



*Claim Post sculpture in The Windsor Sculpture Park overlooking Detroit*

## Border City

Windsor and Detroit are connected not only physically by a bridge and tunnel but through a range of community and cultural activities.

The International Freedom Festival is just one example of once separate civic events that now share a common program. The spectacle celebrates the National Days of both Canada and the United States of America. Occurring on the Monday between Canada Day and Independence Day, the highlight of the event is one of the world's largest fireworks displays over the Detroit River.

Together, the evening draws about 1,000,000 people to the riverbanks and many more during the days leading up to the event.

The cities also feature the joint Detroit Free Press/Talmer Bank Marathon. The route crosses the Ambassador Bridge and the Detroit-Windsor Tunnel traversing both downtown Detroit and downtown Windsor. The run attracts many repeat participants with 4 participants ranging in age from 61 to 70 years of age who have raced in all 35 events.

Finally, the Media City Film Festival is another international collaboration between the creative communities of both cities that has taken place since 1994. Five days of live performances, screenings, exhibitions, and artist's discussion panels attract attendees from around the world.

The two cities also share in heritage activities. The Algonquin is the only known international local history society. It was founded in 1934 and continues to be active today. Entirely volunteer-based, the organization focuses on the heritage of Detroit and Windsor. Regular meetings alternate between the two border cities.



*Vintage shot of the Freedom Festival*



*Media City Film Festival Team*



*The Ambassador Bridge*