



Newsletter

Spring/Fall 2018

This year's summer camp was a great success!

The President's Message

After a very busy summer it is time to reflect on those lazy hazy days for a brief moment to recognize two NFLT members who organized a Theatre Day Camp at Tichborne Rehearsal Hall in August. Tim White, choreographer, along with Barb Scantlebury, co-facilitator, created an exciting program for the nine participants.

August 7 was the beginning of intensive rehearsals with choreography plus acting skills which culminated in a performance at Sharbot Lake Beach as part of the entertainment for the Community BBQ on August 16th.

The newcomers to the stage chose a scene from "The Little Mermaid" to perform while the rest decided to reprise a scene from "Aladdin." The finale of the show was a choreographed dance number of a mash up of songs from "The Greatest Showman." Included in this experience was an opportunity for the kids to help with painting the set at the Dress Rehearsal down at the beach. From what I observed it was a wonderful experience and definitely something we should plan to repeat in future.

NFLT Executive

- President: Pamela Giroux
- Past President: Brian Robertson
- Treasurer: Jan Levitt
- Secretary: Kathy Lowery King
- Members at Large: Angela Cowdy, Jeff Siamon, Art Holloway.

May 2018 AGM	2
GREC Meeting	2
Fall Production.....	3
Message from the Past President...	3
Notes from Brian.....	3
Spring 2019 Production	4
Principle Cast.....	4

CONTENTS

The Little Mermaid



2

May 2018 AGM

At the AGM in May outgoing President, Brian Robertson, summarized in glowing terms our accomplishments over this past year which culminated in our Canada 150 performance of “Sunshine Sketches of our Little Towns”. This show was a huge hit with our hometown fans and reflected Brian’s vision of inclusiveness with all members in our diverse communities. “The Little Mermaid” performed this Spring was another crowd pleaser and involved numerous

children along with a hard working dedicated Production Crew. At the end of this delightful gathering an Election was called and our new Executive was elected.

It was my pleasure as the new President to present the NFLT Drama award to Emma Douglas at the GREC Commencement on June 28th.



GREC Meeting

On Tuesday Sept. 25th Jeff Siamon and Marcel and I met with James Macdonald, Principal at GREC to discuss our lighting problems. Recently we have had to deal with new protocols set out by the Board regarding accessibility to adjust the lights for our shows. We feel confident that James understands our problem and will work on our behalf to resolve this situation with the Board.

Fall Production

Rehearsals for "A Red Plaid Shirt" are well underway. We welcome Kelly Meckling, who has the role of Gladys. She is newly arrived from Guelph, Ontario, where she was involved in Little Theatre there, in various capacities and in some of the neighbouring towns.

We are happy to have Sharon Rodden return to our stage after, ahem, some years. She is taking on the role of Debbie, opposite Greg Morris, as Marty. These two will keep the audience in stitches, and then we have John Stephen, who plays Fred, who will have you in tears from laughing so hard.

We are still putting together a Production crew but we have a few people in mind to call yet. I am directing, Margo is Stage Manager, Jeff is Lighting and Sound, and Kelly's partner, Dave is helping construct props. We will get there!

Spring/Fall

Message from Brian Robertson Past President

"Live theatre can be the heart and soul of a community, and we are blessed in Sharbot Lake that this tradition lives on."

Roseanna Redmond

As I complete my second term of presidency for NFLT, Roseanna's words ring as true as ever. For throughout my tenure, I have had the pleasure of witnessing our amazing community in action; our dynamic heart and soul, rallying time and time again to work together toward a common cause -live community theatre!

Shall we toast our successes? Opportunities for children; opportunities for seniors; opportunities for the in-between; honouring the principles of inclusion and accessibility; the formal recognition of talent, the formal recognition of life-long participation and dedication and community effort; partnerships with the community; proudly celebrating Canada 150; both showcasing and nurturing our amazing local talent; producing quality community theatre time and time again.

It has been an honour and a privilege to be at the helm of NFLT for the past two terms. I would like to take the opportunity to heartily thank the amazing Nina Jenkins and Sally Angle, along with all the members of the executive that I have had the pleasure of working with. And I would also like to thank several key individuals: my loving and supportive wife, Sandy Robertson; Jeff Siamon, lights engineer, creator of posters, photographer; Donna Larocque, actress and visual artist extraordinaire; Pam Giroux, a veritable NFLT matriarch; Andrea Duggan, wonderful mainstay with the kids; Tim White, choreographer and consultant; Margo McCullough and Kathy King, stage managers. And last, I cannot forget the awesome casts of actors, the production crews and of course our wonderful audiences. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you!

