

SAIT's new culinary campus opens downtown

By Ariana Biagi

SAIT culinary students and the general public alike got treated this fall with the Sept. 16 opening of the new Culinary Campus in the Scotia Centre on Stephen Avenue downtown.

The campus not only provides students with new state-of-the-art equipment and Calgary's only teaching-based baking and pastry-arts kitchen, it also gives them the opportunity to work directly with the public.

The Market is a series of stations run by the students who serve both breakfast and lunch to hungry Calgarians. There, students gain experience that is truer to what they can expect in the workforce than in a typical classroom environment.

"If students get to hide in the kitchen, the transition can be harder," says teacher and award-winning chef, Michael Dekker. "Here they're in a live setting, under a time crunch. It brings customers and students together."

Since the opening, Dekker says that the campus has been experiencing very high volumes.

"It's been crazy," he said.

"The students are really pumped about it; it's great to see their enthusiasm."

Second-year Professional Cooking student Eric Maddocks describes the experience as "more intense."

"We're doing things right away, on the spot. We're doing it right in front of everyone," said Maddocks.

Taste-testing student creations won't be the only reason for Calgarians to come through the doors.

The Culinary Campus will also offer a variety of classes to the public, and lend out the facility to businesses for corporate team-building events.

"We'll offer an Artisan series that focuses on a product like vinegar, or oil, or salt. They'll learn about the background and history of that product," said Dekker. "

Known as The Rush Hour program, it will also offer the downtown community a unique way to beat the busy, after-work rush.

"The whole concept is to stay in for rush hour rather than sit in traffic." In the meantime, Dekker adds, customers acquire some valuable learning.

This demonstration class of 45 minutes is available ev-



Professional Cooking student Eric Maddocks prepares for the lunch rush downtown.

ery Tuesday, when people are shown how to cook a dish. Afterward, they are provided with the recipe and ingredients to recreate the meal at home.

Classes are available to people of every skill level. Upcoming classes range from perfecting pies, to the art of Chinese cuisine, to creating

novelty cakes.

Drink enthusiasts need not feel left out. A series named From the Bar will focus on food and drink pairing, creating cocktails, and what to serve for date nights.

With a keen interest on catering to the needs of both students and the public, the campus focuses primarily on

programs and public offerings.

"It brings another aspect to downtown. When you come in and get your food, and see that interactive learning environment, it makes people feel good," said Dekker.

"It's a hot new item and our students bring a great enthusiasm and passion, like nobody

Midnight's children opens in CIFF

By Nichola Cordato

If it's September, it must be movie time in Calgary.

The 2012 Calgary International Film Festival (CIFF) kicked off at the Southern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium on Sept. 20th.

Midnight's Children, directed by Oscar nominee, Deepa Mehta, and based on the Booker Prize winning novel by Salman Rushdie, opened the festival.

More than 200 films in a myriad of genres and languages were scheduled to be screened in theatres across the city during the 11 day festival.

Since 1999, CIFF has grown to become one of the largest film festivals in Canada. Every year upwards of 50,000 people enjoy the cultural event.

A lot of new faces will be

seen at CIFF this year, notably the province's Culture Minister, Heather Klimchuk, who is hosting the event.

"The Calgary International Film Festival is an opportunity to showcase Canada and Alberta's thriving film industry to the rest of the world and to demonstrate how the private and public sectors can work together to promote culture," said Klimchuk, on the CIFF's official website.

For more information about the CIFF visit www.calgaryfilm.com or call (403) 452-4845

Five must-see films
Midnight's Children
Showtimes:

Thursday, Sept. 20, 7 p.m.
Opening Night Gala

Southern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium

This critically acclaimed film is the face of the 2012 CIFF. Midnight's Children

delivers a magical plot melted in with the complex history of India.

The main character Saleem Sinai was born at the stroke of midnight on the eve of India's independence from Britain. Little did Saleem's parents know, his birth time, along with every other child born that night, would deliver to them a supernatural power.

Beat Down

Showtimes:
Sunday, Sept. 30, 9:30 p.m.
Globe Theatre – Downstairs

Nominated for three Canadian Comedy Awards, this heavy-duty comedy is sure to wrestle a laugh out of you. The film is about 18-year-old Fran, who wants to follow in her father's footsteps by becoming a wrestler even though her father is dead-set against it. An opportunity arises for Fran to follow her

dream, but it could break-up her family.

Date Night

Showtimes:
Saturday, Sept. 22, 12:15 p.m.

Globe Theatre – Downstairs
Wednesday, Sept. 26, 6:45 p.m.

Eau Claire Cineplex – Screen 2

Most of us have flirted with the idea of dating, love and relationships, but this film featuring seven stories from six different countries puts it all into perspective.

Marilyn

Showtimes:
Thursday, Sept. 27, 9:30 p.m.

Globe Theatre – Downstairs

Saturday, Sept. 29, 2 p.m.
Eau Claire Cineplex – Screen 5

Based on a story written by notorious Canadian bank robber, Paddy Mitchell, this film is a throwback to gritty crime-dramas from the 70's. Michael Grant, who is on the run from the law, gets tangled with a young woman named Marilyn. She first appears as a damsel in distress, but little does Grant know, the show-biz aspiring Marilyn is a handful.

