



BOX 94

NEWSLETTER OF SAULT THEATRE WORKSHOP

Sault Theatre Workshop

Community Theatre Since 1948
PO Box 94 Sault Ste Marie On P6A 5L2

Our Young Company is
Stage1



Studio Theatre 121 Pittsburgh Ave. Sault Ste Marie On P6C 5A9

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THEATRE ONTARIO



Volume 71
Issue # 4
Feb/March

The Marquee

ANGEL'S RIVER
Preview for Kidney
Foundation, SSM.



Angel's River

Andrea's Play Became A "Must Do" For Workshop Director

Andrea Boyd is a director, theatre educator and playwright, a member of the Playwrights Guild of Canada. In addition to **Angel's River** she has penned a number of scripts including a musical and her play, **For The Love of Gracie Gray** was winner of the 2013 Write-On-Q Quebec Playwriting Competition.



Andrea is the Artistic Director of Festival Antigonish Summer Theatre and Theatre Antigonish. She holds an MFA in Directing from the University of Alberta, where she also taught in the drama department. Andrea is delighted to be living and working in the lovely town of Antigonish.

On her web page Andrea talked about bringing the play to life again.

"**Angel's River** is inspired by a true story, and I'd like to thank my Aunt Jeanne for providing so many crucial details about life in Waasis in the late 60's".

Andrea went on to describe her feelings about getting to direct the second production of the play.

"**Angel's River** premiered at Live Bait Theatre in 2010, and it has been a pleasure to revisit it, and to have the chance to do some rewrites. Getting a second production in Canadian theatre is a rare gift, and when you spend years working on a script, it's very rewarding to see it appear again.

Director of the Workshop's production, **Randi Houston Jones** had pulled a number of scripts from the pile from Playwrights Guild and read through them but "I kept coming back to **Angel's River**. It was a story that just pulled me in". She realized it was one that she had to do.

Set in rural New Brunswick in 1969, the play is inspired by a true story. **Angel's River** tells the story of a teenager's difficult decision.

The unique structure of the play moves fluidly through time and place, from the August

The Sault Theatre Workshop
proudly presents

Angel's River

By Andrea Boyd

Directed by Randi Houston-Jones

February 26, 28 & 29
8:00 pm

February 27 - 7:30 pm
(adjudicated)

March 01 - 2:00 pm

Sault Theatre Workshop
121 Pittsburgh Ave.

Tickets Available at
Station Mall Box Office

Quonta
Drama
Festival
Entry

heat in a hospital room to the winter banks of a river where a love story is revealed.

The story is a search for answers about identity, heritage and love, and the personal mythology that helps us understand who we are and where we come from.

With a cast of four Randi found a good mix of experience and fresh faces. Playing 17-year-old Carrie Lynn, the central character is **Calista Jones**. Calista's dynamic performance in **Lucy** earned her an acting award in the QUONTA Festival back in 2017 and a trip to the Theatre Ontario Festival in



Ottawa.



Carrie Lynn's mother is portrayed by another Workshop familiar face, **Wendyllyn Levoskin**. Wendyllyn treated us to great performances in Hilda's Yard and last season's Alice in Cuckoo Land. These two experienced actors have worked together before and know how to build a team.

Newcomers **Isaac Withers** as Carrie Lynn's boyfriend and **Jadyn Frech** as the mysterious 10 year old girl are fresh faces on our Studio stage. Both appeared in our opening show this season, **Matilda**. The cast work well together and



Stage Manager **Tashina Beith** is enjoying the rehearsals. Director **Randi** is coaching an apprentice director **Ivy Werth**.



The set design by the director involves the challenge of getting a river onto the stage. **Phil Jones** and **Dayne Houston** along with **Randi** will be making this happen. Lighting the set is in the hands of **Evan Levoskin**.

Michael Cuthbertson is designing a soundscape and the soundboard will be operated by **Ivy Werth**. **Hannah Ellis** is in charge of Costumes, Make-up and Hair. She will also be in charge of Props, assisted by **Kerrie dePoli**.

We've been asked to remind our Audience that the Thursday February 27th performance of Angel's River will have a 7:30 curtain. This is to accommodate the QUONTA Festival adjudication. All other evening performances have the usual 8:00 PM curtain and there is a 2 PM matinee on Sunday, March 1st.

Travelling QUONTA Festival Dates Draw Near



Festival 2020 is a travelling festival and **Annette Procnier** is our adjudicator who will visit each of the northern communities entered and adjudicate their production as presented in their home theatre venue. An Awards Brunch will be held in Espanola (the most central location) in March and winners announced then.

