



ST. LUKE'S PLAYERS

COMMUNITY THEATRE SINCE 1948!

NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2023

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

2023-24 EXECUTIVE

President Heather Lee

Vice President . Malcolm Harvey

Treasurer Mike Chadwick

Secretary Susan Nicholl

MEMBERS AT LARGE:

Geoffrey Davidson,
Sheila McKenzie, Ron Rubin
& Beverly van Druten-Blais

St. Luke's Players' News

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www.stlukesplayers.org
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Hello!

Firstly, it is exciting to welcome onto the Executive Malcolm, Geoff, and Sheila.

Janine and Mitch, thank you for ALL that you have done on our behalf during your terms. I would

also like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our now past President Bronwyn, who has happily, proficiently and dare I say boldly, led us through the past 6 years! Brava! We are grateful you are staying on with the Executive.

As we enter our 75th year, we, your newly formed executive, are ready to approach it with passion and enthusiasm for the amazing community theatre that we are!

Small but mighty, St. Luke's Players Community Theatre has shown great resilience over the last few years, and through that, we are looking forward to not only a thriving season of outstanding shows, but also to offering our membership more smaller scale activities. To that end, we have been busy. A huge thank you to Janine and Floyd for hosting our AGM. The day

was beautiful, the happy camaraderie evident, and Bronwyn ran a busy and efficient meeting.

In June, Stephen Lewis introduced **Acting Lessons**. The participants both new and seasoned enjoyed Stephen's wisdom, and particularly the hands on portions. With this success, more offerings are in the works. Always wanted to tap your inner thespian? See page 5.

Our **Theatre Games in the Park** at Willows Beach was a success again this year, with great fun had by all. It was so great to have season ticket holders Bob and Ingrid join in! We hope you inspire other season ticket holder to join us in our activities! In all, we had 19 participants, at one point we were in tears with laughter and, I am sure, entertaining the rest of the park!

We will be holding a **'Welcome to the New Season'** appreciation reception and **Talent Night**. We hope you will be there to enjoy some camaraderie and fun times. Those of you wanting to share in that thing you do...skits, singing, poetry, playing spoons, you name it...we encourage you to sign up your talent. Never tried but always wanted to? Now is your time to shine! We look forward to seeing you Sept 9th. **RSVPs** a must.

We welcome new and exciting ideas for workshops/programs/community togetherness, so if you think you have something in mind you would like share, please let us know.

It is because of YOU that I mention our next item. This year we proudly came in **silver** in the **Best of Victoria's Theatre Group** category, and **bronze** in the **Best of Arts Company or Organization category**. Hooray for us!! YOU are what makes SLPCT sparkle! It just goes to show that as a community we have incredible spirit and joy for each other and our little theatre that can!

Enjoy the rest of your summer and stay Amazing.♥ ~ Respectfully submitted,
Heather Lee

ST. LUKE'S PLAYERS
COMMUNITY THEATRE SINCE 1948

Talent SHOW

Sat, Sept 9, 2023 at 6:00pm

This invitation is for YOU, our beloved members and volunteers who make St. Luke's Players Community Theatre fabulous! Come show us your talent. Come enjoy in the audience.

WHAT HAVE WE BEEN DOING?

May 24th - June 4th



"It was funny and so, so moving."

This comment from an audience member of Firehoses and Family, the final show of St. Luke's Players Community Theatre's 2022-23 season, was typical of the positive reaction from our appreciative audiences to this brand new play. However, it was also personally very meaningful for my wife and me as it was the culmination of years of effort as we went from writing the play, to seeing it come to life on the stage.

It is safe to say that it is unusual for a play to have one of the co-writers acting in the show and the other co-directing. But while Firehoses and Family may have sprung from our imaginations, it took a small army of dedicated volunteers to make this show a success.

For the audiences, the large talented cast of Terry Rowsell, Jo Barnes, Andrew Shepherd, Autumn Antonsen, Sheila McKenzie, Emile Dykes, Paula Rennie, Megan Sawatzky, Peter Michielin, Maureen Van Wyck, and Carson Cross-Danyluk were the most obvious contributors to the play's success. With each performance, these fine actors took the audience along on a journey of laughter, tears, and even some introspection on the messages within this show.

However, much like an iceberg which only shows a small portion of itself above the surface, off the stage there was a huge number of skilled people, many new to St. Luke's Players, who made this show possible. In this regard, special thanks goes out to Co-director Geli

Bartlett, Stage Manager Andrea Black, Producer Jacqollyne Keath, Set Construction organizer Dave Hitchcock, and the many, many others who gave so freely of their time and talent. Whether it was overcoming an obstacle, or the need for creative ideas, it always seemed like multiple people stepped forward to provide a solution.

