



What`s the buzz?

2015/2016 Season

This year marks Courtenay Little Theatre's 55th year of bringing the joy of theatre to the community. To commemorate that, we've purchased a Platinum Sid Williams Theatre Seat Plaque, for seat J14, which reads:

**"COURTENAY LITTLE THEATRE
Celebrating 55 years of Theatre
Discover the Joy of Theatre"**

Pictured right are Richard Kerton & Deb Renz. (Manager of Sid Williams Theatre)



On Friday 2 Oct 15, our season opened with a lovely Gala, featuring delicious food catered by Wendy Dessler and musical entertainment provided by Luke Blu Guthrie. Our production of Norm Foster's *Kiss the Moon, Kiss the Sun* was well received and we give kudos to the wonderful cast and crew. A picture of director Kirstin Humpherys receiving her signed framed photo and also one of the cast are below.



For more information on shows, upcoming dates for meetings and event nights or anything else about the CLT, check out our website at www.courtenaylittletheatre.com.





2015-2016 Season - Cont'd

Our Christmas play, *It's a Wonderful Life*, by Peter Jorgensen, directed by Susan Bradshaw has been cast and rehearsals are underway.

Auditions for our spring production of Shakespeare's *The Tempest* will be held in mid-January 2016. Dates will follow

AGM and Board Elections

Our AGM BBQ, held in June, was a success once again with delicious food and drink. Thanks to Richard Kerton and Chuck Massey for manning the BBQ. The board of directors would like to welcome two new members Adele Bailey and Val Heath. Shari Jakubiec is now the past president, with Val Macdonald becoming the new president. Camille Soper is the new vice-president and Richard Kerton & Maybeth Hoagland have retained their positions as treasurer and secretary. Kirstin Humpherys has stayed on as a director, along with Terry Penney and Lynn Hodge. A huge thank you goes out once again to Vivien Douglas & Chuck Massey for their time on the board. You will be missed.

Brought to you by CLT

On **Tuesday 20 Oct 15**, don't miss our event night, which features a reading of by *The Dumb Waiter*, written by Harold Pinter and read by Tony Arnold & Dudley Cox.

Our last general meeting of the year will be held on **Tuesday 17 Nov 15**.

Our annual Christmas party will be held on **Saturday 12 December starting at 5:00pm**. This year, instead of centrepieces, Val Heath will be hosting a Christmas Ornament building workshop, which will happen prior to the party at a date to be determined. The ornaments will then be raffled off with the proceeds going to our local Food Bank.

Once again, CLT will be selling 16 month calendars featuring photos from last season as well as past productions, for the mere sum of \$10. All proceeds go to the bursary fund. They are available at the general meetings/event nights or if you see Terry Penney at the space.

CLT will be participating in the One Act Festival to be held in Qualicum Beach from 2-8 Nov 15. Norm Foster's *The Christmas Tree*, directed by Sharon Pridham, and starring Chris & Jeannine Taylor, will be presented on **Saturday, 7 Nov 15 at 7:30**. Remount of The Christmas Tree as a Fundraiser for the Food Bank on **Nov 27, at 7:30pm** at the Stan Hagen Theatre. Anyone wishing to help with publicity for this event please contact Shari at sharijakubiec@gmail.com.

Scott Swan will be holding an "Introduction to Shakespeare: Monologues & Soliloquies" workshop on the weekend of 13-15 Nov 15 at Vanier High School. There are still spaces available for both the course and to audit. CLT's education fund will reimburse half the cost of any member who attends. See our website for more details.

Volunteers Wanted

There will be a volunteer get together social at the space on **24 Oct 15**, from 1:00pm to 3:00pm. Come and see what you can do to help out with our Christmas production of *It's a Wonderful Life*.



