

International Students Take Centre Stage at Prague Quadrennial

Pearson students set to perform for a global audience

Metchosin, B.C., 09 June 2023 – Six Canadian and international students from Pearson College UWC, together with supporting adults, are performing this month at the renowned Prague Quadrennial in the capital city of the Czech Republic.

Lucas Olscamp, artistic director and visual arts and theatre teacher at Pearson said, for students, this is an amazing opportunity to take part in the largest exhibition of international scenography worldwide.

"The event brings together professionals, designers, directors, schools, and theatre companies from all corners of the globe to showcase the world's best and most experimental ideas in theater design."

Over the course of the school year, five graduating students and one returning student, collaborated with Olscamp to form the on-campus collective known as CLAW (Collaborative Learning in Art and Wildness). CLAW evolved from Olscamp's own Tooth N' Fang theatre company, which has been involved in international art projects around the world.

Representing diverse national backgrounds from Canada, Ukraine, Cuba, Italy, South Africa, Australia, and the United Kingdom, CLAW students worked alongside Olscamp, his creative partner James, and co-director Alejandro Moro to create an outdoor performance entitled "A Chorus of Immortal Toxins." The piece explores a future world ravaged by environmental degradation, where toxic pollutants such as lead, kerosene, formaldehyde, chromium, and asbestos are worshipped.

"We hope that through the audience experiencing this performance and getting to understand the kind of satire, but also environmental lens of it, they'll have a closer and deeper understanding of the relationship we have with pollutants in our world now."

Pearson College UWC and the CLAW collective are thrilled to be part of the Prague Quadrennial and eagerly anticipate the impact their performance will have on both the audience and the participating students. This remarkable opportunity to showcase their talents on an international stage reinforces our commitment to fostering creativity, collaboration, and global understanding among its students.



NEWS RELEASE

About the Prague Quadrennial

Since 1967, the Prague Quadrennial of Performance Design and Space presents the best works in scenography with emphasis on the self-sufficiency of this artistic field. The 15th edition will take place from 8 to 18 June 2023, primarily in and around the historic old town centre of Prague. PQ performances explore progressive approaches, new media, virtual spaces and interdisciplinary relations.

PQ2023 will introduce artworks from dozens of countries from hundreds of artists within the scope of projects curated by an international PQ team and the main competitive exhibitions. For more information, visit the <u>PQ website</u> and their <u>Instagram page</u> for updates.

About Pearson College UWC

Founded as Lester B. Pearson United World College of the Pacific (Canada) and located along Pedder Bay on the unceded territory of the Sc'ianew (Beecher Bay) First Nation.

Pearson's mission is "to make education a force to unite people, nations and cultures for peace and a sustainable future" through a two-year pre-university (equivalent to grades 12 & 13) school for up to 200 students aged 16 to 19 selected from up to 160 countries and across Canada offering the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program. This year, about 80% attend on full or partial scholarships. Nearly 4,300 students have graduated from Pearson, including 15 who have become Rhodes Scholars.

For more information, please see www.pearsoncollege.ca and our social media pages.

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