The first adjudication will be in North Bay on Wednesday February 26th with Gateway Theatre Guild's **The Comedy of Errors** by **William Shakespeare**. Then the adjudicator heads to Sault Ste Marie, February 27th, for STW's **Angel's River** by **Andrea Boyd**. Next stop Friday, February 28th will be in Gore Bay for Gore Bay Theatre's production, **Molly Sweeney**, by **Brian Friel**. The adjudications wrap up in Espanola on the "Leap Day" Saturday February 29th. The Espanola Little Theatre entry is **Hedwig and the Angry Inch** - music and lyrics

by **Stephen Trask**, book by **John Cameron**.

One Week later, on Sunday March 8th, 2020, the Awards brunch will be held in Espanola, location to be announced.

Harry's Error And Show Cancellation

It's a rare goof, but a serious one. We rushed our planning and omitted a crucial step when lining up season 71. Harry lines up the directors and plays for our season and prepares a brochure so that we can sell season tickets. It's always a rush and last minute planning so that we can get the brochure in the hands of our patrons. The early ticket sales provide the finances needed to pay the royalties and start the budgets for the productions. It's Harry's job to make sure the rights to produce the play are available. That's where things went wrong.



Director **Michael Hennessy** loved the play Harry chose, **Jonas and Barry in the Home** by **Norm Foster**. Harry had a perusal e version of the play on his computer that had been there for a couple of years. Harry thought that it would be available for community theatre production.

When it was decided to do the play, Harry ordered Scripts. Unfortunately, the scripts do not come from the same place as the rights for performance. And the ordering of the rights was overlooked!



It wasn't until the play was cast, posters made and the cast had their first read through when Harry suddenly realized that the rights had not been ordered.

An order was immediately placed and that's when we got the bad news. In a polite letter from **Norm Foster's** agent we were advised that the rights for the play was still being held back from community theatre as it was still getting a lot of interest from professional theatres. They told us that we would be put on a list of community groups and advised when it was available.

Harry was left with the difficult task of breaking the news to Michael.

Sincere apologies to all the cast, crew, the Workshop, and those who purchased season tickets for this play.

What now? Harry has been scrambling, reading scripts like mad and trying his best to find a replacement play. Of course a refund will be made for those who wish it, or perhaps a voucher, good for any future production. A replacement play will be found but the production dates may have to be altered. We'll do our best to update you on the progress.

As for Norm's play, **Jonas and Barry in the**

Home, you can bet it will be on our playbill just as soon as the rights are available. It is a fantastic play and definitely worth the wait.

Theatre Ontario Festival Sault Ste Marie May 13 to 17!

Hosted by Sault Theatre Workshop

Four drama regions across Ontario will take part in the annual festival.

Be sure to set aside dates for the May long week-end, 2020. STW will be hosting the four play festival at Korah Collegiate Theatre. In addition to the top plays from around the province, there will be top notch adjudications, exciting workshops fabulous Greenrooms and plenty of Northern Hospitality. From the opening reception to the closing Awards Brunch you will have the rare opportunity to celebrate the best of community theatre. The dates are May 13 to 17, 2020.

Congratulations to those who took advantage of the early bird Package. The package including tickets to all 4 productions and a ticket to the Awards brunch is now at regular price at \$135.00.

This is an excellent opportunity to see the best Ontario has to offer and learn from a Professional adjudicator. As none of the Winners from the respective regions of Ontario have been chosen yet, you will be in the dark about what shows you will see, but you know that all four productions are the best of their regions.

For tickets contact

Sandra Houston 705 946 4081.

STW/Pull-Chain Theatre Bursary

When Pull-Chain Theatre was dissolved, the remaining funds in the bank account were dispersed to Sault Theatre Workshop to benefit community theatre. It was the decision of the Sault Theatre Workshop Board of Directors to create a bursary to honour the spirit of that theatre company to provide teaching and training for the members of our community.

The purpose of the bursary is to honour Pull-Chain Theatre's promotion of Community Theatre and the striving for theatre excellence, by helping students, young and old, participate in theatrical education.

Awarded annually to one qualified applicant, an amount of up to \$1000.00. Applications for the bursary must be submitted by May 1st of each year and the bursary will be awarded in June.

For more information call President Randi Houston Jones @ 705 943-6335

Applications can be submitted "**attention Bursary Committee**" in one of 3 ways:

Website <https://saulttheatre.com>

Email rmraud@hotmail.ca

Mail

P.O. Box 94 Sault Ste. Marie, ON, CAN P6A 5L2

ONGOING CALL FOR DIRECTORS



We are looking to line up Sault Theatre Workshop's 72nd and 73rd seasons (2020/2021 and 2021/2022) and we invite all those interested in directing to submit a proposal. It is our plan to continue a four play season and host a One Act Festival in June.