Paul Chisholm
Vice President & Investment Advisor

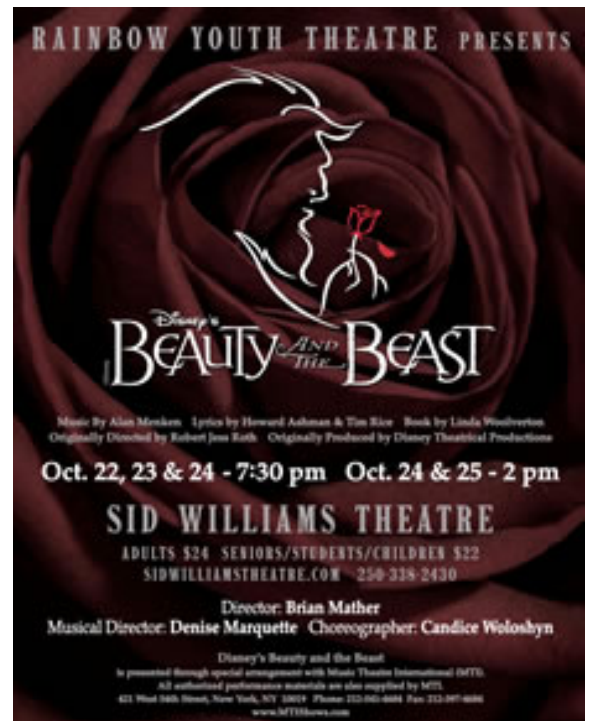


In the Community



CLT manned a booth at Rexspo 2015, an annual Recreation Exposition held at the Fitness & Sports Centre at 19 Wing Comox, which was held on Saturday 12 September 2015. Camille Soper and her mom, Nicky Arsenault (pictured above) chatted with several members of the military community and their families and handed out season's brochures.

Be sure to catch Rainbow Youth Theatre's *Beauty and the Beast* at the Sid Williams Theatre from 22-25 October 15 with matinees on both Saturday and Sunday.



Calling all directors

CLT is currently inviting Expressions of Interest from experienced directors for our 2016/2017 and 2017/2018 seasons of plays at the Sid Williams Theatre, including 3 plays during 2017 by Canadian Playwrights!

The Board is looking to put together a balanced playbill which includes dramas, comedies, musicals, murder mysteries, and a Christmas production.

In addition, during the 150th anniversary of Canadian Confederation - 2017 - we have invited local directors to suggest plays that are by Canadian Playwrights. So if you have a favourite Canadian play you would like to propose, please let us know.

An Expression of Interest for directing should consist of: Full name and contact information of director; Complete account of director's directing experience; Copy of the script, casting and set requirements, and reasons for choosing it.

NB: Directors may submit more than one script and/or Expression of Interest

There is further guidance for writing Expressions of Interest in the CLT document: Choosing our Plays: Guidelines for Selection (contact Tony Arnold).





A Wee Bit of Trivia

OSCAR AND THE CANADIAN ARTIST
By Alana Gowdy



This is the classic Wilde look.

When Oscar Wilde visited Ontario in 1882, he met Canadian painter Frances Richards, daughter of the Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia. At that time she was a highly regarded portrait painter and acting head of the Ottawa School of Art. In a letter to the painter James McNeill Whistler, Oscar described her as "an artist and a little oasis of culture in Canada." Oscar and Frances met again in Paris the following year. In 1887 they were both in London and it was there that Frances painted a portrait of Oscar.

When the portrait was completed, Oscar looked at it and some time later remembered his first impressions. He had laughed and commented how tragic it was that the painting would never grow older, but he inevitably would. When he said this, it had occurred to him that this would make "a capital plot" for a story. Thus, inspired by the work of a Canadian artist, came the novel, film and play, *The Picture of Dorian Gray*.

This turned out to be Wilde's only novel and was first published in 1890. Initially it received considerable rejection for its homoerotic content, but later became a standard pillar of his work..

The play of *The Picture of Dorian Gray* has recently been presented in London to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the novel's publication. The European Arts Company's production has received five star reviews. The script was adapted from the novel by John O'Connor and Merlin Holland, who is in fact Oscar Wilde's grandson. The book has also been turned into a movie at least twice, 1945 and 2009.

As a comment on human frailty and self-love, *The Picture of Dorian Gray* is second to none. And all thanks to a painter from Canada.



A photograph of the short-haired Wilde which would be the closest to his appearance when Frances painted his portrait



If you have any comments, photos or would like to submit an article you think would be of interest to our members, please do not hesitate to contact me: Camille Soper, at nsflygirl@shaw.ca or 250-338-1684.

