

Welcome Home, SchoolBox!

¡Bienvenidos a casa! Break out your dancing shoes and get ready for some fast-and-furious footwork as we welcome the entire SchoolBox family back to Almonte for a Latin Fiesta event. This year's theme is "homecoming". Executive director Sarah Kerr is hoping that all volunteers, past and present, will come out and celebrate with us this year.

Board members from across Canada and Nicaragua will be joining the homecoming party at the Almonte Civitan Club on Friday, October 3. "It should be a lively night of salsa fun and an incredible opportunity to reunite with the entire SchoolBOX community," says Kerr. "Come out to learn how the 'friendly town' is literally 'Making Education Possible' for thousands of children to defeat poverty in Nicaragua, the poorest country in the Americas."

With the aid of volunteers from across the USA and Canada, SchoolBox has been able to build fifty-five classrooms. The 60th classroom is scheduled to be completed at the end of this year.

SchoolBox <schoolbox.ca> is a registered Canadian charity that helps children in Central America go to school. The organization partners with communities to build schools, establish mini-libraries, and to provide school supplies to students and teachers. It also enlists the help of local and federal governments to ensure that the newly-completed schools will be staffed by trained teachers. To date, educational supplies have been distributed to 16,078 children and teachers, in 84 communities. By empowering communities with the gift of education, SchoolBox is making a difference that will last for generations.

This year's event will feature the red-hot Latin jazz fusion tunes of Azucar Jam <azucarjam.com>. Tanya's Dance Studio will be on hand at 7:30PM to offer a dance demo and lessons, before we go hip-to-hip with the salsa dancers at 8PM. A silent auction table will be filled with tempting local and Central American items. The live auction will feature the works of three Almonte artists and the *fenominales* auctioneering talents of Kris and Rob Riendeau.



SchoolBOX, the organization that is "making education possible" in Nicaragua, is holding a Latin Fiesta in Almonte on October 3

Doors open at 7PM. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for students, and children under 13 are free. They can be purchased in advance in Almonte (at Equator Coffee, Baker Bob's, and Hello Yellow), and in Carleton Place at Read's Bookshop. Come home to this SchoolBox hot spot on October 3 and find out why salsa is more than just a sauce!

— Lucy Carleton

Burnstown Walk of Hope

On Sunday, September 7, Cheryl Babineau and Richard Gill of Bittersweet Gallery and Fog Run Studio will host the second annual Burnstown **Ovarian Cancer Canada Walk of Hope**, starting from the medieval 11-circuit Chartres-style labyrinth mowed into their meadow. On that same day, the Walk of Hope will be held in at least forty-five other locations across the country. It is the largest one-day event in Canada that raises money solely for the fight against ovarian cancer.

Cheryl and Richard often thought it a shame that their labyrinth was under-utilized. Wanting to put it to good use, the labyrinth became a most unique setting for the first Burnstown Ovarian Cancer Canada Walk of Hope in 2013.

Thanks to the generosity of family, friends and neighbours, the 2013 Burnstown Walk raised a grand total of \$8,000 for Ovarian Cancer Canada. Everyone is invited to join Cheryl and Richard again this year in supporting this very important cause by participating as a walker, starting your own team, or sponsoring a walker. The 2014 goal is to raise \$16,000 and contribute to funding research to develop reliable early detection techniques, improved treatments, and ultimately a cure.

Ovarian cancer is Canada's most fatal women's cancer. It is often overlooked and under-diagnosed and there is no screening test. Ovarian cancer is often diagnosed in late stages, resulting in five-year survival rates of less than 30%.

The Burnstown fundraiser will take place next to Bittersweet Gallery at Fog Run Studio, 5 Leckie Lane. Registration, refreshments and the opening ceremony begin at 9AM. The walk will begin in the labyrinth at 10AM rain or shine, and will continue through a path that meanders around neighbouring barns for a 2.5K option. Participants can also continue with a more strenuous walk up the hill on Leckie Lane to make up 5K (with a rest stop to visit some sheep along the way). Participants should be aware that the labyrinth surface is cut grass that can be dewy in the morning with some uneven ground, so comfortable footwear or walking barefoot is recommended.

The walk will then wrap up with draws for door prizes donated by area businesses, and a grand prize of a clay relief sculpture by Richard Gill for the most funds raised. There will be brief closing remarks by Burnstown resident Denyse Campeau, National Director of Philanthropy for Ovarian Cancer Canada and Chair for this year's Burnstown Walk. Denyse can be reached at <dcampeau@ovariancanada.org>.



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