

Youth club hosts festival of lights

LISA QUEEN

lqueen@insidetoronto.com

With one eye on the past and another on the future, the Boys and Girls Club of East Scarborough will celebrate its fourth annual Festival of Lights next week.

The Dec. 7 event will mark the club's 50th anniversary with a showcase of the members' talents. At the same time, the agency is putting together a time capsule for members of the future to open 50 years

>>>EAST, page 10

East Scarborough celebration

>>>From page 1
from now.

"It (the Festival of Lights event) is designed to help the members of the club and their families and the surrounding community celebrate their sameness and uniqueness," co-director Robin Lister said.

"We really are all, in the long run, human beings. We're all individuals. We each bring a unique contribution to our community, to our relationship with our friends and our peers."

Children, youth and staff will walk a short distance from the Galloway Road club to nearby Maplewood High School while singing seasonal songs.

The festival will kick off with a mock Olympics opening ceremony, where young children will represent the cultural backgrounds of their families.

Each program at the club will put on a performance with themes ranging from a celebration of culture to individual achievements.

One of the highlights will be

a fashion show of the decades, dating back to the 1950s when the club opened, up to today's designs.

Meanwhile, the time capsule, containing CDs with photos and a slideshow, will capture a lot of attention.

FOUNDED IN 1956

The capsule also holds a small quilt, with squares made by members of each program at the club. A larger quilt, also stitched by members, will be on display.

MP John McKay (Scarborough-Guildwood) and MPP Mary Anne Chambers (Scarborough East) are expected to attend the event.

The club, founded in 1956, has evolved over the years from a small organization for boys to include girls in 1978 to a large agency offering a range of services.

The festival runs Dec. 7 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Maplewood High School, 120 Galloway Rd. For information, visit www.esbgc.org or call 416-281-0262, ext. 203.