

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: The Shadbolt Centre for the Arts presents the 28<sup>th</sup> annual “Rhodofest”**

Join us on Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup> for the City of Burnaby’s 28<sup>th</sup> annual **Rhodofest**. This charming festival produced by the City of Burnaby in collaboration with the Burnaby Rhododendron & Gardens Societies, promotes the long-term sustainable, ecological health of our communities, while celebrating the city’s one and only civic flower – the rhododendron. Not only will you have the opportunity to learn more about your community, but there’s something for everyone whether you are 3 or 93!

**Rhodofest** will also kickoff the inaugural **Burnaby Festival of Learning** taking place May 1 – 7 in partnership with Simon Fraser University.

Festival highlights include a variety of entertainment, mini-workshops, horticultural and nature tours, plant sales, and interactive arts activities. The plant silent auction and artisan vendors are always crowd-pleasing favourites.

If you haven’t attended the festival or haven’t been in the last couple of years here’s what to expect:

- Beautiful Flower displays
- Plant sales by local garden stores and the Burnaby Rhododendron and Garden Societies
- Presentation by Dr. Elizabeth Elle of SFU –“The Bees Needs”
- Tours about the Bird Life of Deer Lake Park and Aboriginal Medicinal Plants
- Strawberry Tea and Tour at the Burnaby Art Gallery
- Live musical entertainment
- Family and kids activities including dreamcatcher making and a flower arranging workshop
- Over 30 exhibitors and artisans
- Silent Auction

A few of the highly popular tours and presentations offered, while free, do require pre-registration. If you are interested in the fabulous bird life of the park you won’t want to miss the tour led by George Clulow beginning at 8:00am. Call 604-205-3003 for further information and to pre-register or visit [shadboltcentre.com](http://shadboltcentre.com). Educators from the Coast Salish Aboriginal community will also be hosting a walking tour around the Shadbolt Centre & Deer Lake Park sharing their traditional Aboriginal knowledge of our ecosystem, and how native plants have long been used in health and healing practices. Visitors will also have the chance to learn about the population decline of bee with Dr. Elizabeth Elle of SFU. In this presentation you’ll learn about which plants are pollinator-attractive in the lower mainland of BC, so you can do your part to save the bees

The **Burnaby Festival of Learning** is a week-long celebration of learning with 50+ free events that will inform, engage and spark creative conversations between diverse audiences. Capping SFU’s 50th Anniversary celebrations, the Festival will showcase performances, lectures, discussions, debates and book launches joining the University’s strong history of research and dialogue with the City’s diversity in community programming.

Mark May 1<sup>st</sup> on your calendars today and get a head start on your spring gardening or bring the whole family for hours of fun at this year’s **Rhodofest!**



**28<sup>th</sup> annual Rhodofest  
May 1<sup>st</sup> | 10am -3pm**

**Shadbolt Centre for the Arts  
Free**

**[Burnaby.ca/rhodofest](http://Burnaby.ca/rhodofest)**

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