



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Folklorama announces 2026-2027 Board of Directors**

**WINNIPEG, MB – MARCH 27, 2026** – Folklorama welcomes five new members to Board of Directors ahead of milestone 55<sup>th</sup> Festival

Folklorama is pleased to announce the following individuals were elected to its Board of Directors at the Annual General Meeting held on March 26, 2026: Nick Apostolopoulos, Gary Senft, Debra Takeuchi, Natarajan Thiagarajan, and Ellen Thompson, alongside returning members Irene Costa, Peirce Dickson, Debbie Hirsch, Calvin Loi, Sara Sambanthan, Kerry Sampson, Sheryl Vasquez, and Kim Ly (Immediate Past President).

As one of Winnipeg’s premier arts and culture organizations, Folklorama has always thrived in part due to its diverse Board of Directors, made up of Folklorama members and community leaders.

“New board members always bring an opportunity to explore different perspectives and ideas, something I welcome as we continue to grow and evolve as an organization,” states Folklorama Executive Director Teresa Cotroneo. “We’re celebrating a significant milestone this year and I’m looking forward to working with the Board and celebrating alongside them. I’m also immensely grateful for the time, expertise, and passion our outgoing board members contributed. Thank you to Tes Aiello, Tamar Barr, Peter Parboji, and MacKenzie Wilke for their exemplary commitment to Folklorama.”

The 55<sup>th</sup> edition of the Folklorama Festival will take place from August 2 – 15 at various venues throughout Winnipeg.

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### **About Folklorama**

The Folklorama Festival was first held in 1970 as a one-time celebration of Manitoba’s centennial but has since grown to be the largest and longest-running multicultural festival of its kind in the world. Developing out of the success of the Festival, the organization also offers year-round program through its Ethno-Cultural Arts division. All the programs bring to life Folklorama’s mission of bringing people together by sharing ethno-cultural experiences and education.



Folklorama acknowledges that we create, connect, and celebrate on Treaty 1 territory. We honour the unceded lands and waters of the Anishinaabe (Ojibway), Ininew (Cree), and Dakota peoples, in the National Homeland of the Red River Métis. We recognize and honour that our drinking water comes from Shoal Lake 40 First Nation on Treaty 3 Territory. We are committed to building relationships and sharing knowledge, and cultural understanding of all communities. Understanding our diversity fosters pride and mutual respect.

Learn more at [Folklorama.ca](https://folklorama.ca).

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