



Call for Artistic Director!!

Thistle Theatre is currently accepting applications for an Artistic Director for its Dramarama camps for the month of July. Details as follows:

Job Description:

Artistic Director- Volunteer, receives honorarium (this year \$1200.00 per 2 week session plus mileage if coming in every day from out of town)










Responsible to ensure that program is created and delivered that offers learning in various aspects of theatre/performance. Requires sufficient theatre experience and skill at creating a positive environment for young people to be a credible leader. Program needs to address young people ranging from grade 2-8 (7-14yrs) of varying degrees of experience and ability. Needs to display maturity and professionalism to all those involved at all times.

We have gone to 2 two week sessions in July with a maximum of 20 in each group. This year it will be July 4th to 15th (not Sat. or Sun) and July 18th-29th (not Sat. or Sun).

The Artistic Director would have 1 or 2 counselors and 1 or 2 C.I.T's to help run the programme. I am running the registration and we are currently looking for a parent to act as the parent liaison who would be there for part of each day.

For a more detailed list of requirements and job description, please contact Phoebe Campbell at 519-475-6033.

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Dramarama 2011

Dramarama runs again this July so don't miss out on registration!

The camps run Monday - Friday, 9:00am - 3:00pm at the Embro Town Hall, and are open to kids age 7-14.

Camp One runs from July 4 - 15

Camp Two runs from July 18 - 29

Cost per 2 week session is \$125.00

Please call Phoebe Campbell at 519-475-6033 or email fibs2011@hotmail.com to register.



Possible Origins of "Break a Leg"

Superstition in the theatre prevents one from wishing another good luck. Instead, you say "break a leg". But where does this phrase come from?

- 1) Some think it started with John Wilkes Booth, who was an actor, when he broke his leg jumping onto the stage after he shot President Lincoln. But this does not relate very well to "good luck"!
- 2) Another possibility is the simple act of taking your bow at the end of the performance. When you curtsy you bend your knee, or "break" the line of the leg.
- 3) In early times, the audience would throw tips onto the stage for the actors if they enjoyed a performance. It was thought the term came about when hoping their fellow actors would "break a leg" by having to kneel down so often to pick up the tips.
- 4) The curtains at the sides of the stage are called legs and in early theatre the rods were made of wood. If a performance was well received, the cast would rush onto the stage for many encores, thus causing the rods and "legs to break".
- 5) In the days of Vaudeville, performers would only get paid if they made it onto the stage, or broke past the curtain legs, and completed their act. This could be how "break a leg" came to be a well-wish.
- 6) It may be an abbreviation for "break a legend" which roughly means "get yourself out there, or "this is your big break".
- 7) Or it could be something as simple as relating to the members of a play or performance, since they are known as the cast.

Call for Directors!

Thistle Theatre is looking for directors for two upcoming productions!

The first is our fall production, *That Summer*, by David French.

Production dates are in November

It's Memorial Day, 1990, and Margaret Ryan has returned from Vermont to the Ontario cottage where she vacationed with her family thirty-two years earlier. For Margaret and her sister Daisy, it was a time of awakening, a time of discovery. As Margaret, the narrator, watches her younger self relive the beauty of that long-ago summer, the play moves inexorably back to the heartbreak of a headlong surrender to experience, and to what was won and lost in a single day.

If you'd be interested in directing this one, or if you just want more info, please call

Cathy Siddall at 519-475-4947 or email:

cathy@workshopsupply.com

The other is our possible entry into Minifest and is always a perfect venue for first time directors. This year the script is called *The Waiting Room*, and is about a man who is in the maternity ward waiting room of the hospital, and gets caught up in the lives of another family that come to have their own baby.

It is a very funny script, with lots of one-liners.

Minifest will be held in Tillsonburg this year on Friday night, July 22, and all day Saturday, July 23rd.

If you'd like to consider directing this one-act entry, or need more info, please call

Joan Veldman at 519-273-4233 or email:

joanveldman@gmail.com

(Please reply before April 22)**

If you haven't already, check out our website at:

www.thistletheatre.ca

We've added a new page... Testimonials...

which can be found under the "About Us" section.

