

Encore!



NORTHUMBERLAND PLAYERS

August 2008

2007/08 Executive

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FireHall Theatre Executive Director

Valerie Russell

ENCORE Editors

Valerie Russell
Derrick Cunningham

Member: Cobourg &
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Dear Member of Northumberland Players:

As we begin a new season, I would like to thank Greg Curtis for his work in creating a great brochure to advertise what I'm sure you'll agree is an exciting line up for 2008-2009.

While we of course extend our invitation to anyone interested in any aspect of upcoming stage productions to join us... we also offer you the opportunity to work under, over and around the scenes with the Firehall renovation project. Jack Boyagian and Cathy Borowec continue to work on this project; it seems very slow but some positive progress is happening. Kevin Ward did get an extension on our Trillium Grant and the money is still in our account along with thousands of dollars from membership donations, fundraising and revenue from last year's productions. We are in a good financial place right now to make the Theatre a reality. Last year we promised plaques on the Theatre wall for everyone who donated \$100.00 to this project. This carefully constructed list will become wall plaques this year as promised.

If you are now contemplating your membership categories and wondering what to give this year, can I encourage you to again dig deep? Support the Players at the Benefactor level. This year all memberships of \$100.00 donated over and above the basic \$25.00 membership fee will go to finish the theatre and refurbish the second and third floors of the FireHall. The second floor is really in need of new flooring (the 20+ year old carpet is stained and worn) and the third floor working space desperately needs the floor sanded and refinished again (its been 20 years since two of our members did this work in their spare time). I believe that with some extra dollars and some volunteer hours spent on sprucing up the top floors of the building, we can have a totally finished space within the next year. Already there is some planning for work parties to go in and pull up the carpet and repaint the rooms this fall in preparation for our season and, hopefully, the celebration of our new theatre. Please think carefully before you write your cheque...let's get this great space looking good again.

Many thanks to all those who have spent countless hours working on the Fire-Hall, the Third Space, and the Henley Arcade. Your dedication to Northumberland Players is truly appreciated.

Sincerely,
Val Russell



NORTHUMBERLAND PLAYERS

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Tel. (905) 372-0577 / Fax (905) 372 3662

players@eagle.ca www.northumberlandplayers.com



"We're Growing Plays"

Northumberland Players Presents

The First Annual One-Act (Comedy) Playwriting Competition

Youth & Adult: \$20.00 entry fee
(proceeds to the FireHall Theatre renovations)

Three plays will be selected
Duration: 45 minutes maximum
Copy of manuscripts will not be returned

Winning plays will receive \$100.00 gift certificates
Plays will be read in a play reading or small stage production in the renovated
Theatre

Additional information: www.northumberlandplayers.com
Contact: Carol-Anne Caswell, 905-373-0369

PLAY READING

Saturday Sept 20th at 8.0pm

WIT

"It is not my intention to give away the plot," Vivian Bearing Ph.D., announces at the beginning of Margaret Edson's Pulitzer Prize winning play, *Wit*, "but I think I die at the end." Recently diagnosed with late stage ovarian cancer, she is being treated with an experimental drug cocktail, that makes her feel worse than she thought possible. The doctors study and discuss her body like a text - once the teacher, now she is being taught. Throughout the challenge she reassesses her life with a profundity and humour that are transformative both for her and for the audience. *Wit* is difficult to perform, and difficult to watch, but it is an extraordinary and most moving play.

Cast:

Lyn Brown, Mary Doig, Ted Staunton, Honor Sylvester, Sharon Thorne, Darryl Vaneyck, Patricia Young

Director: Jennifer Gruer

Cost: Pay what you can; proceeds to FireHall restoration fund

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Audition Notices!!!

Northumberland Players 2009 Musical Production:

HAIR, The Rock Musical

By Gerome Ragni, James Rado & Galt MacDermot

Sunday, September 14, 2008 @ 1:00pm sharp

Director: Shannon Oliver; Producer: Ann Dobby

Choreography: Alina Adjemian; Music Director: Caitlin Hayes

Show dates: Feb 27—March 7, 2009

**Please come prepared with a vocal audition and two copies of your music.
There will be a choreography audition as well.**

Cast consists of 25 to 30 characters ages 18+

Mature subject matter / course language

Dinner Theatre: *On Golden Pond*

By Ernest Thompson

September 24, 2008 promptly at 7:00pm

Directed by Dave Clark; Produced by Jack Boyagian

Production dates Jan 23—Feb 8 2009

Cast consists of three men and two women 35-70 years of age & one boy age 14
Actors should expect to work with other participants during the audition time

