

2019-2020 Season Annual Report



# REPORT FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Artistically, the Belfry Theatre's 2019-2020 Season was an exceptional one. We programmed five outstanding plays—each of which grappled with difficult questions. Programming for our 2020 SPARK Festival included four major presentations—from Newfoundland, the Yukon, Vancouver and Syracuse, NY—three mini plays that converged musically, created by Krystal Cook, K.P Dennis and Tobin Stokes—an Indigenous artist, a Black poet, and a Caucasian composer, respectively. SPARK programming also included two readings of plays in progress and three readings of plays from diverse cultures, as part of Puente Theatre's WorldPlay series.

Our Mainstage season opened with Lucy Kirkwood's *The Children*, which deals with a disaster at a nuclear power plant and raises the question: what kind of planet will our children inherit? It was beautifully acted by Brenda Robins, Nancy Palk and Joseph Ziegler. Molly McDowell Powlowski was Assistant Director as part of our Emerging Artist Enhancement Program.

Canadian playwright Kat Sandler returned to our Mainstage with a comedy that deals unflinchingly with racial profiling by police and voice appropriation. *BANG BANG*, a coproduction with the Manitoba Theatre Centre, was directed by their new Artistic Director Kelly Thornton.

In the run-up to the holidays, we produced *Every Brilliant Thing*—which uses audience participation to remarkable and joyous effect. With a stunning solo performance by Dawn Petten, sensitive direction by Estelle Shook, a live DJ, and a reconfiguration of the Belfry's stage, our patrons were captivated. Lancelot Knight assisted Brian Linds on the sound design as part of our Indigenous Learning Exchange program.

In February 2020, we premiered Tara Beagan's *The Ministry of Grace*—a highlight of the season, embraced by the audience and, for many, their favourite Belfry production *ever*! With the exception of composer Allison Lynch, this was a totally Indigenous creative team—playwright, director, set, costume and lighting designers.

We launched the 2020 SPARK Festival on March 7<sup>th</sup>, with Puente Theatre's beautifully staged reading of the Romanian play *Insomniacs*, followed on subsequent days by an all-ages Dance Party, a reading of Jan Wood and James Fagan Tait's new play *Same Old Same Old*, the previews and openings of *Busted Up: A Yukon Story*, from Open Pit Theatre

in Whitehorse, and the BMO Studio Theatre presentation of *Destiny, USA*.

And then the reality of COVID-19 set in. On Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>, the day after the Mainstage and BMO openings, we cancelled the remainder of the festival—before the companies of *Between Breaths* and *Kismet, Things Have Changed* began their travels from St. John's and Vancouver, respectively. The 2020 SPARK Festival was over—with the exception of the presentation created by the high school students in our Belfry 101 program. Their collective creation was quickly recalibrated, and they created short and effective pieces reacting to COVID—possibly the first instance of online programming—which quickly became so prevalent.

We then cancelled the final Mainstage production—1979, Michael Healey's play about ethics in politics—putting ten artists out of work, including participants in our Indigenous Learning Exchange and Emerging Artist Enhancement Programs.

Despite the pandemic, we remained busy with our less public artistic and community responsibilities.

Our New Incubator Project—traditionally three creators and/ or theatre companies in a two-year development process with access to space and mentorship—received so many dynamic applications, that we accepted ten projects. In order to nurture all of these artists, we formed the Creators' Circle—a playwrights' unit—facilitated by Governor General's Award-winning playwright Kevin Kerr.

Our Artistic and Community Liaison, Taiwo Afolabi, began with us in August of 2019 and worked quickly, establishing new relationships within the community, and strengthening existing ones. Most of the organizations Taiwo targeted deal with IBPoC communities. Taiwo and I also began addressing all of our Belfry activities, to enable them help integrate the diverse and non-diverse segments of this population.

We formalized Tower Residencies—an offer of the Belfry tower as a space for writers—with priority given to IBPoC writers.

