



Visitor Information

- Getting Around
- Official Hotels
- Official Restaurants

Calendar of Events

- Culinary Events
- Winterblast Youth Weekend

Contests

Get Connected

About Winterlude

- Confederation Park
- Jacques-Cartier Park
- Rideau Canal Skateway
- Marion Dewar Plaza
- Ice Hog Legend
- Volunteer at Winterlude
- Performing Artist Submissions
- Registration Forms
- Media Kits
- Sponsors

Follow Us:



You are here: [Home](#) » [Celebrate!](#) » [Winterlude](#)

## Snow Cones: When art and technology meet

Published on February 06, 2013

+1  Tweet  Like

### They are snow cones, but you cannot eat them!

Winterlude visitors are intrigued by them. *Snow Cones* is a public art piece that is part of the [IllumiNation outdoor art light art gallery](#) at [Marion-Dewar Plaza](#), in Ottawa, official Winterlude site. Using your smart phone, you can control the colours of these inflatable nylon cones.



Andrew O'Malley and *Snow Cones*

We met the man behind those intriguing *Snow Cones*: Ontario's Andrew O'Malley, a multidisciplinary artist and engineer. Born in Oshawa, Andrew creates pieces of art that respond to people and data via local sensors and remote networks. He has received numerous grants, and his work has been exhibited throughout the world.

### 1 – Andrew, people are intrigued by your piece. What is *Snow Cones* all about ?

*Snow Cones* are made of a dozen inflatable cones. We created a little forest, so they are spread around and they are different sizes. We decided to use cones because they are a great shape for winter. They look like icicles or mountains and the weather deflects off of them naturally.

During the day, it's just a cool little site to look at from different perspectives. It's a 360 degree installation. Then at night, they are all lit.

### 2 - How does it work?

People can use their phone, any phone that has a web browser. There's a QR code that takes them to the control site. It's a little web page that gives you nine colours to select. You can push your colour and the biggest cone will turn to the colour you chose.

### 3 – What inspired you when you created *Snow Cones* ?

I did a small version of it at Saint Brigid's Centre for the Arts, in Ottawa, during architecture week last fall. So the Winterlude project was a chance to do it on a larger scale.

I really enjoy using light as a medium. The colours are so rich. The interactive part makes it engaging for the public to come and really have control over something they are seeing. So much of what we are seeing sometimes is to look at so it's fun to give something to people to interact with. They use a technology that THEY are bringing. It makes it collaborative.

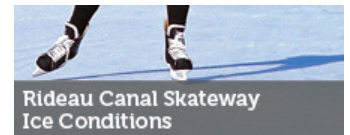
### 4 – How do you create what is a marriage between art and technology?



Calendar of Events

« February »

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		



News

[Winners of Winterlude's 26<sup>th</sup> International Ice-Carving Competition](#)  
February 03, 2013

[Safety Advisory: Delayed opening of Winterlude's Snowflake Kingdom at Jacques-Cartier Park in Gatineau](#)  
January 31, 2013

[Winterlude Week 1 Highlights](#)  
January 30, 2013

[View All »](#)

Road and Trail Closures

[Traffic Advisory: Free OLG Sno-Bus shuttle service and street closures during Winterlude 2013](#)  
January 30, 2013

[View All »](#)

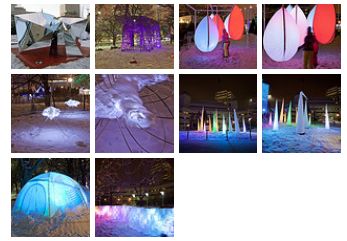
Photos on Flickr











I have a formal background in electrical engineering. That's why most of my art – all of it now -- brings a technical side.

### 5 – How has the public reacted to *Snow Cones*? Do the people catch on quickly?

Yes. People have fun once they see they are controlling it. They want to try all the colours. They want to see how fast it can react. What we can do with technology is limitless. I think this is just the tip of the iceberg.



#### Information for:

-  [Visitors](#)
  -  [Media](#)
  -  [Event Planners](#)
  -  [Teachers](#)
  -  [Volunteers](#)
  -  [Job Seekers](#)
-  [Sign up for our newsletter!](#)
-  [News Archive](#)

Find us on:   



The NCC is a Crown corporation of the Government of Canada. Our goal is to ensure that Canada's Capital Region is a source of national pride and significance.

[Mandate and Organization](#)  
[Sponsorship Opportunities](#)  
[Properties for Rent](#)  
[Public Consultations](#)  
[Do Business With the NCC](#)

[Contracting with the NCC](#)  
[Partnerships and Collaborations](#)  
[Reports and Publications](#)  
[Access to Information](#)  
[Proactive Disclosure](#)

[Ombudsman](#) 