & SPORT

Bengal Laners Open House

Halifax Junior Bengal Lancers

October 6, 2:00–4:00 PM
Bengal Lancers Stables, 1690 Bell Rd. (#19)

Guided tours of the Stables and pony rides for the public

BOOK LAUNCH & RECEPTION “Celebrate the Common”

October 6, 2:00–3:30 PM
Lecture Theatre, Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History, 1747 Summer St. (#1)

At the book launch poets will read their contributions to the anthology “Celebrate the Common”, a book of poetry commemorating the 250th anniversary of the Halifax Common (1763–2013). This volume, inspired by Friends of Halifax Common, with a foreword by Peggy Cameron, was generously published by Gaspereau Press Limited, Printers & Publishers. Books will be available for sale.

the ARTISTS & their PROJECTS

Of the original 235 acre Halifax Common grant less than 25% remains as public open green space. An informative historical time line through these changes can be found at <http://www.halifaxcommon.ca/history/historical-timeline/>

In planning to Celebrate the Common 250, Friends of Halifax Common invited artists to explore and respond to the Halifax Common's landscape, culture and history. We hope that their works give you a new sense of connection to the Common, its role in our city and the legacy we leave for future commoners.

DAILY EVENTS

ARTS & MUSIC

Golf Balls

Kelsey Watson, Artist

October 4, 5 & 6

Tee-Off at the Central Common Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History (#1) and find the rest of the holes throughout the Common.

With the newly built world-class golf course dictating the future of her once coal mining home town in mind, Kelsey makes work to express the push and pull to and from one's home. In *Golf Balls*, she examines what a golf ball, such a mundane object, could symbolize in different locations throughout the Halifax Common. The piece raises issues of gender, money and power, nature and the manmade, public green space, disposability and the economic future of NS.

ARTS & MUSIC

Capture the Common

Zachery Faye, Artist

October 4, 5 & 6

Central Common, Parkade at QEII Health Centre, 1779 Robie Street (#13)

The *Capture The Common* photo installation is the result of collective photography, a common project. People are invited to submit pictures (capturethecommon@gmail.com) of the Halifax they see (the beautiful and the not so beautiful) that they captured with anything from a smartphone to a professional camera. The installation in the QEII parkade is not only an act of recapturing a space that was once a part of the Halifax common, but also a documentation of contemporary Halifax as we see it now.

ARTS & MUSIC

The Oikos Shelter

Kai Woolner-Pratt, Artist & Ezra Lipton, Artist

October 4, 5 & 6

South Common, Tupper Building public square at 5850 College St., Carleton Campus, Dalhousie University (#14)

The Oikos Shelter aims to initiate appropriation of the Commons as a more truly social space. The Common is one of the city's strongest assets as an uncommodified public space in the heart of the city. However, it does not provide many situations that encourage communal life. The shelter will act as acupuncture for the Common, inserting a spatially bounded locus that encourages public gatherings by focusing attention and creating a situation. By providing a surprising experience and an intimate social situation, we hope the Oikos will open a space for new personal and imaginative connections to be made. This will encourage Haligonians to re-appropriate and re-territorialize the Common as a truly public space that subversively provides pleasure without purchase.

ARTS & MUSIC

Dead Falls

Fenn Martin, Artist & Tj Ediger, Artist

October 4, 5 & 6

Central Common, Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History grounds, at the corner of Summer St. and Bell Rd. (#7)

Deadfalls is an abstracted hunting camp that engages the audience with ideas of the rodent/pest and the current use of supposedly protected or common land. Inspired by the story of fur trappers at Black Duck Pond (now the North Common's Skatepark), Martin & Ediger will set camp and lay traps as they travel the Common in search of the elusive beaver.

SATURDAY ONLY

ARTS & MUSIC

The Common Flock

Mocean Dance

October 5, 4:00-5:00 PM

Starting at North Common Centennial Fountain (#8) ending at the Common Roots Urban Farm at Bell Rd. and Robie St. (#5)

The Common Flock is a large-scale community performance piece that draws on the historical use of the Halifax Common as an area for commoners, including the townspeople, the widows or the farmers, to pasture their livestock. Using the flock as a metaphor for the coming together of a community of people, over fifty individuals will 'flock' across the common. The impact of a large group of people moving and dancing in unison will bring attention to the breadth of space and importance the Common has in our own community.

ARTS & MUSIC

Circus Arts

Halifax Circus

October 5th, 10:00-6:00 PM

Starting at Central Common basketball courts (#17); after 3:00 PM throughout the Halifax Common; 4:30-6:00 PM at IWK Newman Garden (#20)

Halifax Circus will be performing juggling, acrobatics, hand-balancing, diabolo, flowersticks, unicycling and aerials. Members have performed worldwide with the Cirque du Soleil, Ringling Brothers Circus and Cirque Surreal.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

