



For Immediate Release

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Artefact or Artefiction?

Museum of Health Care's 25th Anniversary Gala Evening

(KINGSTON, ON) – The Museum of Health Care at Kingston turns 25 years old in 2016 and will be capping off its anniversary celebrations with “*Artefact or Artefiction*,” its 25th Anniversary Gala on December 3, 2016. Proceeds from the event will be directed to the Museum’s public programming and exhibitions.

The “*Artefact or Artefiction*,” gala is based on a format that has proven successful at other Canadian museums, including the Royal BC Museum and Royal Saskatchewan Museum. After a catered reception, guests will visit a series of game stations and be greeted by experts who will share a story of the displayed artefact. Guests must decide – is it fact or fiction? Prizes await guests who can detect the most correct answers. This is the first event of its kind in Kingston.

“We’ll present artefacts that represent a variety of healthcare disciplines, including nursing, dentistry, and obstetrics,” says Max Chouinard, Curator. “Many objects from our collection have incredible histories attached to them. We’re also inventing fantastic tales of our own. People may have trouble believing what’s truly ‘fact’ and what’s entirely ‘fiction’.”

“The medical history game is intriguing a lot of community members,” says Jenny Stepa, Museum Manager and Program Manager. “So is the theme of this event, which pulls from Victorian-era carnivals and the festive season.” The event boasts live music, jugglers from the Queen’s and Kingston Jugglers’ Clubs, period costumes, experiential prizes from regional businesses, and “catertainment” from Tulips and Maples caterers.

The lighthearted, medical history-inspired event will raise funds to support the Museum’s public programming and exhibitions. The Museum provides curriculum-linked, hands-on public education opportunities for all ages to instill recognition of the importance of healthcare history. It will also be launching a series of exhibitions in 2016 and 2017, which use Kingston’s and Canada’s histories to provide context and perspective on today’s health issues.

The “*Artefact or Artefiction*” gala runs from 7:00 pm to 11:00 pm on Saturday, December 3, 2016 at the Residence Inn By Marriott Kingston Hotel Water's Edge. The VIP Reception, which includes enhanced food and drink offerings and special entertainment will begin at 6:00 pm.

The ticket price for the gala is \$85.00 per person. The early bird price is \$75, available until October 31st. VIP tickets are available for \$125 per person. Sponsorship opportunities are also available. For information on how to purchase tickets or become a sponsor while helping preserve and share the history of health care, please contact Jenny Stepa at 613-548-2419 or info@museumofhealthcare.ca, or visit www.museumofhealthcare.ca/25.

The story of Canadian health and medicine tells how people have preserved health and managed disease, pain, and suffering. The Museum of Health Care at Kingston strives to connect visitors with the experiences of people in past times and provide context and perspective on today's health issues. To help Canadians better understand this history, the Museum preserves and promotes the rich material legacy of our medical and health care past. We serve the general public, practitioners, students, and historians through [exhibitions](#), [guided tours](#), [education programs](#), [family programs](#), and [special events](#) throughout the year.

The Museum of Health Care is Canada's only museum dedicated solely to preserving health care history.

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