As North Frontenac Little Theatre enters its fortieth anniversary year, I, for one, am excited and confident about our state of affairs. Yes, we have challenges. But, hey, remember back to 2015. If John Pariselli could pull off "The Music Man" despite all the odds, and if Carol Belanger could pull off "The Miracle Worker" despite all the odds, what do we have to worry about? The sky's the limit! Long live NFLT!

Notes from Brian



We hope to receive a grant from "Retired Teachers of Ontario Service to Other" which was applied for last month. Proceeds would go to a new sound system part of our "GREC Stage Improvement Plan" in conjunction with the school.

Calling all Ghouls and Spooks! The Central Frontenac Rec Committee is looking for anyone interested in donning a scary outfit to facilitate their Hallowe'en Haunted House Walk this Hallow's Eve. Please contact us at nflt1980@gmail.com if you are interested.

Spring/Fall 2018

Playbill



4

The Wonder Boy is a sort of take off and homage to the Hollywood musicals of the thirties and forties. They were usually about the struggles of a Broadway theatre company trying to put on a musical. Often they featured an ingénue actress, unknown to the Broadway public who, for one reason or another, is thrust into the leading role. Naturally, the show is a hit and the actress the toast of the town. My take on these plots is a little more dramatic. The play isn't a smashing success, but the story does have a happy ending.

The ingénue is Monica Jones, an aspiring actress who has had no luck landing roles. The director is Guy Martin who, with his father Terrence, had co-written a musical adaptation of War and Peace. Guy not only co-wrote it, he directed and starred in it. Thus he was dubbed by the reviewers as "The Boy Wonder." But a number of years later with several of his own plays closing after only a few nights, he has become "Whatever Happened to the Boy Wonder?"

NFLT Spring Production 2019

"The Boy Wonder" by Jeff Siamon

Now he may be down to his last chance. His former girl friend, Deloris, the "Latin Sensation," had agreed to come back and star in the show. But she's having second thoughts. She and Guy have spent more time arguing about her part and the play than rehearsing. Naturally she quits one week before opening night. And naturally, Monica ends up in the starring role.

But everything doesn't run smoothly for the company. He's broke. Since no legit Broadway theatre had been willing to let Guy use their space without advanced payment, the only theatre he could get was a burlesque house in Queens. In lieu of payment, the owner of the theatre has insisted he use his exotic dancers in his show as well as his young son who has aspirations of becoming an actor. To add to Guy's worries, his father shows up, mainly to impress upon his son what a successful playwright he is and what an unsuccessful playwright his son has become. There is also a play within the play (the musical they are putting on) that is really an excuse for more musical numbers. A plot device that the Hollywood musicals often used.

And naturally, as in all these musicals, Monica falls in love with Guy, who like a typical man, doesn't recognize it until it is almost too late. For him and his play.

Principle Cast

MONICA JONES: In her twenties or thirties. A would be actress and singer. She's been trying for years to get a part on the Broadway stage.

GUY MARTIN: In his twenties or thirties. He began his life in the theatre as an actor, director and playwright when he had just turned nineteen. His tragic musical drama, "A Woeful Love," is his last hope for a hit. If it's successful, he'll be able to move it to a Broadway theatre.

VICTOR SANDS: Fifties or sixties. Once a Broadway matinee idol before the turn of the century. He got the part in Guy's play because no one else wanted it.

DELORIS: (aka Susie Donahue) She was a teenage chorus girl when she was discovered in the Broadway adaptation of "War and Peace." Once Guy's girlfriend, he's convinced her to be in his new play, but she hates the script.

MITZI: A chorus girl who has been in one too many choruses. She's Guy's choreographer for his play and is not so secretly in love with him.

TERENCE MARTIN: Guy's father. A classical actor turned playwright after World War I. "War and Peace" was actually Guy's attempt at a play, probably in imitation of his father who specialized in adaptations. His father co-wrote it to save his son from writing a lousy script.

WEBSITE: www.nflt.co

Email: nflt1980@gmail.com