Jo and I will always be grateful for the support and willingness to "pitch in" that helped bring the dream of our play to the reality of the stage. These contributions from so many wonderful people really demonstrated that "community" is the heart of community theatre.

♥ ~ Mitch Barnes



Top: Jo Barnes, Paula Rennie & Maureen Van Wyck

Bottom: Most of the cast and crew



Top: Sheila McKenzie, Megan Sawatzky & Autumn Antonsen

Right: Jo Barnes, Paula Rennie & Maureen Van Wyck

Bottom: Emile Dykes & Jo Barnes



2023 SLPCT AGM

St. Luke's Players Community Theatre held our AGM in the lovely back garden of Janine and Floyd Longy. About 25 members mingled and noshed after a successful meeting.

These wonderful people were nominated and accepted their roles on our executive board:



Heather Lee
President



Malcolm Harvey
Vice President



Susan Nicholl
Secretary



Mike Chadwick
Treasurer



Geoffrey
Davidson



Sheila
McKenzie



Ron
Rubin



Beverly
van Druten-Blais

Members at Large

We had our first meeting in-person at Susan's house on August 3rd. We've got a great group with lots of ideas and enthusiasm.



St. Luke's Players Proud Winners



This year we proudly finished with **SILVER** in the **Best of Victoria's Theatre Group** category, and **BRONZE** in the **Best of Arts Company or Organization** category. *Yeah us!*

Heather Lee and Beverly van Druten-Blais were very proud to attend the **Best of Victoria 2023 Winners Celebration** event on Wednesday, August 9th at Lions Den Restaurant in Save-On-Foods Memorial Centre.

This initiative is an effort to acknowledge the people, places, and businesses that have positively impacted our city enough to be crowned the Best of Victoria. A celebration as a chance to unite the community, reconnect with familiar faces and build connections with new ones.

Acting Classes

This eager gang had great fun attending six Acting Classes with Stephen Lewis at 7pm on Mon, Wed, Fri • June 12 -23 in the hall. We learned a lot too. Check page 5!

♥ ~ Beverly van Druten-Blais



More fun at Willows Beach....

Theatre in the Park

Yep, more fun was to be had as this happy group gathered on Saturday, July 29th to play theatre games, word games and all sorts of great ideas provided by our very own 'Energizer Bunny' Heather Lee and the lovely Janine Longy. A beautiful morning to share with and welcome **Bob and Ingrid Shaw**, season ticket holders and members.



A message FROM OUR PAST PRESIDENT



A huge thank you for your support during my 2nd term as president of SLPCT, and a warm welcome to in-coming president, Heather Lee. She has energy, enthusiasm and ideas for activities that will add to what

we might offer our members in the future



Putting on my Producer Hat (which I'll happily relinquish in the future):

1. For the Panto we need a choreographer, someone to head up set painting, & backstage crew. Some of the backstage crew duties might be covered by cast members, but others may not.

We won't really know until we are closer to getting the show on stage (late Oct or early Nov). Contact taylorbronwyn@shaw.ca and lindyloowho@hotmail.com if you are available for any of these positions.

2. For the March show we need an ASM and stage crew to help with scene and costume changes. Contact taylorbronwyn@shaw if you are interested/available for either position. Both are imperative, as this show's effects depend on a fluid change from scene to scene aided by lighting and sound.

2. We need a producer for the June show *The Outsider* to get that crew in place as soon as possible.

The Director is Tony Cain. SLPCT has a spreadsheet with names of people who have fulfilled crew positions for us in the past to begin building the crew. Tony has a costumer & sound designer, but at this point we need a producer to assemble the rest of this crew. If you are interested/available, please contact taylorbronwyn@shaw stating which crew positions you might take on.

Thank you, ♥ Bronwyn



How striking it is to be the sole proprietor of your life and all its belongings.

No swashbuckler to dash your sorrow or buckle up your trousers and high top shoes.

You have to bend, yourself, all the way down to the ground.

As if that's not enough, you have to get back up again.

You can do it.



ST. LUKE'S PLAYERS

COMMUNITY THEATRE SINCE 1948!

ACTING CLASSES



walk the walk
talk the talk
take your place
fill your space

7:00pm • Tuesdays October 17, 24, 31
and November 7, 14, 21, 28

After a successful opening run in June, the show returns in October. This time for all you wannabee actors with little or no experience treading the boards. We will start at the very beginning, a very good place to start, and cover the where, the what, the when, the how and the why of acting for the stage. You can be the who, if you are at least 14 years old.

7 classes for \$40 (+\$5 for SLPCT Membership)

No audition necessary just email Stephen Lewis at stephenlewis@shaw.ca for more details then turn up on opening night and join the cast.

