

and their families enjoy being outside.
"I had some girls and guys both

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Lesson in local history shared in the shadows

By LORI GALLAGHER
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The stories of the Coleman Frog and a Loyalist girl named Hannah Ingraham are coming to life in a unique way this summer.

The Fredericton Region Museum has invited local artist Miguelina Izaguirre to create an interactive exhibit featuring her shadow puppetry. It opened on Canada Day and runs until the end of August.

"She applied for the internship with the city," said her husband, Alejandro Gerones, acting as a translator for his wife. "Based on her proposal, the museum thought it would be ideal. It's mostly focused on the children, telling local stories."

The history of the Coleman Frog will be in the spotlight in July, followed by Hannah Ingraham in August. Izaguirre and Gerones will be there from Monday to Friday, from 1 to 5 p.m.

On top of the shows, said Gerones, "we're going to be doing workshops and fun activities for the kids, so they can come and do hands-on things with shadows and lights."

The shows will be presented on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 3 p.m. More information about this can be found on the Fredericton Region Museum website, frederictonregion-museum.wordpress.com.

Izaguirre has been a Fredericton resident for several years and recently started Peekaboo Shadows Theatre with the help of her husband. The company tells stories and interprets history using shadow puppetry, an art form she has adapted to be interactive and fun for children.

She has taught art and artistic expression for over 10 years in Colum-

bia and acted with several theatre troupes in her home country of Cuba before moving to Canada.

Peekaboo Shadows Theatre did a show at the Charlotte Street Arts Centre in December 2012, and out of that came an opportunity to work with Notable Acts Theatre Festival at the end of July.

"The history of Fredericton is very interesting for me," said Izaguirre. "I think it also presents an opportunity to do further research."

The Fredericton Region Museum is excited to have the exhibit of shadow puppetry this summer.

"Kid-friendly programming is something we're always interested in. We've got kid's programs running twice a week already, and it's a fantastic opportunity to bring people in," said Bobby Cole, public programs officer with the museum.

He said that this exhibit offers a way to look at history in a whole different light.

"We have a lot of traditional arts forms, but we don't have a lot of innovative forms of artistic expression here," he said. "I think it's going to be a big draw for people."

It's also a chance to try a new skill, thanks to the workshops for kids being offered by Izaguirre.

Plus it's always fun to bring attention to the Coleman Frog, one of the region's most whimsical historic tales.

He invites people to drop by the museum, which is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. all summer. The exhibit featuring the shadow puppets is open Monday to Friday from 1 to 5 p.m.

"For us, it's not only important to do the shows recreating the stories, but also attracting the kids to do hands-on and learn how to be more creative," said Izaguirre through Gerones.

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