



# 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](http://www.stage1theatre.com)



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### The Marquee

Season 68 Opener!

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2016



## Over the River and Through the Woods Opens Sault Theatre Workshop's 68<sup>th</sup> Season.

- A delightful gem, this clever comedy, is sure to resonate with families.

**The story:** Nick is a single, Italian-American guy from New Jersey. His parents retired and moved to Florida. That doesn't mean his family isn't still in Jersey. In fact, he sees both sets of his grandparents every Sunday for dinner. This is routine until he has to tell them that he's been offered a dream job.

The job he's been waiting for—marketing executive—would take him away from his beloved, but



annoying, grandparents. He tells them. The news doesn't sit so well. Thus begins a series of schemes to keep Nick around. How could he betray his family's love to move to Seattle, for a job, wonder his grandparents? Well, Frank, Aida, Nunzio and Emma do their level best, and that includes bringing to dinner the lovely—and single—Caitlin O'Hare as bait...we won't give the ending away here. Director **George Houston** has picked a

seasoned cast with **Jarrett Mills** in the lead role as Nick. Jarrett has become a regular on the STW stage.

The Italian grandparents are **Randi Mraud** and **Ian Gold** as Emma and Nunzio, and **Penny Martin** and **Harry Houston** as Aida and Frank. **Kassandra Bailey** rounds out the cast as Caitlin O'Hare.

Stage Manager duties are being handled by Matthew Schell. Sound design comes from Don Kelly, while the tech team was not named in time for the newsletter. Costumes will be in the hands of Val Wilson. Set construction team is being added to as we go with Phil Jones doing the groundwork.

**Over the River and Through the Woods** opens October 12 and closes with a matinee on Sunday, October 16<sup>th</sup>. You can order your tickets online through the KCTC box office site, or pick them up in the Station Mall.

The Preview Performance (Tuesday October 11) has been donated to The **Calabrese Club** of Sault Ste Marie. They've promised to bring some Italian baking for our concession.

## Season 68 Finally Set

Without going into detail about all the setbacks and challenges STW has gone through since the close of last season, we can look forward with excitement to a great new 68<sup>th</sup> season. You already know about our opener and we're pleased to have **George Houston** back directing.

Our December production is a delightful family oriented play by our favorite playwright, **Norm Foster**. We're giving you a two week run with two matinees for **Dear Santa**. You may want to see it twice! Auditions were held last week and talk about a great way to get into the holiday mood! **Barbara Rajnovich** is our director at the helm for this very funny show with music and an original holiday song you'll want to sing.



QUONTA Festival will be held in Timmins in March, 2017, and we have a dynamite entry in our February play. **Lucy**, by **Damien Atkins** will be directed by STW President **Randi Mraud**. True to form, Randi picks plays that will stir your thought processes and activate your emotions. **Lucy** deals with autism and relationships principally with mother and daughter but you may find yourself re-evaluating the way you respond to the world around you.



A graduate of our One Act Festival Workshops, **Terra McCrea** is bubbling with excitement directing a main stage play for the Workshop. **Habit of Murder** is her choice of play. Written by **Joanne Miller**, **Habit of Murder** is a murder mystery with twists and humor galore, and a nun, sister Vivian Salter is the sleuth.



Season 68 wraps up with our annual (and extremely popular) **One Act Festival Workshop**. It's too soon to announce our adjudicator/workshop leader yet but not too soon to invite entries. Do you have a desire to direct a play? This is a great way to learn! Contact Harry Houston for details on how you can be part of our season.

So to sum up – sorry we so late getting the news out but I'm sure you'll find our season well worth the wait. Go online to [www.saulttheatre.com](http://www.saulttheatre.com) and check out our brochure with the great package deals.

Oh, and season 69? We already have our opener locked in. Late no more!

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## Storage Streamlining

Always a challenge and solutions temporary, where do we store our set pieces, wall flats, furniture, and large props? Many of our members can remember at least 8 or 9 times we've had to move and cull our vast collection. Well, thanks to some financial assistance from the city and our very good friends at Topline, we have a new Garage.



We were handicapped over the summer when we were forced to move all our set material and furniture into the main hall of our Studio due to the loss of our previous storage facility. This



prevented our summer show and caused a refocusing of our board members leading to a late season settlement.

We anxiously watched the progress after construction started, hoping the hall would be cleared in time for our AGM. The final move took place the very weekend before. It was the biggest building we could manage so a lot of difficult culling had to happen. Some pieces went to our friends at the Musical Comedy Guild. So, now we have storage on our own property and perhaps that will put an end to the big moves.

Special thanks must go out to **Kim Cyr** for heading up the project, our very good friends at **Topline**, the **City of Sault Ste Marie**, and to all our members who helped out with the various moves. Also a shout out to **John Howard Society** of Sault Ste Marie for sending us a talented and dynamic volunteer worker who took on an amazing amount of the load.

## Honour Role

Each year prior to our Annual General Meeting a committee gathers to decide if we have candidates who deserve to be recognized for years of service, dedication and loyalty. It doesn't happen every year but this year there was a consensus. The **Honorary Lifetime Member** certificate was presented at the AGM.