The instructor: Stephen Lewis has a B.A. and M.A. in Theatre and two professional associateships. Over 25 years he's had several supervisory/training positions. He was also a teaching assistant under the supervision of a professor in the UVic Theatre Department.

Stephen's prime teaching principle (especially true for acting), is to facilitate understanding so that the student actively participates in the learning process.

LOOK WHAT WE ARE UP TO NEXT!



ST. LUKE'S PLAYERS
COMMUNITY THEATRE SINCE 1948

AUDITIONS!

For this awesome panto



Written Ben Crocker Directed by Heather Lee

Thurs Sept 14 • 7-9pm

Sat Sept 16 • 1-4pm

Sun Sept 17 • 1-3pm Callbacks

Auditions are open to enthusiastic folks of all ages and experience.

Play runs Dec 15-30, 2023

Rehearsals are on Mon, Weds and Fri evenings, following a fun Meet & Greet (TBD)

Located at St. Luke's Hall, 3821 Cedar Hill X Rd

Please email with which audition you plan to attend:

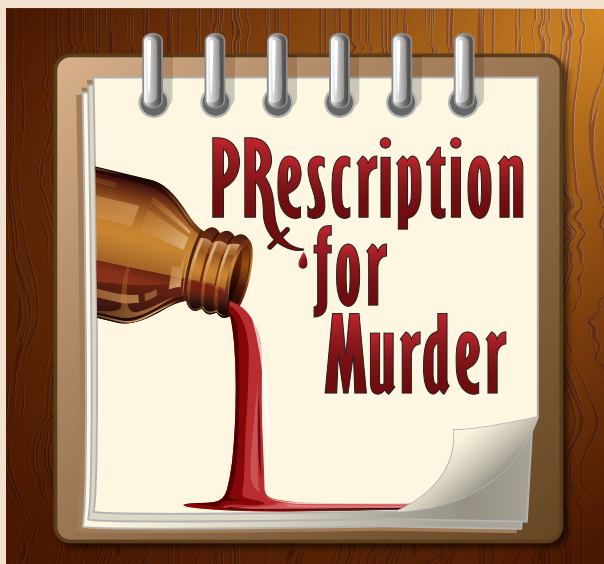
Heather 280@hotmail.com

Auditions are cold reading from the script.

Please check the website for details.

Scripts to borrow (after Aug 14, 2023) and return to:
Oak Bay Flower Shop, 102 - 2187 Oak Bay Avenue

www.facebook.com/stlukesplayers.com
www.stlukesplayers.org • 250-884-5484



Written by
Norman Robbins

Directed by
Geoffrey J. Davidson

Coming Soon! Oct 4-15

Rehearsals for *Prescription for Murder* are underway! Featuring a range of St. Luke's Players Community Theatre alumni, this is a show sure to soothe your 'murder-mystery' itch.

Set in the seemingly quiet town of Bere Knighton, in the home of Dr. Richard and Barbara Forth, there is never a dull moment. Richard has a hectic work schedule and an awkward friendship with his ex-girlfriend. His wife, Barbara is constantly ill and worsens when a stranger claims to have known Richard's second fiancée. Throw in some well-meaning, yet nosy neighbors and a charwoman more interested in socializing than cleaning and you have a recipe for what is sure to be a suspense-filled evening, with just the right amount of humour.

Barbara seems to have constant near-death experiences. From a runaway boulder during her honeymoon, to a close call with her favorite arsenic-laced cream cake, someone seems determined to get Barbara out of the way. But, Who? And Why?

Come to the show Oct 4-15 and find out!



ST. LUKE'S PLAYERS
COMMUNITY THEATRE SINCE 1948

AUDITIONS!

For this fascinating drama



Written Laura Ollstein Directed by Janine Longy

Thurs Nov 2 • 7-9pm

Sat Nov 4 • 2-4pm

Sun Nov 5 • 2-4pm Callbacks

We encourage all actors experienced and new to the stage.

Play runs March 13-24, 2024

Rehearsals are on Mon, Weds and Fri evenings, following a fun Meet & Greet (TBD)

Located at St. Luke's Hall, 3821 Cedar Hill X Rd

Please email with which audition you plan to attend:

Janine Longy floyd.janineb@gmail.com

Auditions are cold reading from the script.

Please check the website for details.

Scripts to borrow (after Oct 1, 2023) and return to:
Oak Bay Flower Shop, 102 - 2187 Oak Bay Avenue

www.facebook.com/stlukesplayers.com
www.stlukesplayers.org • 250-884-5484

Target Theatre: Call for Seniors with Theatre Skills

If you are a senior who would like to use your theatre skills to enlighten and entertain other seniors, you might want to consider joining the Target Theatre Society.

We are a repertory company of seniors who devise and perform plays for seniors, about seniors' issues.

