

-PRESS RELEASE –  
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## **ORAPEX 2012**

“ORAPEX” stands for the *Ottawa Recreational Association Philatelic Exhibition*. The Ottawa Recreational Association (more commonly known as the “RA”) is home to the RA Stamp Club. Each year, the RA Stamp Club in partnership with Canada’s oldest stamp club, the Ottawa Philatelic Society, hosts this major Canadian stamp show. ORAPEX is one of only three or four stamp shows in Canada that are recognized as national level stamp shows by Canada’s national philatelic society, the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada. In view of this, the show attracts attendees, exhibitors and about 40 stamp dealers from all across Canada.

Every year, ORAPEX has a theme. In 2012, the theme will be the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II. Consequently, the John M. Hillmer award is being offered for the best traditional Canadian Elizabethan II exhibit shown at the show. As well, each year ORAPEX honours a Canadian philatelist who has contributed in an important way to philately in Canada. In 2012, ORAPEX will honour Ian Kimmerly, an Ottawa stamp dealer, philatelic writer and exhibitor.

There are about 30 philatelic exhibits at ORAPEX each year. The judges, who come from all over North America, award more than 25 prizes and medals to the winners in three categories of exhibits: multiple frame, single frame and youth. There is also a regional level class of exhibits for new exhibitors who are not yet ready to exhibit at the national level. This two-day event includes seminars on different aspects of philately, including collecting and exhibiting. Approximately 40 dealers will be there with worldwide stamps and other philatelic material.

ORAPEX will be held in the RA Centre at 2451 Riverside Drive in Ottawa on Saturday May 5 and Sunday May 6, 2012. The show is open to the public and admission and parking are free. ORAPEX offers anyone a great opportunity to find out what their old stamp collections are worth.

Information on the show can be obtained from Robert Pinet at [pinet.robort@gmail.com](mailto:pinet.robort@gmail.com) or (613) 745-2788. Those interested in exhibiting can obtain a registration form at the RA website (<http://www.racentre.com/raweb/e/sports/stamp.html>) or by contacting the Exhibits Chair, Brian Watson, at [brian150@sympatico.ca](mailto:brian150@sympatico.ca).