



Exhibition from the Royal Ontario Museum, *Arts of China*, presents Chinese cultural history and rare “cursed” statue

For Immediate Release – January 27, 2009

Arts of China: Glimpses of an Ancient Civilization is a travelling exhibit from the Royal Ontario Museum opening at Grey Roots Museum & Archives on January 31, 2009. This exhibition showcases artefacts from the ROM's world-renowned Far Eastern collections. Comprised of 40 artefacts dating back from the Shang (c.1300-1050 BC) to the Qing Dynasties (AD 1644-1911), *Arts of China* examines Chinese history, culture and classic traditions by exploring three materials closely associated with China—jade, bronze and ceramics.

Augmenting this exhibit are examples of Chinese art, Chinese cultural films, an area exploring the significance of the Chinese dragon, and a rare Chinese statue exclusive to our Grey Roots collection. Through a variety of hands-on activities, artefacts and replicas, visitors can explore Chinese dynasties, the development of their intricate writing, ancient symbols of power, innovative technological creations, as well as how bronze, jade and porcelain were made and their impact on the Western world.

One of the most interesting pieces enhancing the exhibit is one belonging to the Grey Roots Collection. An intricate wooden statue of one of the eight Chinese immortals, Li T'ieh-Kuai, is the centerpiece of the exhibition. The statue was brought to Owen Sound from China in the late 1800s by local parliamentarian and businessman, Dr. Edward Horsey. It is said that a curse would be placed on any person removing the statue from China. Find out about the curse and Dr. Horsey's fate by viewing this amazing piece of statuary.

School programming is also being offered in connection with the exhibit from February to May 2009. Students will learn about bronze, jade and ceramics, practice Chinese calligraphy, explore traditional paper cutting, and hear a number of Chinese legends and stories.

Arts of China: Glimpses of an Ancient Civilization is generously sponsored by Chef Wok of Owen Sound and is open until May 17, 2009

***Arts of China* Exhibit Details:**

Exhibition dates: Saturday, January 31, 2009 – May 17, 2009

Location: Grey Roots Museum & Archives in the China Theatre

Cost: Regular Admission applies

About Grey Roots Museum & Archives

Grey Roots Museum & Archives has grown and developed into a unique facility from the County Museum's beginning in 1955 and the later establishment of a County Archives in 2000 in order to promote and preserve the heritage of Grey County. With the consolidation of the Grey County Museum, Grey County Archives, and Tourism in 2004, Grey Roots has become a multi-faceted attraction. Innovative and informative interpretive programs and demonstrations, rotating exhibits, a heritage village, archival resources and superior customer service come together to create an exciting and educational visitor experience.

Grey Roots Museum & Archives
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