We are under the direction of a professional theatre instructor/director who hones our skills while bringing new life to our performances.

We are looking for new actors, a producer, and a stage manager. We rehearse one morning each week (Tuesday) and perform about once a week, almost always during the weekday.



You can be as young as 55, as long as you have enough free time during the day. For more information about us and about how to audition, contact info@targettheatre.ca.

ATTITUDE THEATRE

Coming this November, Attitude Theatre presents

THE SUNSET LIMITED

by Cormac McCarthy.

In a small apartment in Harlem (or perhaps in Purgatory) a black ex-convict street preacher tries to convince an atheist professor of humanities that life is worth living and God loves him. The preacher argues that existence is meaningless, death is desirable, and oblivion the only reasonable goal. The preacher is named Black, the professor White. We don't know their actual names. Black caught White in his arms just as he tried to jump in front of a subway train (or perhaps just after). Black found faith in God after almost dying in a prison fight. White's faith in high culture and humanism has dissolved in his contempt for his fellow man.

Can they find common ground? Can both be saved?

Featuring Willis Taylor and Eric Grace.

Directed by Kevin Stinson.

St. Luke's Players Community Theatre member Tony Cain is Artistic Director of Attitude Theatre.

Production Dates **November 3,4,5,10,11,12**
at the **Paul Philips Hall in Fernwood.**



COME AND JOIN US SINGING A VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS

Performance Date

Sun, Dec 3 • 2:30 at Berwick Royal Oak,
4680 Elk Lake Drive Victoria V8Z 0B4

Rehearsals

Norma and Rudy's home
Sundays at 3 pm • Nov 12, 19, and 26

Contact Producer

Norma Jee, 250-472-0232
and by email to vgss.pay@gmail.com
if you wish to be part of this joyous fundraiser!

Become a member and enjoy this
and future exciting performances!



Pati-Ann Lawe is the events coordinator for the Ukrainian Canadian Cultural Society of Vancouver Island. She also sings with LUNA Ukrainian women's ensemble.

2023 marks the 45th year of the Ukrainian Canadian Cultural Society of Vancouver Island in Victoria.

To mark the occasion, we are planning a concert featuring professional Ukrainian newcomer musicians and local Ukrainian Canadian artists on the 14th or 15th of October. A venue is yet to be confirmed.

So far, on Vancouver Island we have helped settle and support over 1300 newcomers displaced by war in Ukraine. At this point we are hoping to make it a free concert with perhaps a donation opportunity and open it up to the general community as well.

It has been a very busy year plus for our Ukrainian community and there have been many fundraising events to support newcomers and Ukraine.

Pati-Ann has enjoyed the theatre productions by St. Luke's Players Community Theatre that she has attended.



This is a photo of LUNA Ukrainian Ensemble at a fundraising event that Langham Court Theatre hosted in February called hearts and Hustkas. We featured the story of the Kokum scarves.

The impact of war in Ukraine has broken the hearts of all communities across Canada.

We feel the anguish and sorrow of Ukraine and her people but have been encouraged by the unity and camaraderie of supporters across cultures.

The beautiful Kokum scarf is a historical symbol of strength, friendship, unity and respect. In Ukrainian the scarf is called

a hustka or in Canada, babushka meaning Grandmother.

Ukrainian settlers came primarily to the prairies. They were excellent farmers and courted by the government to break new land for feeding the growing nation. They were looked down upon by other European settlers but welcomed and aided by First Nations. The story goes that the scarves were gifted by Ukrainians to Indigenous Peoples to thank them for guidance, help and medicines that were shared with the settlers. The Kokum scarf has been incorporated into First Nations cultures across Canada and is worn as a sign of solidarity and historic relationship.

It also represents the fact that we are all connected!

CATADOR THEATRE PRESENTS

CHEKHOV PARKER CHEKHOV

three short plays on marriage, not love, by Anton Chekhov and Dorothy Parker

FRINGE

METRO THEATRE
TICKETS \$15/\$12
VICTORIAFRINGE.COM

AUG 25 5PM
AUG 26 1:15
AUG 31 6PM
SEPT 2 6PM
SEPT 3 1PM

Chekhov Parker Chekhov

Three short plays by Anton Chekhov and Dorothy Parker on the theme of marriage, not love. Comedic, dark and witty, an ensemble cast unites these masters in an exciting literary ride. From the company that brought you the 2015 Pick of the Fringe winning Two.

<https://intrepidtheatre.com/shows/chekhov-parker-chekhov>

Refusing to eat the noodles in a Chinese restaurant is wonton disregard.

I asked the wise man on the mountain the secret of a long life. I'd like to pass along his infinite words of wisdom...

Keep breathing as long as possible.