We would like to congratulate the amazing team of **Val and Ron Wilson**. The wording on their certificate reads:

*The Honorary Lifetime Membership Award is bestowed to a small but very distinguished group of individuals who have been recognized for providing a significant period of years of continuous and extraordinary service to the Sault Theatre Workshop.*



Their names will be added to our list in each program from here on. **BRAVO! Team Wilson.**

## QUONTA UPDATE

**Take Two Theatre** in Timmins will be hosting the 2017 QUONTA Festival.

**Murray Tilson**, who heads the Timmins group is looking forward to the event. At this stage we don't have all the titles and groups but it is looking like a three play festival.

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 150<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.theatreontariofestival.ca)

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**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.**

## Can A Preview Night Help Your Charity?

Our Preview Project continues to garner praise from local charities. STW has made our dress rehearsals into Preview Nights donating a hundred tickets for the evening to a local charity. **Over the River and Through the Woods** preview was donated to **Calebrese**

**Club** of Sault Ste Marie.

The potential to raise over \$2000 is available for future productions and we have started a list for future Seasons. Wherever possible, we try to match up the theme of the play to the charity goals. If you know a charity that could benefit from this program, have them get in touch with us. Email the request to [hehouston@shaw.ca](mailto:hehouston@shaw.ca).

## Fund Raisers

Some reminders and an announcement: We still have some of those special take-out deal pizza or pasta cards from **Aurora's**. For a \$10 dollar purchase you get a card with 10 punches for a free baby pizza with purchase of a large one, or buy a penne-salad-bread meal and get another one free. Great idea for when it's your turn to supply supper. These cards can be used until January.

We also want to remind you that you can give theatre as a gift. Special **Gift Cards** can be made up for one or two people for one show or a whole season. All you have to do is call **Sandra or Harry Houston** and they'll customize a card for you.



You get a colourful gift card and envelope

Now the announcement: We are about to launch a fifty-fifty draw, or as **Kim Cyr** likes to call it, **A Christmas Cash, Split The Pot** raffle. Tickets should be ready for sale at our opening show and the draw will take place at the close of our



# Susan Barber

Sault Theatre Workshop and the Sault Ste Marie arts community has lost a talented director, musician, actor, artist and friend with the death of Susan Barber. Sue's legacy will be with us forever through her unselfish mentoring of the young and old and a long list of examples of creative productions.

Thank you  
Suzy





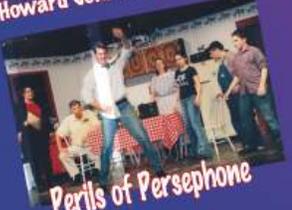
Murder at the Howard Johnson's



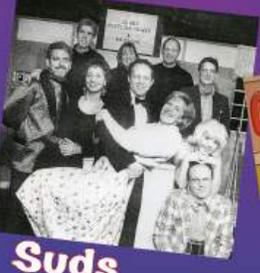
Inside Out



The Kitchen Witches



Pertis of Persephone



Suds



Game Show



Kitchen Witches



Draw Date: December 4, 2016  
4:00pm at Sault Theatre Workshop

December production, **Dear Santa**. Everyone can sell a few tickets, so pick up a book or two and help us out. What a great prize if we sell out!

## Directors & Plays Wanted

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.

We are always on the lookout for good scripts too. Heard of or seen a good play? Tell us about it. We like all kinds. We look to being able to announce the next season right at the end of the current season. With 2017 being an important Canadian anniversary, Canadian plays will be given preference during that season.

Sneak peek ahead? We'll be starting Season 69, (2017/2018) with an October production called **Wyrd Sisters** based on a novel by **Terry Pratchett**. It's a hilarious take on the Macbeth tale with the three witches as protagonists ...or should that be prohagonists? **Richard Karhu** is the director and man to bribe if you want in on this fun project.

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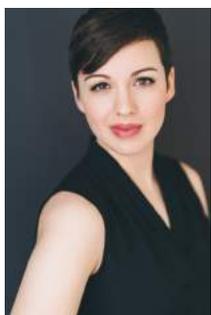


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**All you have to do is send an email to [hehouston@shaw.ca](mailto:hehouston@shaw.ca) with Box 94 as the subject and give us your name and address so we can remove you from our snail mail list.**

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## MEMBER NEWS



**Leslie McBay**, one of our favourite actors from the early Stage 1 days and who we last reported as working for Souleppper Theatre in Toronto, is a co-founder of **Headstrong Collective** along with **Melanie Hrymak**. The company was formed to create inclusive opportunities for female-

identified, LGBTQ+, and culturally diverse artists and audiences. Past productions include: the premiere of Hrymak's **Licking Knives** in the Toronto Fringe Festival; the

queer, contemporary adaptation **Romeo and (her) Juliet**, in association with Urban Bard (now Dauntless City Theatre); **Boston Marriage** by **David Mamet**, in partnership with the Campbell House Museum; and the war-time double bill of **Licking Knives** and **Manfred Karge's Man to Man**.

The company was nominated for 5 My Theatre Awards from My Entertainment World for their 2014 (inaugural) season, including Best Actress **Leslie McBay** as Romeo). Bravo, Leslie!

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



Archive photo of some Stage 1 early members  
**Dear Santa – Our December show – there may be a few more opportunities to get on board. Call Barbara Rajnovich @ 705 779-3233**

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

Editor Harry Houston  
Contact (705) 946-4081  
E-mail [hehouston@shaw.ca](mailto:hehouston@shaw.ca)  
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