Northumberland Players Youth Theatre 2008 Christmas Play

The Only Christmas Pageant in Town

By Faye Couch Reeves

Saturday 6th & 13th 10 a.m.—12 pm

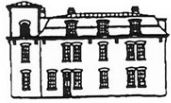
Wednesday 10th 6 p.m.—8 pm

Directed by Victor Baitley; Produced by Claudia van der Meulen

Cast consists of 49 characters over 8 years of age

Production Dates at Victoria Hall: November 26—November 28, 2008

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NORTHUMBERLAND PLAYERS

WORKSHOP NEWS

THREE NEW WORKSHOPS PLANNED

NUMBER ONE

"Sound Design"

Intended for anyone interested

Sat, Sept 6, 2008, 9:30-3:30
\$30.00 (NP members get a discount!)
10.00 for catered lunch on site
At the Cobourg Public Library, Rotary Room

Workshop leader: Chris Worsnop

Limited to 15 registrants

Sign up and learn:

- The details of a job description for Sound Designers/Operators
- How to use the sound editing freeware called AUDACITY + information on some \$\$ sound editing software programs
- How to locate and download free sound effects from the Internet
- Some tricks for adjusting sound files so that they sound best
- Compiling and burning a CD
- Some important technical details about burning CD discs for use in theatre equipment
- How to prepare a sound cue sheet
- What to expect during Hell Week (setting levels, cue to cue, tech rehearsal)

Participants will need to bring a laptop (Windows) computer, with CD drive. The workshop room is an Internet "Hotspot" so a laptop with wireless Internet connection would be ideal, but not essential.

Your workshop representative on the NP executive is Chris Worsnop. Please contact him with requests for future workshops and with any questions about those listed here.

905 372-2126

cworsnop@cogeco.ca

NUMBER TWO

"Directing for the First Time"

Intended for people who have not directed before, or those who would like to brush up their skills

Sat, Sep 27, 2008, 9:30 am - 3:30 pm; Sun, Sep 28. 9:30 am – noon
\$75.00. (NP members get a discount!)
10.00 for catered lunch on site
At the Fire Hall

Workshop leader: Ron Cameron-Lewis
Ron teaches theatre and drama at the Oakville Campus of Sheridan College, and at the University of Toronto at Mississauga.

Limited to 15 registrants

Sign up and learn:

- Introduction: Who we are, where we're from & where we're going
- Pre-production stages
- Auditions
- Readings
- Casting
- For type/against type
- Rehearsal process
- Stages of rehearsal
- Warm-ups & methods to enhance the "company"
- Building on creativity
- Improvisation
- Exercises to enhance acting choices
- Giving notes – getting the best
- When to control; learning to let actors fly
- Post mortem analysis
- General advice
- Blunt advice
- Styles of theatre
- Major ensemble problems & advice for addressing them
- Qualities of a good director
- Wrap-up session

Ron will adapt the content to the needs of the group, but will aim to cover the topics listed.

NOTE: Only TWO spots left in this workshop!!

NUMBER THREE

"Set Design & Set Painting"

Intended for anyone interested

All Day Sat and Sun a.m. one weekend in January or February, 2009
Fee TBA (NP members get a discount!)
Location TBA

Workshop Leader: Dr. Jane Coryell

Winner of 9 awards for best set design in the Association of Community Theatres—Central Ontario Festival (plus 7 other nominations)

Limited to 15 registrants.

The first day will be devoted to some Secrets of set design.

The second half day will reveal some Incredible painting techniques to make a set look real under stage lights.

This workshop is still in the formative stages, but the leader and approximate

Confirmation, Fees, Subsidies & Reimbursements

Workshops are announced to NP Members at least one week before other groups in the Eastern Ontario Drama League. Once the information is made public, reservations are first-come-first-served.

A registration is confirmed only when the payment for the workshop is received, either by cheque or credit card. To pay by credit card call Chris at 905 372-2126, or call the Fire Hall.

A standard fee for each workshop is established relative to the actual cost to NP. This fee is quoted to all comers.

For any workshop, paid-up NP members qualify for a 30% subsidy from the 50/50 draw income gathered at our performances.

A full reimbursement will be paid to any registrant whose cancellation is received at least 14 days prior to the workshop date.