ARTS & MUSIC

The Poor House

DaPoPo Theatre

Sat October 5, 2:00 PM & 4:00 PM

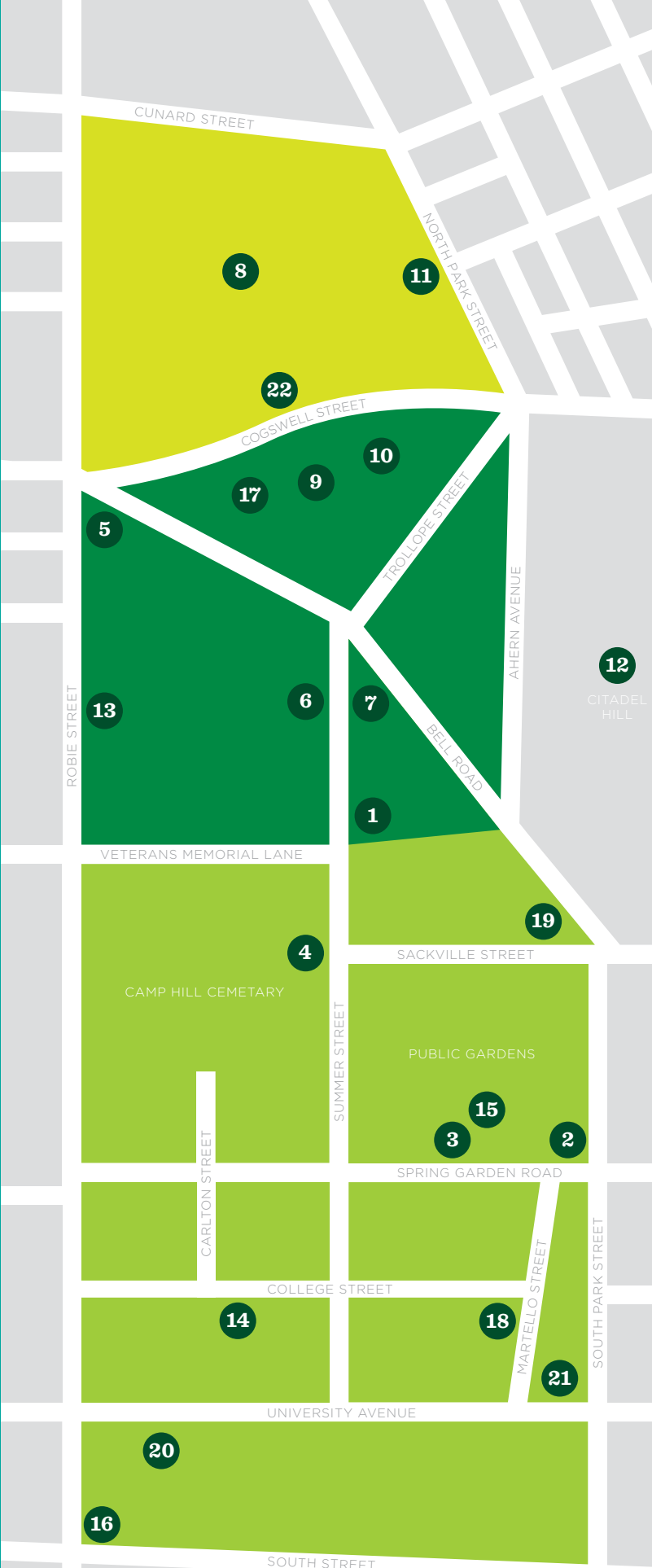
Sun October 6, 2:00 PM & 4:00 PM

South Common, Location TBA, University Avenue

DaPoPo Theatre will present a view into *The Poor House* by animating individuals who lived within its walls through text, movement, and music. The history of the Halifax Poor House reminds about how we treat those on the margins of society; the context and value of a physical location as a city changes, and the importance of the human element of urban planning and land usage, as a contextual complement to the challenges facing the Common today.

LOCATIONS

- 1 Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History
- 2 Main gate, Halifax Public Gardens, corner Spring Garden Rd. and South Park St.
- 3 Horticultural Hall Plaza (in front of Uncommon Grounds Café), Halifax Public Gardens
- 4 Camp Hill Cemetery, main gate near Summer St. and Sackville St.
- 5 Common Roots Urban Farm, Robie St. at Bell Rd.
- 6 Royal Bank Theatre, Room 1013, QEII Health Centre, 1796 Summer St.
- 7 Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History grounds, at the corner of Summer St. and Bell Rd.
- 8 North Common Centennial Fountain
- 9 Central Common, beside Pavilion
- 10 Canada Games Baseball Diamond
- 11 Baseball diamond 7 (North Park St. and Cornwallis St. crosswalk)
- 12 Main Gate at the Citadel, 5425 Sackville St.
- 13 Parkade at QEII Health Centre, 1779 Robie St.
- 14 Tupper Building public square at 5850 College St., Carleton Campus, Dalhousie University
- 15 Bandstand, Halifax Public Gardens
- 16 Robie St. at South St.
- 17 Basketball courts west of the skatepark, pool and Pavilion
- 18 All Saints Cathedral, 1330 Martello Street (front entrance)
- 19 Bengal Lancers Paddock, 1690 Bell Rd.
- 20 IWK Newman Garden
- 21 Oland's Memorial Fountain, Victoria Park
- 22 Baseball Diamond 10 across from the Pavilion, on Cogswell St.



- North Common
- Central Common
- South Common

OCT 4-6

CELEBRATE

the COMMON

250

EVENT SCHEDULE

THEATRE **CIRCUS** **WALKS TALKS TOURS**

POETRY **LECTURES** **YOGA**

PICNIC **CRICKET** **ART**

MEDITATION

Check for daily schedule updates at

HALIFAXCOMMON.CA

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