Kept

Showtimes:
Tuesday, Sept. 25, 7:30 p.m.

Globe Theatre – Upstairs
Friday, Sept. 28, 2 p.m.
Eau Claire Cineplex – Screen 2

Kept takes Taylor, a house sitter, and her boyfriend, on a dark and chilling ride when a forceful presence crashes their weekend with terror.

Fall fair opening soon in Hillhurst-Sunnyside

By Amy Reding

A big turnout is expected for the Hillhurst-Sunnyside Harvest Fair, says Cate Ahrens, an organizer of the event.

This prediction is fueled by advertising in FFWD magazine and a local musician hired, which will help the organizing committee expand the fair to more of a city-wide event.

The harvest fair will be held Wednesday, Oct. 3 from 3-7 p.m. at the Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community Association.

"Last year was small. We weren't able to get the word out," Ahrens said in an interview.

"We've learned a lot, tried to expand the fair, make more exciting things happen."

Expansion was possible because Ahrens applied for a Grassroots Inspired Grant (GIG) through the City of Calgary this year. The fair is one of the 27 projects to receive a grant this month.

GIG's are small grants designed to encourage Calgarians to create grassroots inspired culture and heritage projects during Calgary's year as the Cultural Capital of Canada.

"The Hillhurst community is very strong in promoting sustainability through different food events," said An-

drew Hewson.

"It doesn't really surprise me they won, they deserve it."

Hewson is a culinary instructor at SAIT and has volunteered with the Calgary Horticulture Society many times. This will be his first time as a judge for the harvest fair.

Hewson and four others will judge a variety of categories, including Largest Pumpkin, Most Unusually Shaped Vegetable, and Best Pie. The categories are similar to those of the classic fall harvest fair in the country.

"Growing within the city limits is an exciting part of having an urban harvest fair," said Ahrens.

"There is not always a lot of focus on what kind of food we can grow in the city too".

Ahrens views the harvest festival as a unique and exciting platform for "celebrating urban agriculture," something she says sets the idea apart from a typical harvest fair.

"I think it also inspires other communities to look at what they can do to build that same community support, which makes living in Calgary so great," said Hewson.

"Community is built in communities," he added.



Citizens hope that their fruits and vegetables will win a ribbon.



Members of the Hillhurst Sunnyside community garden have been gardening.

Dover crime sticking in citizens' craw

By Ben Morris

When Amy Sands was gunned down in Dover late last month, her family and friends grieved over the loss of a girl who was "larger than life."

But other Calgarians put Sands' death down as a case of another who fell victim to a neighbourhood so riddled with crime that another death isn't considered shocking.

But some people in the southeast community, located just east of Deerfoot Trail and south of 17th Avenue S.E., think their community gets a bad rap.

Dover was annexed by the city of Calgary in 1972, and quickly became the home for

new immigrants to the city who joined forces with working class Calgarians.

Despite celebrating its 40th anniversary as a part of Calgary, Dover has a high crime rate that has turned away some who view the area as a troubled part of town.

In a story posted on the Calgary Herald website, the victim's father Ed Sands, a city councillor in Okotoks, said what others might think by saying, "That Dover house, people see that and say, 'Yeah, another crack head down, good riddance.'"

But in an online interview, Desiree Schultz disputes such claims.

Schultz, a former resident who grew up and sent to school in Dover, believes her

community was "the perfect place to live, if you're single or have a family."

"There was the odd argument, graffiti on fences and garbage cans and random drug busts," Schultz said, adding that besides those crimes, "nothing really bad went on."

According to the Calgary Police crime map, 11 acts of vandalism were committed in Dover in August, the month Amy Sands was killed.

Sands' homicide was the only murder listed along with five residential break-ins, and two robberies.

In comparison, Harvest Hills in Calgary's north end reported no thefts, break-ins or robberies in the same time span.

Former Dover resident Karin Kynock said that she moved out of a basement suite in the area in 2008, because of a drug addicted neighbour who lived above her.

Kynock said, "He had hookers in and out of there all the time...there were a lot of sketchy people," but that despite this, she felt safe to a degree because, "there were cops around 24/7."

Even though Kynock, who is now a mother of two small children, doesn't think you can raise a family in Dover, Schultz disagrees.

"There was a lot of minor crime, arguments, typical drunken activity," said Schultz.

"There was drug activity but go to any other neigh-

bourhood and you'll have the same thing," she said.

Though both Kynock and Schultz admitted there is crime activity in Dover, Schultz looks back at her time in Dover as a positive experience.

Sixth grade student Agel Wol, told the Calgary Herald in July, "There's lots of people here, everyone's friend. I like it."

That is a sentiment Schultz agrees with.

"I liked it (Dover) because we have things in common. We're not the richest families. It was kind of like growing up in a small town. We all knew each other and were there for one another, no matter what. It was as if we're a big family."