The IGNITE! Program was created in May as a means of putting money into the hands of artists during COVID-19. Three pairs of theatre-makers—previously unknown to each other—primarily from the IBPoC community-were provided with seed money and no instructions—other than to brainstorm ideas.

We have also been examining the Belfry's activities through the lens of Black Lives Matter. While we have focused energy over the past few years on creating space for Indigenous artists, with regard to the rest of the IBPoC community, our efforts to date have been somewhat token—with the exception of SPARK presentations such as Sound of the Beast and Good Morning, Viet Mom—and this season's production of BANG BANG.

Prior to the murder of George Floyd and the subsequent revitalization of Black Lives Matter—we organized a meeting of IBPoC artists and arts administrators within the CRD, scheduled for June 11. More on that in next year's Annual Report.

I have to restate my pride in the season we brought to the stage prior to the arrival of COVID-19. We engaged—and never talked down to—our audiences, offering them substantial plays dealing with contemporary issues. We are doing the work we should be doing—and we are recognized as a mature and important theatre company in this country.

Tara Beagan—playwright and director of *The Ministry of Grace*—recently tagged me in a Facebook post. "Lots of theatre companies have been posting about their good and improved intentions lately...(At) the Belfry Theatre... we were fully supported at every step, with resources and impassioned collaborators. The audiences came out because the Belfry has been building beautiful diversity into the programming for some time. It takes time and real commitment."

In closing, I would be remiss if I did not thank our Executive Director, Ivan Habel, for his exemplary care and support of the artists who lost work at the Belfry due to COVID-19 and the staff members for whom we are responsible. Ivan went above-and-beyond in this—eschewing the necessary and choosing to be guided by the ethical.

Michael Shamata

# REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

It is my great honour to provide the annual report of the President of the Belfry Theatre.

We began the 2019-20 season with great optimism. We were excited by the season chosen by our Artistic Director, Michael Shamata, and were looking forward to sharing it with our audience. However, the world changed.

As 2019 became 2020 it became clear that the world was going to face a catastrophic health and economic crisis – the scale of which we had not experienced in over a century. Soon after the conclusion of our powerful production, *The Ministry of Grace* by Tara Beagan and right in the middle of the SPARK Festival we made the difficult, but inevitable, decision to close the theatre. First it was the cancellation of the second week of the Festival and shortly thereafter, the remainder of the season.

In closing the theatre we recognized the significant financial impact this would have on the actors, designers, directors and companies contracted for the remainder of the season. This was our first priority and I am pleased to report that we met or exceeded all contractual obligations to the Belfry's contributing artists.

The arts are familiar with economic and financial challenges. Even at the best of times theatre is a difficult business. This pandemic, however, has produced a set of circumstances unlike any that we have confronted before. It has changed the very nature of our business. Theatre traditionally brings people together to be entertained, informed or to have their imagination or beliefs challenged. It is a powerful, collective experience. Currently, we are not able to do this and when we will be able to do so again is uncertain.

Despite the challenges there is much that we can celebrate.

The support of our patrons has been remarkable and has inspired both the Board and the staff. Literally thousands of subscribers chose to donate the value of their tickets for cancelled shows. Additionally, many businesses continued

their support despite getting no tangible benefit in return. This made a significant difference to the Belfry at a time when expenses had been incurred but revenue had disappeared. The generosity of our subscribers and our friends in business will not be forgotten.

The support of governments and foundations has also been exemplary. I would particularly like to acknowledge the federal government and the Vancouver Foundation. Both quickly recognized the fragility and importance of the cultural sector and provided much needed assistance. We are incredibly grateful.

The Belfry is fortunate to be led by our Artistic Director, Michael Shamata and our Executive Director, Ivan Habel. Between them they have kept the Belfry focused on the future and on developing innovative programming which will allow the theatre to continue serving our community. Michael and Ivan are supported by a remarkable staff. Individuals who have responded to uncertainty with unmatched professionalism.

