

PRESS RELEASE

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Carnival Success at The Red Dragon Centre

The Red Dragon Centre in Cardiff Bay teamed up with a leading South-Wales charity carnival arts group to wow visitors with free dragon-themed entertainment to celebrate the return of The Centre's annual Family Festival yesterday (25 July).

Part of the wider Cardiff Festival activities, entertainers from the South Wales Intercultural Community Arts (SWICA) group visited The Centre as part of a carnival extravaganza featuring Latin American and Caribbean dancing and carnival music.

During the afternoon, SWICA's spectacular entertainers performed Dragon Carnival Shows, with samba dancers and drummers and a festival parade featuring a 9ft stilt walking dragon.

Children of all ages were entertained with free dragon inspired mask making workshops and face painting whilst stilt-walking bocking dragons dressed in costume came head to head in open air battling sessions.

Steve Fletcher, Artistic Director from SWICA, explained: "We couldn't wait to visit The Red Dragon Centre and pay a fitting Dragon themed tribute to The Centre to celebrate the return of the Family Festival.

"SWICA is all about getting people to celebrate culture through arts and The Centre gave us the perfect venue and location at the heart of Cardiff Bay to do this."

Emma Johnstone, Marketing and Tenant Manager for The Red Dragon Centre, said:

"Thanks to SWICA's talented entertainers, we had the biggest and best Family Festival

yet at The Centre. Children enjoyed the dragon stilt walkers and face-painting and there was plenty of entertainment for adults with the parade. We'd like to thank SWICA for an amazing performance."

Executive Member for Sport, Culture and Leisure, Cllr Nigel Howells, said: "The Cardiff Festival is a jammed packed programme of events offering something for everyone. The Red Dragons Centre's Family Festival is one event that the whole family can enjoy, and with SWICA performing at this year's festival it proved to be a great weekend of entertainment."

For Family Festival timings, visit www.thereddragoncentre.co.uk. Follow @RedDragonCentre on Twitter or become a fan of The Red Dragon Centre on Facebook.

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Notes to Editor:

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About the Red Dragon Centre

Located in the heart of Cardiff Bay, the Red Dragon Centre offers a complete entertainment and leisure experience all under one roof. Cardiff Bay's most popular entertainment venue, the Centre is open seven days a week, 364 days a year, 8am until late.

Businesses in the Red Dragon Centre are:

- The ODEON Cinema with 12 large screens, private Gallery bar and home to Wales' only IMAX
- Hollywood Bowl, which has 26 lanes, licensed bar and café and an arcade area
- Grosvenor Casino, the largest casino in Wales
- The Doctor Who Up Close Exhibition
- Chiquito Mexican restaurant
- Old Orleans, a Deep South American styled restaurant
- Bella Italia Italian restaurant
- Spice Route restaurant
- Oriental Garden restaurant serving Chinese, Thai and Malaysian cuisine
- R Bar sports bar
- Cadwalader's ice cream café
- Red Dragon FM

About SWICA

South Wales Intercultural Community Arts (SWICA) is a non-for-profit organisation, which was established in April 1990 (incorporated in April 1996) and is a Company Limited by Guarantee (without share capital). As a non-profit making company SWICA has charitable aims and objectives:

- To actively celebrate the cultural diversity of South Wales through quality participatory arts projects
- To pursue cultural equity i.e. "arts for all" promoting social inclusion and citizenship
- To work with special reference with people who live in socially and economically disadvantaged areas
- To broaden arts provision i.e. to create new arts opportunities (including the introduction of art forms previously absent) targeting those who do not benefit from current arts provision
- To work with special reference to young people

Since its inception in April 1990 South Wales Intercultural Community Arts (SWICA) has grown to become Wales' leading Carnival Arts organisation. SWICA is dedicated to celebrating the cultural diversity of the region through creating new arts opportunities to be enjoyed by people from a wide variety of backgrounds.