FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 19, 2026

Capital Ukrainian Festival Returns August 28–30 for Three Days of Ukrainian Arts, Culture and Community

OTTAWA, ON - The Capital Ukrainian Festival, in partnership with the Ukrainian Canadian Congress – Ottawa Branch, returns August 28–30, 2026 for three days of Ukrainian arts, culture, heritage and community programming as part of Ukraine Week in Ottawa. People of all ages and backgrounds are invited to learn Ukrainian dance, explore UNESCO-recognized living cultural traditions through hands-on workshops, and gather at Lansdowne Park for the free, all-day Yarmarok (Ukrainian Marketplace), featuring Ukrainian food, artisans and vendors, live entertainment, children's programming and opportunities to experience and celebrate Ukrainian arts and culture.

WHAT TO EXPECT AT THE 2026 CAPITAL UKRAINIAN FESTIVAL

Friday, August 28 | Learn Ukrainian Dance | 6–8 p.m. | Lansdowne Park Plaza | FREE
Kick off the weekend with a fun, beginner-friendly introduction to Ukrainian dance led by the Svitanok Ukrainian Dance Society. Participants of all ages and experience levels are welcome to learn basic steps and experience Ukrainian dance in a relaxed and welcoming setting.

Saturday, August 29 | Ukrainian Cultural Workshops | 952 Green Valley Crescent | $35
Take part in two hands-on workshops exploring Ukrainian cultural traditions, both inscribed on UNESCO's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. The workshops will be delivered in English and are suitable for beginners. Tickets are **$35 per workshop** and advance registration is required.

- **12–2 p.m. - Petrykivka Painting Workshop -** Discover the distinctive Ukrainian tradition of Petrykivka decorative painting and create your own work while learning about its history, motifs and cultural significance.
- **3–5 p.m. - Ukrainian Pysanky - Art Egg Painting Workshop (Beginner) -** Learn the traditional wax-resist method of creating Ukrainian pysanky and explore the patterns, symbols and traditions associated with this centuries-old art form.

Sunday, August 30 | Yarmarok (Ukrainian Marketplace) | 9 a.m. – 7 p.m. | Horticulture Building, Lansdowne Park | FREE
Spend the day experiencing Ukrainian food, arts and culture at CUF's Yarmarok Ukrainian Marketplace. Shop from artisans and vendors, enjoy live music and performances, discover

community organizations, take part in children's and family activities, and celebrate Ukrainian culture with the community.

Also happening | Sunday, August 30 | A Piece of Gerdan Dipped in ShockolaD Concert | 7 p.m. | 1000 Byron Avenue | $45
End the weekend with A Piece of Gerdan Dipped in ShockolaD, a lively concert bringing together two distinctive Ukrainian sounds. Gerdan Theatre is a contemporary folk performance ensemble that brings ancient regional melodies and vocal traditions together with modern theatrical expression, while ShockolaD blends Ukrainian roots with jazz, world music and contemporary influences. Expect exceptional musicianship, songs and stories, humour, energy and a few surprises. **Tickets are $45** and advance purchase is encouraged. Tickets are also available at the door.

PART OF UKRAINE WEEK IN OTTAWA
The Capital Ukrainian Festival's three-day programming is part of Ukraine Week in Ottawa, taking place August 23–30 and marking the 35th anniversary of Ukraine's independence.

Coordinated by the Ukrainian Canadian Congress – Ottawa Branch together with community organizations and partners, Ukraine Week brings together several cultural, community and civic events across the National Capital Region. The week invites everyone to participate, learn more about Ukraine, honour the resilience of the Ukrainian people and connect with Ottawa's Ukrainian community.

More information about Ukraine Week in Ottawa:
https://www.ottawaucc.ca/

QUOTES
"The Capital Ukrainian Festival returns to celebrate Ukrainian culture as a living expression of identity, creativity and community," said Jane Kolbe, President of the Capital Ukrainian Festival. "Through art, music, dance, food and shared traditions, we are creating a welcoming cultural experience that honours Ukraine's past, reflects the present and looks toward the future."

"Ukraine Week in Ottawa gives us an important opportunity to mark 35 years of Ukraine's independence, recognize the resilience of the Ukrainian people and strengthen connections across our community," added Kolbe. "We are proud to work alongside the Ukrainian Canadian Congress - Ottawa Branch and our many community partners to contribute to a week that is respectful, inclusive and reflective of the strength of Ottawa's Ukrainian Canadian community."

MEDIA CONTACT
For media inquiries please contact: ocufmedia@gmail.com

ABOUT THE CAPITAL UKRAINIAN FESTIVAL
Established in 2015, the Capital Ukrainian Festival is Ottawa's celebration of Ukrainian arts, culture and community. Through performances, workshops, artisan vendors, traditional and

contemporary cuisine, and community programming, the festival welcomes people of all backgrounds to experience and celebrate the richness and diversity of Ukrainian arts and culture. For more information, visit Capital Ukrainian Festival: https://capitalukrainianfestival.ca/

ABOUT THE UKRAINIAN CANADIAN CONGRESS – OTTAWA BRANCH

The Ukrainian Canadian Congress – Ottawa Branch serves as a community voice and convener for Ukrainians and Ukrainian Canadians in Ottawa. It supports cultural, civic and community engagement while representing and connecting the community across the National Capital Region. For more information visit Ukrainian Canadian Congress - Ottawa Branch: https://www.ottawaucc.ca/