

Thistle Theatre

P.O. Box 333, Embro, ON N0J 1J0
www.thistletheatre.ca



Another successful show!

Congratulations to the cast and crew of Oliver!

Under the guidance of Sue Garner (*Director*), Norm Northmore (*S.M.*), and Linda Murray (*Producer*), audience members were treated to a production filled with visual and audio delights.

Fantastic music... who could forget Consider Yourself, Oom-Pah-Pah, and Where is Love? Thank you to a very capable and talented orchestra, led of course by Doug Shippey.

And oh, those costumes! Absolutely stunning. Our hardworking wardrobe troupe pulled off another triumph.

The well-designed set satisfied the need to depict several different locales in the play while accommodating our very small stage. The backstage crew and actors pulled off these scene changes seamlessly.

I can't close this summary without pointing out a couple of memorable moments. Of course, the inimitable Chris Cockle in the role of Fagin. Need I say more?

And I think we have a tie for the "personality change" award: Elaine Northmore (red bustier and blonde wig) or John Hazeleger (throw-back-to-the-80's wig). You decide.

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Contact us:

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Area Productions

Theatre Woodstock
The Love List
by Norm Foster
February 12-20, 2010

London Community Players
A Thousand Clowns
by Herb Gardener
February 19-27, 2010

ITOPA
Neville's Island
by Tim Firth
February 19-28, 2010

St. Mary's Community Players
Perfect Wedding
by Robin Hawdon
April 23 - May 2, 2010

Dramarama

New things happening this year at Dramarama! Thistle Theatre was able to meet the needs of more of our youth by offering a second two-week camp this year! The Town Hall was filled with laughter, love and learning for the entire month of July.

Capably led by Kathy Quayle (Artistic Director) the kids were immersed in all aspects of theatre life. Usually the participants have the creative task of writing their own play which they present to family and friends at the end of the camp, but this year they worked off a script which afforded the director to focus on acting (character study, movement, etc.) The end result was a fabulous show called "Tribute to Guys & Dolls". Guest performers were also brought in to entertain and inform the participants: a ventriloquist and a professional musical theatre artist.

Much thanks to Kathy Quayle, Barb McIntosh (Administrator) and to Emma Baker, Simon Northmore, Mark Northmore and Zac Topp, who so capably assisted during Dramarama.

The First Law of Theatre: Everything will take longer than it really should.

The Second Law of Theatre: If it weren't for the last minute, nothing would get done.

The Third Law of Theatre: Glory may be fleeting but obscurity lasts forever.

The Unspeakable Law: As soon as you mention something... if it's good, it goes away, if it's bad, it happens.



Improv Night

If you want to experience laughter at its finest, then you absolutely cannot miss our Improv Night!!

Friday, March 26th

7:30pm at the Embro Town Hall.

Ever watch "Whose Line Is It Anyway?" This will be along the same line as that very funny show. Come out and watch some of our local talent act out, act up, and just generally... 'get silly' trying to come up with ideas on the spur of the moment.

If you'd like to be zany and participate, then contact Joan Veldman at joanveldman@gmail.com or by calling 519-273-4233.

If you'd like to watch - tickets are just \$10 and that will get you a membership as well! And if the spirit moves you, feel free to join in!
Tickets can be bought at the door (there is no reserved seating)

Annual General Meeting

It's the BIG ONE!

Our annual general meeting... recapping the year, making plans for the future. If you'd like to have a say, then make sure you attend.

Monday, February 22nd

8:00pm
Embro Town Hall

We're also looking for board members. Our nominating committee would be happy to hear from you:

Cathy Siddall - cathy@workshopsupply.com
Ed Williams - sounded@rogers.com

OK, I'm going to confess something here. I just *don't* understand why people are hesitant to come to this meeting or join the board! Regular meetings... just once a month; and lots of laughs (reg. meetings and annual meeting). So here's an enticement: come to the A.G.M. and Chris Cockle will do a Fagin encore performance of "Reviewing the Situation"!!

