

BACKSTAGE NEWS



Theatre Renovation Update –

Handicapped Washroom Project - to date, the existing main floor washrooms in the McColl Playhouse have been dismantled. Board members Gerry Hopkins and Jim Branch are leading the charge. The concrete floor was jackhammered out (a very dusty process) and removed (more on the excess concrete shortly). This is to allow us to install new plumbing under the concrete slab that will form the new bathroom floors at theatre level – NO MORE STEPS! Framing of the walls has now begun.

We collected \$466.87 for the redundant copper and brass plumbing lines! And speaking of money, Terrace Community Foundation has granted our request to fund this project to the tune of \$7500. Thank you, Terrace Community Foundation.

On May 28th, Dominic Ignas is volunteering to dig a trench through our parking lot to hook up a new sewer line from the City’s main on Soucie to the McColl Playhouse. Westpoint Rentals has very generously offered to deliver and lend us an excavator for the project. The existing sewer line has roots growing in it and the slope is not adequate, even if we weren’t lowering the interior floor. Retired plumber Gordie Birch has been a welcome resource. And Emco is donating half the plumbing supplies with the other half to be purchased at cost.



- the old concrete pad under the bathrooms being demolished to install new plumbing for main floor access from the theatre foyer - WITHOUT STEPS!

Terrace Little Theatre Society is looking for Summer Employees

labourers/maintenance workers, possibly with additional theatre-related tasks

should be able to use lawn mower, weed eater, pressure washer – wage \$15.20 per hour

Employment term: nine weeks @35 hours/week – approximately 9 – 4:30. Hours could change occasionally to include Saturday work.

Successful applicants will:

- Be part of a team – report to a board of directors and alternating supervisors
- Be able to sometimes work alone and be comfortable learning new tasks
- Be a multi-tasker

Assignments and opportunities: will be determined once employees have been hired. Applicant skills and abilities and availability of supervisors in different fields will determine job descriptions.

Are you interested? To apply, you must:

- Be between 15 and 30 years of age
- Be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident
- Be physically able to do manual work
- Be computer literate with a willingness to learn more
- Be a self-starter with organizational skills
- Want to try new things and have a flexible mindset.

Required: Work clothing – work boots, gloves, rain gear. Must abide by Covid-19 protocols.

Resumes can be emailed to info@mytlc.ca

McColl Playhouse deep clean work bee – June 5, 10 a.m.

Objective to thoroughly clean the theatre.

Tasks that need volunteers:

- Vacuuming the seats
- Vacuuming the stairs
- Vacuuming the auditorium
- Washing the auditorium floor and walls
- Vacuuming and cleaning the lights
- Dusting the light bars
- Vacuuming, dusting and washing upstairs in the Green Room -
- Washing stair and upstairs walls.

Looking for people to pop in for an hour and tackle a task.

BACKSTAGE NEWS



Streaming Project Update

Our new purchases are beginning to arrive, so once the theatre is spic and span, we can put our new video camera, tripod, tricked out MacBook and accessories to use and get back 'on the boards'. Thanks to the Northern Health Resiliency Grant that has allowed us this wonderful opportunity. Stay tuned for audition details.

Virtual Play Readings

Nancy took part in Britt MacLeod's excellent workshop that was an intensive dive into actor's script work that didn't leave much room for hosting Virtual Play Readings. Look for these to start again soon as we are still on the hunt for the perfect script or monologue to be our inaugural streaming piece. Have a play you want to hear or read, send a message to media@mytlc.ca.

Help Still Needed

The board is looking for someone to join them as secretary.

The new secretary will be part of the team that is managing the building, doing correspondence, and checking the mail. Currently the majority of the secretary's role is recording the minutes of the monthly virtual board meetings.

Membership

– Please help support the Terrace Little Theatre and its fund-raising efforts. Many of the funders use this demonstrated community support as an indicator of their willingness to fund us. Please become a member today for the future of live theatre at the McColl Playhouse.

Beautification -

And now back to the excess concrete – It was too expensive to dispose of it at the transfer station. So the volunteer group doing the work decided to build a berm on the east side of the parking lot to facilitate Terrace Beautification's plan to lovelify our yard. The berm will be covered with top soil and then planted. We've yet to meet with them re: details, but there will be another work bee call-out when we have it organized.

Driving the Doctor

Thanks to Karla Hennig for including TLT members in her creative process as she writes a new play set in Penticton in the midst of the 1919 Spanish flu pandemic. Readers joined her on two separate evenings in March to read and discuss her play. Thanks Karla for allowing us the opportunity to watch this piece grow.

The Actors Workroom

– Terrace Little Theatre recently hosted an acting workshop every Saturday morning from April 24th – May 15th. *The Actors' Workroom: Scene and Monologue Study* was facilitated by Britt MacLeod, a Vancouver-based artist originally from Terrace.



Britt, who is also an arts educator, shared her love of theatre and some of its processes through a four-week opportunity to work together with actors, novice and experienced. Experimenting in a digital space, with participants sharing experiences and techniques, Britt described the workshop as a laboratory and a flavour shot where everyone got to test things out and brainstorm methods of performing and analyzing plays, monologues and scenes.

The goal of Actors' Workroom was two-fold – one, to complete the workshop having connected with each other and the work being performed and two, to have experimented with techniques that may be new for participants and to take healthy risks.

She says she felt inspired with the opportunity to gather Terrace Little Theatre members in an interactive learning and sharing environment. She also enjoyed refining her own theatre skills and expanding her pedagogical techniques.

Britt chose monologues from plays that she likes, either ones she had read or seen performed, and she worked with the participants to help them dig deeper in analysis. Each person was given the script of a contemporary play. The range of monologues encompassed different forms, comedic, dramatic, absurd, or a combination – and were selected with an aim to give the actors a good workout. Britt shared the theories and methods of well-known theatre theorists and practitioners including Uta Hagen, David Ball, Eleanor Fuchs, and Stanislavski.

Self-critique and comments from the group after each presentation were part of the process. Each actor was asked to share one love and one question about the others' performances. Britt then followed up with questions and feedback for each actor, looking to punctuation to inform breath and pacing, physical choices to enliven the characters, focus and work on scene partners, destinations, and importantly, characters' objectives.

The first session had the participants read their monologues; in the second, they took on the persona of the character and acted their parts; in the third they did group exercises, working on listening and making choices for their characters and then in the fourth session, they went deeper with their monologues.

Britt MacLeod is currently collaborating with playwright Sally Stubbs on a new original musical with the working title, *Polly and the Penthouse*.