

Dear CultureLink Community,

With summer upon us and much warm weather, we are pleased to share with you our June 2016 newsletter with exciting news, program information and events. We welcome your feedback and look forward to seeing you at one of our many activities and events for the community. For ideas about how to get involved with CultureLink please visit our [website](#).

## Nai Children's Choir and CultureLink's Donation Centre



Founded in April 2016 by a team of passionate staff and volunteer musicians at CultureLink, a Toronto-based Charity, Nai Syrian Children's Choir provides a unique opportunity for Syrian children to learn to express their grief, yearning, love and hope through singing in their mother tongue and in the official languages of their new country. While recently arrived Syrian refugee children age

6-12 receive free weekly music education with our musicians, their parents learn and practice English conversation with experienced ESL educators.

[Read more about Nai Children's Choir](#)

In the six months between December 2015 and May 2016, in a 900 sqf donated space, 500 plus volunteers were mobilized, hundreds of thousands items donated, sorted, then distributed to 554 families which comprise 2182 refugees (2046 are Syrians). This was CultureLink's makeshift #RefugeeWelcome Donation Centre. [Read more](#)

[Listen to the Nai Children's Choir perform](#) at the Donation Centre Recognition Breakfast.

## Seniors' Day at CultureLink Celebrated with Style!

On the afternoon of Tuesday June the 28, 2016, four placement students from George Brown College and Seneca College transformed CultureLink's program rooms into a Hawaiian paradise. Complete with food, music, singing, professional make-up artists and dancing, 50 seniors from 5 countries, and 14 youth had the opportunity to celebrate seniors' month in style. It was a wonderful event to recognize seniors who most often don't get the appreciation and recognition they need. [Learn More](#)



## West Hill Bike Club



With the support of the Toronto Foundation, CultureLink launched the West Hill Bike Club as an after-school program at West Hill Collegiate Institute in fall 2015. Chantelle Campbell-Sholzberg was hired to support the club and Clayton Reesor, who biked to school regularly, was appointed to be one of two "Student Ambassadors".

[Check out Clayton's story!](#)

## Upcoming Events - Get Involved!

A day on Centre Island - potluck for Newcomer Youth Centre [read flyer](#)  
Outdoor Volunteer Fair for Youth at CultureLink, July 12th [read more](#)  
Youth Recreation Club 3 Days a Week! [read more](#)

## Recap of Recent Events



**Global Roots** is an inter-generational gardening program that connects newcomer youth and seniors through activities like gardening, learning about food and food equity issues.

Info:

[Visit our blog!](#)



**Soulpepper Theater Program for Newcomer Youth at Jarvis**  
Once again, we had the great fortune of offering newcomer students at Jarvis Collegiate Institute a two-month class in theatre led by the wonderful artists from Soulpepper Theatre Company. [Read more](#)



**Newcomer Orientation & Homework Club and 4 Sessions Family Fun Activity at Ryerson Community School**  
Ryerson Community School is located in the heart of Toronto's Chinatown, and on the south side of Kensington Market. [Read more](#)

## Visek Day at John English Junior Middle School



Visek Day is a Buddhist celebration honouring the birthday of Budha and celebrated worldwide. It focuses on the tenants of Buddhism including compassion, peace and goodwill. Celebrations include cultural performances, plays and public messages given by religious and community leaders. Some celebrations include doing acts of charity such as donating to the poor or releasing caged animals. [More information.](#)

[Website](#) [Services](#) [Programs](#) [Get Involved](#) [About Us](#) [Events](#) [Calendar](#)



**SIGN UP FOR  
OUR EMAILS**



**SHARE THIS  
EMAIL**



CultureLink  
reception@culturelink.ca