Area Productions

Theatre Woodstock
Bedtime Stories
by Norm Foster
April 8 - 16, 2011
Directed by: Brian George

St. Marys Community Players
An Act of Imagination
by Bernard Slade
April 29 - May 8, 2011
Directed by: Anne Mooney

London Community Players
Picnic
by William Inge
May 6 - 14, 2011
Directed by: Don Fleckser

ITOPA
Queen Milli of Galt
by Gary Kirkham
April 29 - May 8, 2011
Directed by: Harold Arbuckle

****Please note: this production is directed by Thistle's own Harold Arbuckle and features 3 Embro area residents... Chris Cockle, and Matt & Abby Cockle. Don't miss it!**

Thistle Theatre Membership Application

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Please indicate
which year you are
paying for:

Current year

Next year

Other _____

**use back of form if necessary

****Please note: Membership runs from Jan.-Dec. and is due by the Annual Meeting in February.
Mail payment of \$10 per membership to: Box 333, Embro, ON N0J 1J0
or give to any Thistle Theatre board member. Application form must accompany payment.**

WODL Festival Wrap Up Report

London Community Players hosted the **WODL Festival** at the Palace Theatre which was held March 14 - 18, 2011.

This is a great week of theatre where the five best plays from southwestern Ontario come to perform their shows one more time. One show per night, and when you consider the logistics of bringing an entire set, costumes, props, putting it up in one day, performing the show at night, and then taking it all down again... any theatre junkie can appreciate the time and effort involved.

The line up this year was:

Monday, March 14 - *There Goes The Bride*, by Aylmer Community Theatre

Tuesday, March 15 - *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, by Theatre Windsor

Wednesday, March 16 - *Fallen Angels*, by Theatre Sarnia

Thursday, March 17 - *The Night of the Iguana*, by Theatre Kent

Friday, March 18 - *Caught in the Net*, by Kincardine Theatre Guild

The winning production was *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* and will be heading to Richmond Hill in May for the Theatre Ontario Festival.

We are proud to announce that Andrew Norris, who played Robert in Thistle Theatre's production of *Kiss the Moon, Kiss the Sun* was nominated for Best Actor in a Leading Role in the pre-festival awards!! Well done Andrew!

Also during this festival, Thistle Theatre assisted by serving the post production meals for the cast and crew. While this may seem like a huge time commitment and daunting task, those who volunteered really enjoyed the opportunity. We were able to watch the show, and then meet the real people behind the "characters" we just saw on stage. And every single person in each of the groups was extremely grateful for what we brought to the table (pardon the pun!)

Thanks to those to volunteered their services during the week:

Phoebe and Don Campbell

Joan Veldman

Greta Fairhead and Carl Hofsteede

Ross and Fran McElroy



Stage Management 10 Commandments

- I. Thou shalt not take the stage manager in vain, for without him/her, no spike tape will be placed, nor will cues be given on time.
- II. Thou shalt take all notes in pencil, for as surely as the winds blow, so shall the director change his/her mind.
- III. Keep reverence for the first performance, for afterwards thou shalt party.
- IV. Honor thy costume designer, for in being rude, thine costume will become like that of a porcupine.
- V. Thou shalt not talk to crew or actors when backstage, for surely both will miss the cue.
- VI. Thou shalt not walk in the direct path of moving scenery, for surely you shall be crushed.
- VII. Thou shalt always return thy prop to the proper prop table after its use, or thy prop will not be there for thy next performance.
- VIII. Thou shalt not go on stage after "half-hour" has been called and the House has been opened, for surely the audience will see thee before thy time. Likewise, thou shalt reserve thyself from returning to the stage until the House is clear, but instead go to the Lobby to see thy friends.
- IX. Thou shalt make haste to be in place when "Places" has been called, for surely the stage manager will tear about in fury till you are there.
- X. Thou shalt not miss thy cue or take it before its time.

And a little bonus...



How many actors does it take to change a light bulb?

None. They can never find their light.

Why can't many vocalists get through the door?

They either can't find the key or don't know when to come in.