Workshops

Please take advantage of the following workshops being held at the Stratford Shakespearean Festival.

Stratford Shakespeare Festival Courses

These one- and two-day workshops are your chance to learn from the elite team of spoken voice, dialect, text, movement and Alexander Technique coaches who are considered by many actors to be the most valuable Festival resource, and from teaching artists who work in the Festival's outstanding education programs.

Voice and Movement Intensive for Theatre Professionals

February 20 and 21, 2010 held in Toronto

This two-day intensive offers an opportunity for trained actors to tune up their acting tools and technique in voice and movement. \$255 Equity members; \$320 non-Equity.

Directing

Sunday, March 28

This one-day workshop explores storytelling, focus and blocking techniques for proscenium-arch, in-the-round and thrust-stage configurations. \$140 adults; \$105 full-time students.

Introduction to the Alexander Technique in Performance and Presentation

Saturday, July 10

Learn how the technique applies to problems and habits of posture, movement and voice. \$140 adults; \$105 full-time post-secondary students.

Your Voice in Presentation and Public Speaking

Offered twice: Saturday, July 17; Sunday, August 15

For the business presenter or public speaker, a one-day workshop focusing on the voice and body skills necessary for confident and dynamic communication. \$235.

Managing Pain and Injury with the Alexander Technique

Sunday, July 25

The Alexander Technique teaches us to identify and change harmful and inefficient physical habits, and how through awareness and clarity of thought we can enjoy better support, breath and comfort. \$140 adults; \$105 full-time post-secondary students.

How to Audition

Saturday, August 7

This day-long workshop is designed for the actor looking for the "perfect piece." Instruction will include how to choose, edit and prepare a piece, and the specific skills to optimally present it. For adults only. \$170 adults; \$125 full-time post-secondary students.

Finding Your Voice

Saturday, August 21

Through simple theatre exercises in relaxation, breath and voice, this workshop will open a connection to the joy and play of expressing sound. \$140 adults; \$105 full-time post-secondary students.

Directing: Part 2

Saturday, August 28

Building on the foundations of Directing, Directing: Part 2 will give participants insights into the techniques of directing, from first read through rehearsal to opening night. The workshop will walk participants through a director's process, offering advice, anecdotes and practical tools for the developing director. \$170 adults; \$125 full-time post-secondary students.

For detailed course descriptions and instructor bios, visit stratfordshakespearefestival.com/festivalcourses.

Register online or phone 1.800.561.1233 ext. 2319.

All prices are exclusive of tax

Bus Trip

Thistle Theatre's social committee did a marvelous job of organizing a bus trip to Elgin Theatre in Toronto to see the pantomime, Robin Hood.

It was very well done. I can honestly say I thoroughly enjoyed my first panto!

Music, laughs, men playing women's roles, lots of audience participation, kids booing and cheering, Norm Northmore heckling the villain... it was GREAT!

Huge thanks to Sue Langlois for ordering tickets, and to Abby Cockle for organizing supper at Richtree Marche after the show.

It was a great way to start the new year... and when Thistle does their first panto... I'm there!!

Theatre Terms



Dark Night

The night before opening when no rehearsal is scheduled so the actors and crew can go home and get some well-deserved rest, and instead spend the night staring sleeplessly at the ceiling because they're sure they needed one more rehearsal.

Green Room

Room shared by nervous actors waiting to go on stage and the precocious children whose actor parents couldn't get a baby-sitter that night, a situation which can result in justifiable homicide.

Thistle Theatre Membership Application

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Please indicate
which year you are
paying for:

Current year

Next year

Other _____

**use back of form if necessary

****Please note: Membership runs from Jan.-Dec. and is due by the Annual Meeting in February.
Mail payment of \$10 per membership to: Box 333, Embro, ON N0J 1J0
or give to any Thistle Theatre board member. Application form must accompany payment.**