

Eden Court - the gateway to arts and drama in the Highlands

Eden Court - ealain is dràma sa Ghàidhealtachd

Highland Spotlight
Sùil air a' Ghàidhealtachd



With almost three decades of bringing the magic of the theatre to the Highlands, Eden Court is a vibrant hub for artistic performances. Its benefits and facilities reach out across the whole Highland area.

The Inverness theatre is about to undergo a multi-million pound investment programme which will see existing facilities upgraded. This will create an arts and culture venue of international status.

Inviting, contemporary and innovative - the new complex will include an intimate 250-seat second theatre as well as the main 800-seat auditorium. Dedicated studio space will be home for teaching and participation in dance, music and drama. Two new cinemas will bring the best of international film-making to audiences in the Highlands.

Eden Court is truly a resource for the whole Highlands to enjoy. This is underlined through its comprehensive outreach programme where 10 staff are based throughout the Highlands and bring the joy of the arts and drama to over 5,000 children and young people every year.

The redeveloped Eden Court will be completed in time for the Scottish Year of Highland Culture in 2007.

A rich heritage of arts and culture

Dualchas beartach

Music, visual arts, theatre and dance are a major part of Highland culture and identity. Regular festivals and events celebrate this rich heritage all year round. A multi million pound redevelopment of Eden Court in Inverness will have far reaching effects on the arts and theatre scene throughout the whole of the Highlands.

Communities throughout the area have also benefited from a major village hall redevelopment programme in recent years. Youth clubs, voluntary committees, sports clubs and other groups enjoy

these 21st century facilities making them integral parts of local communities. Highland games held throughout the summer see dancers, musicians and athletes pit their talents against each other.

Celtic festivals and performances take place at venues all over the area. These ensure music and traditions from the past will never be forgotten and that new and young artists are encouraged to come forward with their own brand of music and entertainment to add to the rich variety which already exists.



Screen Machine - movies on the move

Screen Machine – fiolman a' gluasad

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Although cinemas in Inverness, Thurso and Fort William bring the latest movies to these areas, how do people living in the rural parts of the Highlands enjoy the full cinema experience?

Enter the Screen Machine - a mobile, self-contained cinema consisting of an articulated truck which expands into an 80 seat cinema. It provides screenings of recent movies with full digital surround sound, air conditioning, comfortable raked seating and full disabled access.

Specially designed to cope with Highland roads, the original vehicle has been so successful that in the best traditions of the movie business, a sequel

- Screen Machine Take 2 - has been launched. Due to its unique design and flexibility, this new facility will bring the joy of the cinema to even more communities in the Highlands and Islands for years to come.

Operated by regional arts development company, Hi-Arts, the Screen Machine is another great example of how living in rural areas needn't mean missing out on the benefits of town or city convenience. It also shows how ingenuity and adaptability by the Highland people along with collaboration with public agencies result in novel, practical and highly successful solutions to some of the challenges of rural living.



