



BOX 94

NEWSLETTER OF SAULT THEATRE WORKSHOP

Sault Theatre Workshop

Community Theatre since 1948
PO Box 94 Sault Ste. Marie On. P6A 5L2

Studio Theatre 121 Pittsburgh Ave. Sault Ste. Marie On. P6C 5A9

Member of:



Our Young Company is
STAGE 1
www.stage1theatre.com

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The Marquee

Santa Clause is coming!

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2016



and Through the Woods.

The befuddled Housekeeper at the North Pole, Octavia, is delightfully brought to life by **Diana James** in her first venture onto a stage.

Who gets to play a lot of leading ladies in our plays? The amazingly talented **Kassandra Bailey** does, and she plays Kit Bishop, a determined young girl on a mission for her brother. That brother, young Michael is charmingly played by **Kayden Cormier**.

Another seasoned actor, **Ken Jones**, takes on the role of Lou Flapdoodle, a somewhat verbose sleigh salesman from Detroit.

The play includes a number of elves and a questionable choir (don't worry, they improve . . . a lot). Look for **Sally Boire, Paige Benoit, Vivianne Hamel, Maranda James, Grace Scoffield**, and others.

Santa Claus Returns To Sault Theatre Workshop Stage!

Good old Saint Nick, the Norm Foster Version, is back!



Two seasons back we delighted in **Bob's Your Elf**, another North Pole adventure by **Norm Foster**, featuring the jolly old elf in the red suit. This year we have **Dear Santa**, a charming tale where Santa Claus tries to fulfill a child's special Christmas wish while his staff attempts to overcome a supply shortage at the North Pole. This is a laugh-filled holiday play innocent enough for the youngest boy or girl, and entertaining enough for adults.

The play also features an original Christmas song that has captured the holiday spirit and may just become a new "regular" on your Christmas music list.

Barbara Rajnovich is the director in charge and she is relying on **Jill Breen** as Stage Manager to keep the cast in line.

The cast is a marvelous mix of seasoned vets and stage newbies. Returning to the role of Santa is the venerable **Harry Houston** (well, he already had a beard). Santa's Chief of Staff, Algernon (stuffy) Gladstone is portrayed by **Gerry Boire**, a newcomer to the STW stage.

Santa's Forman, Bozidar, complete with thick Russian accent is **Matthew Schell**. Matt is one of those rare birds that can work backstage as well as in the light. He was Stage Manager for **Over the River**



On stage under the lights is our keyboard virtuoso, **Lorraine Smith** supplying the accompaniment and character music.

The Music Coordinator and Vocal Coach is the talented **Amanda Benoit**.

The wild and sometimes wacky costumes were coordinated by **Jami Van Haften** with assistance from **Karen Montgomery Jones** and the props, many supplied by the cast, were lined up and controlled by **Jill Breen** and **Sherry Longo**.

Our set was masterfully built by **Ron Wilson** with set décor credited to **Chris Mozarowski** and **Jill Breen**.

Lights are operated by **Meg Reid** while **Peter Van Haften** is in charge of Sound Effects

Dear Santa will run for two weeks with two matinees. Preview Night has been donated to Sault Ste Marie Public Library and we open Wednesday November 30. Curtain is 8 PM except for the matinees on Sunday December 4 and December 11. Week two starts Thursday December 8th. For information, call 705 946-4081. You can get tickets at the Box Office in the Station Mall, in person, by phone (705 945-7299) on line (www.kctc.ca) or at the door.

Preview Night Praise

Our program of giving back to the community continues to generate good will and has earned us some new patrons. The season opener "**Over the River and Through the Woods**" benefitted us with a full house on preview night and also produced some follow up ticket sales. We had virtually full houses for every performance.

We received the following note from our friend at the Calabrese club:

Ciao Harry,

First of all I'd like to thank you again for offering Club Calabrese the opportunity to be benefactors of the preview night for the play "Over The River and Through the Woods". It was an absolutely delightful evening. The performance was top notch and it struck home for so many of our members. I heard lots of laughter and some tears as people reflected on their own stories of immigrating to a new land, family life, culture, and traditions.