Show dates are not yet firm but the time slots are generally: play one in October, play two late November or early December, play three (QUONTA entry) late February or early March and our play four would be early May.

If you have an interest in directing but aren't sure about a play, we have many suggestions and a basement loaded with scripts and catalogues. An ideal situation would be approaching us with a short list of plays you would like to direct and allow us to choose.

If you have not directed before but have a desire to try it, perhaps our One Act Festival might be your answer. We also apprentice beginner directors with experienced ones.

Please contact Harry and let him know your interest. If you have a play you would like to see done, let us know as well. We do have some directors looking for script ideas.

Email Harry @ hehouston@shaw.ca



Get Modern!

All you have to do is send an email to hehouston@shaw.ca with **Box 94** as the subject and give us your name and address so we can remove you from our snail mail list.

Then you'll get your newsletter faster and in colour!

Sault Theatre Workshop can make you up a gift card for admission (reserve seating) for one or two people and for one, two or more productions in our current or upcoming seasons.

The recipient only has to call and let us know which production and what date or dates.

Fantastic gift for many occasions!



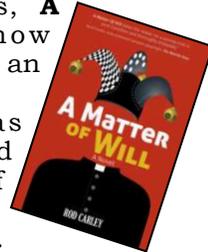
Member News

Update on **Mary Capstick**
Jane Capstick had informed us on her mother's stroke. To bring you up to date on Mary's progress, Jane writes "After 3 months in the hospital we were given a pass for Mary Capstick to visit my home for the day. Winter (the poodle) was especially glad. Nineteen days until discharge.

You can send a card or message to Mary through Jane



Rod Carley from North Bay who has adjudicated for the Workshop's Director's Workshop has posted about his new book: "**Friends, A Matter of Will**", is now available to purchase as an audio book at audible.ca."



The book is described as "Funny, surprising, outrageous, and moving, *A Matter of Will* is the tale of a middle-age maybe minister and his journey to find a mighty purpose.

The book has a quote on the cover from **Norm Foster** - "A Matter of Will takes the reader on a journey that is pure Canadian and thoroughly enjoyable"

ARCHIVES: Photo of the Month

2006 No Opera at the Opry House Tonight- 14 yrs ago - How many can you name?



Hall for Rent

Our Theatre Is Available for Rent!

Did you know that you can rent our Theatre for your Special Celebrations, Bridal Showers, Stag and Doe, Wedding Reception, Baby Showers, Potluck Dinners, Family get togethers, Meetings, Concerts, Dance Class or for any other reason you may need a larger space!

With table set-up you can have up to 90 people, Should you only require chairs, you can fit as many as 130 people!

There is a refreshment bar with a full size fridge in the main hall and a kitchen in the basement with a stove, fridge and microwave.

Stage lighting and sound system with operator can be arranged Ask for details. We operate lights and sound in a booth upstairs overlooking the stage with a Strand board (24 channels) and sound equipment with a mixing board and a couple of good speakers set under the stage.

Our Rental rate is subject to use and user, so please contact our Theatre Manager Gerry Boire for a Quote!

Email: gerryboire@gmail.com or Call him at 705-255-2196



Mother's Day Tea

Call For Volunteers!

Sault Theatre Workshop is looking for volunteers to help at our Mother's Day Tea.

We are looking for baking donations, as well as anyone that is willing to come and help serve tea, coffee and light refreshments, help with decorating and clean up.

The event will run on May 10th at the theatre. 121 Pittsburgh ave from 11am til 2pm, however we will ask our volunteers to come from 9am til 4pm! High school students would be appreciated and we will provide a letter towards high school volunteer hours!

Please contact Leah Frost via email at diamynrpn@gmail.com or give her a call at 705-255-6884.

REMINDERS

Angel's River

Preview for Kidney Foundation

February 25, 8 PM curtain

Opening - February 26, 8 PM curtain

Adjudication night - Feb. 27, * 7:30 PM curtain

Feb 28 and 29 8 PM curtain

Matinee Sunday March 1st 2 PM curtain

Book Your Theatre Ontario Festival Tickets

BOX 94 Volume 71

(Our 71st season)

Editor Harry Houston

Contact (705) 946-4081

E-mail hehouston@shaw.ca

Next Issue April/May 2020 - See you at the Theatre!

Visit our web site

www.saulttheatre.com

Or Visit us on FACEBOOK

To ensure continued Newsletters be sure to keep your membership up to date. Contact Membership Chair

Wendylynn Levoskin (705) 450-6430

