

## PRESS RELEASE

**Contact:** Alix Sobler  
Marketing and Communications Coordinator  
**Email:** alix@winnipegarts.ca  
**Address:** 103–110 Princess Street Winnipeg, MB R3B 1K7  
**Telephone:** (204) 943-7668  
**Facsimile:** (204) 942-8669  
**For Immediate Release: September 14, 2010**



# Free tarot readings in exchange for your CITY STORIES

**WINNIPEG – September 14, 2010** – In honour of Winnipeg’s designation as the Cultural Capital of Canada 2010, a team of artists have devised a most creative way to get Winnipeggers to share their stories about living in our city.

The “Winnipeg Tarot Company” is the creation of local performance artists Lorri Millan and Shawna Dempsey. Working with the Winnipeg Cultural Capital of Canada 2010 program and a team of artists, they have developed a new design of tarot cards that uses original artwork and Winnipeg iconography.

From September 24 through October 31, a team of “readers” will travel throughout the city, performing readings in various locations ranging from restaurants to seniors home, tourist locations and more. Once a person has had his or her cards read, “payment” for the reading will be made by sharing one’s own Winnipeg story, inspired by the cards or otherwise. Stories will be recorded and archived at the Winnipeg Arts Council. A selection of stories will be posted online each day.

“We wanted to give people in Winnipeg a chance to have their voices heard, to tell their own stories,” said Executive Producer Carol Phillips. “This innovative project not only does that, but it gives people a chance to interact with artists on a personal level, and essentially become part of the artwork.”

City Stories with the Winnipeg Tarot Company is being launched in conjunction with Culture Days. Schedules of the readers’ locations will be posted online at [www.artsforall.ca](http://www.artsforall.ca).

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## About the Winnipeg Tarot Co.

The founders and creators of the Winnipeg Tarot Co., Lorri Millan and Shawna Dempsey, are internationally recognized master oracles, renowned for their skills as geomancers and artists. While Dempsey and Millan sleep throughout Winnipeg's dark, nine-month winter, the brief summer months inspire the creation of delusional performances and videos reflecting their intentions of world domination (including *Lesbian National Parks and Services* and *We're Talking Vulva*). Critics opine that this frenzied artmaking has hastened global warming.

## The Readers

The Visionary Readers of the Winnipeg Tarot Co. are all powerful seers, hand chosen and trained by the company founders for their professionalism, accuracy and dedication to the citizens of Winnipeg. They include Governor General's Award-winning playwright Ian Ross, bandleader Rodrigo Munoz, visual artist Sandee Moore, actors Maggie Nagle and Ross McMillan, musician and publisher John K. Samson, writer Charles Leblanc, playwright Carolyn Grey, and musician Christine Fellows.