The event was very successful for us. Of the 100 tickets that we were provided, we only had 13 unsold. The tickets were sold at \$25 each which gave us a profit of \$2,175.

As a result we have been able to assist the Soup Kitchen, Ken Brown Recovery Home and Women in Crisis over Christmas. We are currently focusing on the children in our community that are in need of food, shoes, boots etc. This has been a tough year in our community and we are grateful that through our partnership we are able to offer assistance in the Sault.

Please keep us on your list for consideration for future opportunities.

Yolanda Pasiak

This was the second time the Calabrese Club took on a Preview Night. Back in 2012 our 63rd season they sold out the spring show preview of "**Over the**

Tavern".

We started the program in 2005, our 57th season when it was suggested by **Cathy Shunock** that we support a start-up group called Breaking Away. This is a support group for adults with a developmental disability and the play we were presenting was **Kiss the Moon, Kiss the Sun**, a **Norm Foster** play that is a story about such a disabled man. However, it is also a story about people finding the nerve to take responsibility. The group Breaking Away filled our house for the preview and did very well financially.

It was the decision of our board to continue the program, and since that initial beginning we have supported dozens of charities. Wherever possible we try to match the play theme with charity goals.

We welcome our latest Preview Night beneficiaries, Sault Ste Marie Public Library who are currently selling tickets to the preview of **Norm Foster's Dear Santa!**



Christmas is coming!

And we want to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a very happy holiday and happy New Year!

... And to remind you to that you could **win a pile of cash** to spend this season by picking up a "Split the Pot" ticket. Who couldn't use Christmas cash? Tickets are being sold by our members, and in the Station Mall and at our Dear Santa play. The draw will be held December 11 at the Studio Theatre.

Oh, and we also have gift certificates that make super Christmas gifts! You can customise a card for one, two or a whole season of tickets.

Call 705 946-4081 for details or to order





QUONTA HAS NEW LEADER

News from the QUONTA Drama Region includes the announcement of new President, **Murray Tilson**, of Timmin's Take Two Theatre. Murray ascends to the top job replacing our own **Randi Mraud**.

QUONTA Festival will be held in Timmins in March, 2017, and the STW entry is our February play, **Lucy**, by **Damien Atkins** directed by Randi. More details next newsletter.

Theatre Ontario has requested the groups from the various regions produce plays written by Canadian authors this season. The 2017 **Theatre Ontario Festival** coincides with Canada's 150th birthday and Theatre Ontario has chosen the nation's capital, Ottawa, to hold the annual festival. It would be fitting to showcase Canada's playwrights at this prestigious event.



www.theatreontariofestival.ca

Sault Theatre Workshop brings you to . . .



Norm Foster's Delightful Comedy
Dear Santa

Directed by
Barbara Rajnovich

Santa Claus tries to fulfill a child's special Christmas wish while his staff attempts to overcome a supply shortage at the North Pole. . . and then there's that sleigh salesman!

www.saulttheatre.com

November 30, December 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 10, 11
Curtain 8PM (Dec. 4 and 11- Matinee only 2 PM Curtain)

Two week run!

Adults \$28
Seniors \$26
Students \$18
Includes Box office charges

Sault Theatre Workshop's
Studio Theatre
121 Pittsburgh Ave
a laugh-filled holiday play
innocent enough for the youngest
boy or girl, and entertaining
enough for adults.

Our Box Office is now at
Station Mall
www.kctc.ca
and click on purchase tickets

Dear Santa is staged by arrangement with Pam Winter, Gary Goddard Agency, www.garygoddardagency.com.

S T W Book Sale at Station Mall is an annual event. Save and store those books and we'll let you know when we're ready for them.

Still Inviting Directors

We are always in the process of lining up directors and full-length plays for our future seasons. If you have a play suggestion, or if you would like to direct, tell us about it. If you are a new member, tell us about your experiences as a director. We like to get our booking done well ahead and need time to order scripts, read them, check on availability of rights etc. Contact the editor if you are interested. We have a library of scripts you can browse.

Station Mall is holding their annual **Community Bake Sale and Bazaar**



Community not-for-profit organizations set up in the mall for one day only, to sell baked goods and crafts, just in time for the busy holiday season!

