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A good dose of culture

Literacy, film and art enthusiasts and those who appreciate culture are in for a treat this October. The City Living Room's calendar is overflowing with events including the Latin America and Spain Film Festival, a celebration of Chinese Culture and Off the Page series events.

A Latino Fiesta will open the Latin America and Spain Film Festival running from October 14 to November 3. Latin food trucks, Latin music and dance will feature from 12-6pm at the Globe Theatre prior to a salsa workshop and the first movie screening.

The festival is being held in association with Massey University. Movies from over 10 countries will screen in the Globe Theatre, the Central Library, and there is an outdoor screening on Saturday October 21 in The Square from 7pm. The festival is a cultural event dedicated to contemporary cinematographic productions, with the event aiming to bring communities together through the big screen. Bookings are not required.

An evening with award-winning writers Patricia Grace and Gina Cole is one of the highlights of the Off the Page series. On Friday October 6, both women will discuss their work and the Maori and Pasifika fiction anthology 'Black Marks on a White Page' with Tina Makereti. The following day, award-winning writer Tina Makereti is running a fiction and creative non-fiction writing workshop.

To celebrate New Zealand Chinese Language Week and The Moon Festival, one of the most important festivals in Chinese culture, local Chinese organisations are presenting a

programme of events and activities between October 5 and 22 at the Central Library, Youth Space and the Globe Theatre. These include lunchbox language sessions, a demonstration of traditional Chinese medicine, Tai Chi 'have-a-go' session, a cooking workshop, a movie screening and a speech competition.

Youth Space is hosting a couple of events as part of the Manawatu Arts Trail. 'Art in your Pocket' gives people the opportunity to turn their phone, tablet or laptop into a work of art by creating a custom decal.

If frogs fascinate you head to the Central Library on October 26 to hear Emily Lemmon from Florida State University. Her presentation Adventures in Biology - Exploring the Amazing World of Frogs will expand your mind.

On October 19 at the Central Library is the launch of local award-winning author Tony Chapelle's latest book *A Distant Belonging*.

There are many other regular events happening. To find out about more events visit citylibrary.pncc.govt.nz/whats-on.

