Festival planning well underway – and exciting, too! by Moe

Planning for this year's Festival started early and energy has stayed at a high level throughout. If you are interested in being involved in the ongoing organization, meetings are every Tuesday at 5pm at the Women's Centre from now until the Festival. Volunteers will be especially needed for short-term commitments either at the Women's Centre or on-site in the week or two prior to the Festival. Ask at the Women's Centre, either stating your skills/preferences or just being available for whatever. We will need transportation, signage, yard crews, tent-raising energy, runningaround-town gofers, and who knows what-all. Being part of the work crews is fun, and makes the Festival seem even more your own.

Right now we have about a dozen workshops (more, actually) confirmed, and a couple more that will probably happen. Very soon there will be a brochure with a short description of the workshops and facilitators. In the short term, here is a list of some (proposed) titles; you'll just have to speculate as to content and presenter: • A Short History of Feminism • Writing Our Stories • Health and Truth Over 40 • Feeding Ourselves: Running a Small Farm • Listen to the Heartbeat: A Hand Drum Workshop • Gay & Straight Together: An Orientation and Discussion • Defending Ourselves: Wen li do • Unlearning Racism • Women and Environmental Issues

• Some Alternative Health Approaches for Women • Glad to Be Alive: Sexual Abuse Survivors • Reiki: The Usui System of Natural Healing

• Loving Boldly: Bisexuality • Painting with the Entire Body

• *Newcomers' Tea Party*. These workshops will take place on Saturday. On Sunday morning there will be two more workshoppy-type things:

The IMAGES Ad Hoc Singers will teach a song or two to be brought to the Sunday Stage
DayStar will lead Goddess Circle Dances

• Some women last year wanted to bring their mountain bikes this year and organize *a ride up the mountain*. Bring your bike.

Ongoing Sobriety Support Area in a tipi on the grounds
We are asking women who have drums to bring them and help

provide an ongoing drumbeat/heartbeat for the festival, (as well as participating in the drum workshop).

• If you cannot afford the entire admission price, work exchanges are possible. Friday night is not included in the overall admission price; 18 tickets to the dance are available in exchange for one-hour shifts at the door or on security. Please arrange in advance.

• Performers must sign up by July 28 for the Sunday Stage.



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• On Saturday there is an **Open Stage** in the Craft Tent: you do not have to sign up for this until the day.

• The Craft Tent is open to all women in the community so they/you can check out the Festival and the artists/craftswomen will have a bigger market. We're hoping to make the Tent a real "happening" place with facepainting, toenail decoration, strolling jugglers, and the Open Stage. If you want to make a contribution to this, please do.
Women wishing to sell their own handmade wares: sign up in advance.
Please sign up all children under 12 in advance to give the childcare workers enough information to do the best job they can. Remember that the older childcare is offsite. There will be a special information sheet about older kids' childcare.

• The dance on Saturday night will feature

. . a **brand-new**, **local**, **all-wom**(**y**)(**e**)(**o**)**n band.** They will play the first dance set, after which several of your local music lovers will play half-hour sets of their favourite dance tunes.

This Festival is the main fund-raiser of the WKWA, earning us money we can do anything with, answering to no one. Come and party – and support a good cause, too!

• Call 352-9916 with all enquiries •