And Sault Theatre Workshop is going to be there!
Hope to see you there too!



- * Christmas crafts by Val Wilson
- * A great variety of Christmas cookies by all our hospitality volunteers
- * Fresh baked pies
- * A chance to buy Split the Pot tickets

Thursday November 24 - 9:30 AM to ?
We may sell out!



*******Reminder** It gets to you faster! Comes with full colour! Can be easily enlarged for reading or viewing! Easy to forward and share with friends. Switch over to email and save us money! All you have to do is send an email to hehouston@shaw.ca with **Box 94** as the subject and give us your name and address so we can remove you from our snail mail list.

MEMBER NEWS

Hilary Connell has been honoured with a number of acting awards as a psychological thriller, **Exit Thread**, makes the rounds of film festivals. It was filmed in Nova Scotia, summer 2015. You can get a peek at Hilary in action if you go to youtube and type in Exit Thread Trailer.



Courtney Larkin directed a production of **THE RESURRECTIONIST**, a play that deals with the tragic events which inspired Mary Shelley's Frankenstein, at ETCETERA THEATRE in Camden, London last month. The production earned several "rave" reviews. Courtney is seen here with actors from the production.



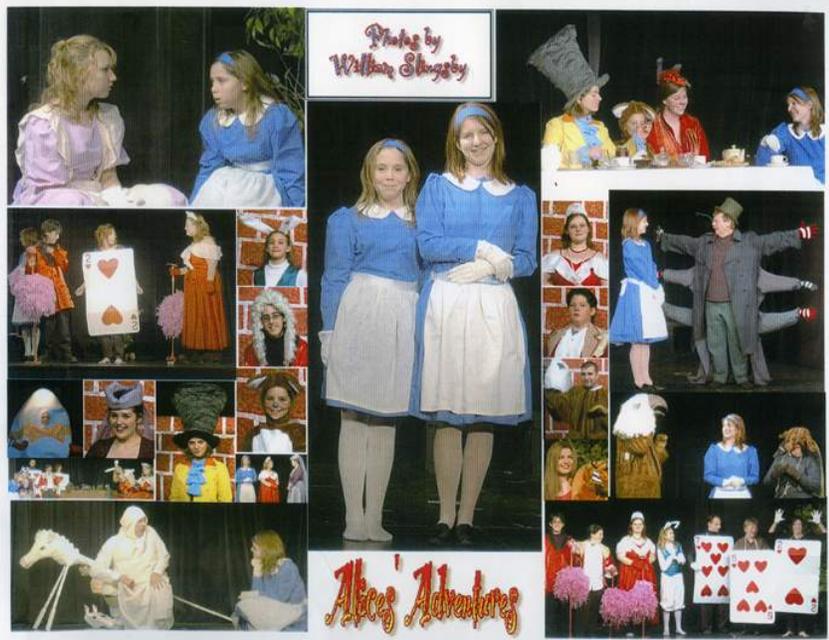
Congratulations go out to **Kassandra Bailey** who was recently accepted to George Brown College's School of Media and Performing Arts. Kassandra will be moving to Toronto in January. Here you see Kassandra in one of her Disney Princess roles she does for Birthday Parties.



A note from **Nancy Winters** who lives in Grand Bend says she has returned to the stage to direct a short musical show performed by the Seaforth Harmony Kings, an excellent barbershop chorus that her husband, Hank, has been singing with for a number of years. She promises more news for the next newsletter.



Box 94 Wants To Hear From You!
SEND US YOUR MEMBER NEWS



Archive Photo

Stage 1, Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, December 2005

Reminders

**Bake Sale & Bazaar – Station Mall
November 24**

**Dear Santa – November 30, Dec 1, 2, 3,
4, 8, 9, 10, 11**

**BOX 94 Volume 68
(Our 68th season)**

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Next Issue November



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To ensure continued Newsletters be sure to keep your membership up to date.

Contact Membership Chair Val Wilson (705) 759 4572

To request "paperless e-mail PDF version of this newsletter

E-mail Harry with Box 94 as subject.
(Also will be available on our web site)