

CELEBRATION OF CREATIVE AGING SYMPOSIUM

Tuesday, June 3rd, 2008 (Edmonton, Alberta)

<http://creativeagefestival.ca>

FREE Registration

Pre-Registration Required: Deadline - May 26, 2008

~ Please share with others who might be interested in participating in the symposium. ~

Held in conjunction with the Edmonton Creative Age Festival, the *Celebration of Creative Aging Symposium* offers an opportunity for individuals interested in the area of arts and aging to come together to share their experience, interest and questions. We invite you register to attend this symposium, to make connections, learn about current research and ways in which arts and aging is developing as a field, engage in discussion and share your experience.

A plenary presentation by *Susan Perlstein, Director of Education and Training, National Centre for Creative Aging (Washington, DC)* will give a plenary presentation entitled: *“Embrace the Moment! - Why Creativity Matters in Later Life”*. She will begin her plenary presentation with an exercise that will encourage participants to engage with ideas and processes of creative aging. She will consider the significance of “creative aging” in relation to everyday life, and also summarize findings from a study she collaborated on with Dr. Gene Cohen from the Centre of Aging, Health and Humanities at George Washington University that has provided evidence of positive benefits associated with involvement in arts and cultural programs. She will discuss three developmental currents characterizing the field of arts and aging: arts and lifelong learning, arts and community engagement, and use of the arts in social service and health care practice. Susan will conclude her presentation with recommendations for moving the field of arts and aging forward in the coming decades. Susan Perlstein will also facilitate two workshops focused on *“Best Program Practices in the Arts and Aging Field.”* In addition there will be *other concurrent poster and paper presentations and workshops* that explore or consider the significance of the in and for later life.

Anyone working in or interested in this field – for example, artists, seniors, those working in arts, culture, and heritage areas, gerontologists, educators, health care practitioners, researchers, students – *all are invited to participate in this symposium!*

To attend this symposium, please **pre-register** online at <http://creativeagefestival.ca/registrationsubmissionform.html>, or by email to [registration at creativeagefestival.ca](mailto:registration@creativeagefestival.ca) (specify: “Symposium Registration” in the Subject Line), or call the Edmonton Seniors Coordinating Council at 780-423-5635.

If you would like to **learn more** about the Edmonton Creative Age Festival, &/or want to **submit an abstract** for the symposium go to <http://creativeagefestival.ca> (deadline for submitting abstracts is May 14, 2008).