

## A Message from the Executive Director, Ibrahim Absiye.



Greetings to the CultureLink Community.

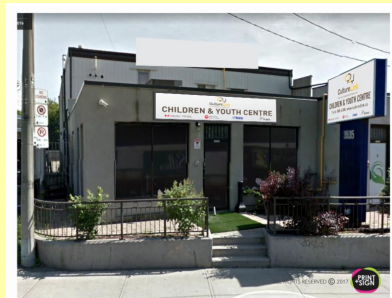
It is my pleasure that I share with you today a new milestone at CultureLink. It is the launching of a new branch that will be the home of an important part of our innovative community programming. Thanks to the support of the department of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC), CultureLink will open new doors as the 'Children & Youth Centre' this August at 3535 Dundas Street West, Toronto.

This Centre will house programs and services for children (6 - 13 years) and youth (14 - 29 years), including the settlement and integration of newcomers. CultureLink will showcase the implementation of its specialty initiatives such as Artegration (Art + Integration), which facilitates the integration of newcomers through arts, Wintegration (Winter + Integration), Youth in Arts & Youth in Action programs at this conveniently located site.

Please stay tuned and standby for an invitation to join us for the Open House event and in making the most of this milestone - celebrating our accomplishments, creating awareness of our work, and encouraging the support needed to allow us to address the challenges of tomorrow. In the meantime, take some time to relax and enjoy the latest edition of our newsletter and please share it with your friends.

Finally, my sincere thanks to my fellow CultureLink staff for making this goal achieved. It is in our DNA, together, to innovate, implement and impact indefinitely!

## CultureLink's Children and Youth Centre: Fostering Positive Development



The Children and Youth Centre aims to foster the positive development of children and youth by delivering comprehensive services that enhance their learning potential, healthy lifestyles, responsible civic engagement, and help them to envision meaningful and productive futures in a safe, open, inclusive, positive and supportive environment. This will be achieved by developing: (a) civic engagement and youth leadership skills, health and wellness awareness, (c) academic achievement and last,

but not least (d) enhancing employability skills.

***Stay tuned for future updates!***

## Seeking Board Members

CultureLink is a non-profit charity with the mission and mandate of developing and delivering settlement and community services to meet the needs of diverse communities. Join an organization that is passionate about providing innovative services to newcomers and vulnerable communities; we adapt to changes and create new programs that best

respond to and address our clients' specific needs.  
[CultureLink is recruiting new members for its Board of Directors.](#)



## Youth in Arts



[Youth in Arts](#) is an after school arts based program for refugees and newcomer youth ages 12-24. This program's objective is to establish community connections through planned weekly activities, promote cross-cultural integration, establish positive peer relationships, enhance knowledge of Canadian history and strengthen cultural diversity. "Youth in Arts" offers different activities such as visual arts, digital design and video production. With the help of the Toronto Resource Library's "Digital Innovation Hub", the program has slowly integrated into its Digital Design phase. "Youth in Arts" has begun a new project, in partnership with the Seniors Program, which will incorporate youth interviewing seniors about their personal experience and process of first arriving to Canada. The final video is projected to be completed and presented to Culturelink's staff, friends and families by December 2017.

## Upcoming Events - Get Involved!

[2017 CultureLink's Annual General Meeting & LSP Day](#) It is our pleasure to invite you to participate at our 2017 Annual General Meeting & LSP Day. The event will be held on October 26, 2017 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Lillian H. Smith Library located at 239 College St. Toronto, ON. This year, we will be celebrating Canada 150th+ Anniversary and showcasing different Canadian cultural expressions such as food, music, and dances. **Please RSVP by October 06, 2017 at (416) 588-6288 or at [reception@culturelink.ca](mailto:reception@culturelink.ca)**

In recognition of our accreditation with Imagine Canada's Standards Program, CultureLink will be part of the "**Unsung Heroes**" **charity-zone initiative**. You are cordially invited to visit us at the [Taste of the Danforth from August 11-13, 2017.](#)

## Recap of Recent Events



What an amazing canoe trip SSP went on this past Friday! With 24 youth, Nadwa and Yaman with Harbourfront Canoe and Kayak Club and Mountain Equipment Volunteer went on a 3 hour canoe trip to Toronto Island.



Ryerson Community School organized 13 sessions - Newcomer Monday Club this year. They also had a goodbye party for grade 8 newcomer students at the last Monday club session.



Saturday Team-building and Leadership workshop held on July 21th at The Housing Help Centre. Event organized by our School Settlement Worker, Nadwa Nimer.

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