I would also like to thank the Directors of the Society who continue to provide advice, support, direction and oversight as the theatre responds to the myriad of challenges presented by the pandemic.

The ongoing financial contribution of public funding agencies at the federal, provincial and local level must also be acknowledged. The Belfry could not exist without this support. Equally important is the contribution made by individuals and companies in support of the Belfry. These funds both support our operations and validate our role in the community.

The past year has been difficult and it is unclear when some sense of normalcy will return. The Belfry, however, will manage this crisis. In its almost fifty years, the Belfry has survived many challenges. It will survive this one and it will prosper.

J. Szownser

Thank you.

Richard Brownsey Board President

# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

The 2019 – 2020 Season was one for the record books - a year in which so many other records were being broken. As we all know, March brought with it a host of postponements, closures and terminations to seasons everywhere. The Belfry too was affected by the sudden and unwelcome arrival of a pandemic, but because of the support of our patrons, sponsors, public and private granting bodies, we had the resources and resolve to weather this storm. That extensive support also allowed us to proudly report that all contracted artists for the Belfry, whether contracts had commenced or not, received compensation for the abrupt change in their and our plans. Even with that, it would be remiss of me not to recognize the extreme stress and financial strain placed on all artists and especially those we consider part of the Belfry team.

Being an artist in this country is an insecure pursuit at the best of times. For actors, designers, and other performing artists the year was particularly perilous. Our thanks to all of our loyal contributors who make the making of theatre financially viable. Our special thanks for their continued support through what are the most difficult of times for all of us.

When a radical decision such as the cancelation of a show must occur - or in this case the remainder of a season – the work on the resulting fall-out begins. Part of that work was consideration of how to take care of the artists who were already at the Belfry, those who were yet to arrive, and those who had been anticipating future work. Concern too for our staff, our audiences and the businesses that would be affected by a cessation of activity, the most affected were the artists who survive from show to show. The loss of a show can mean so much more to someone whose entire career is a contract to contract existence. Because the Belfry is financially sound - not rich but stable - there was no question but to ensure that all artists of the 2019-20 season were compensated for the work they were committed to on our behalf. For this we are even more grateful to the contributions of donors, sponsors, grant providers and the generosity of all of our patrons.

The Belfry's ability to weather through difficult times is not only possible as a result of financial support, but through the dedication of an exceptional team of staff and volunteers.

My thanks to the Board for continued support, patience, and understanding: President Richard Brownsey, Vice President Dr. Sheila Elworthy, Secretary Ross Woodland, Treasurer Robert Thomson, CA, Gloria Back, Paulina Grainger, Dr. Joan McArthur-Blair, Kini McDonald, Joan Peggs, Andy Stephenson, and Alison Watt.

The abrupt end of a season and the subsequent planning and replanning that carried through the spring into summer was of course the news of the year, but other events also happened that are important to note.

As mentioned in Michael's report, the work we have undertaken in community building under the leadership of Taiwo Afolabi is making a profound difference in how the Belfry sees its role in this community and in pointing out the directions in which more work needs to be done. While Taiwo has moved on to his career in academia, that work will be carried on because of the path he helped lay for us.

The presence too of Kristy Charlie as our Indigenous Cultural Advisor has also set the company on a stronger path to reconciliation through action. Her guidance to all of us in further understanding the relationship of land and place to the Indigenous people helped ground us in a resolve toward reconciliation through action and not mere words.

It is not possible to know for sure what the future holds, but given the strength of our people, I am confident about a solid, creatively inspiring, and financially secure future for the Belfry.

The Belfry is the sum of many parts, Directors, Designers, Actors and an entire team who, while largely unseen and unknown by many of our patrons contribute enormously to the work that makes the theatre we produce so extraordinary. I want to finish this report by recognizing that incredible staff- a team who care for our patrons, honour our donors and sponsors, build our productions, care for our artists, communicate to our public, balance the books, clean our theatre and reach out to our community; each of them are the heroes of our sustainability, our reputation and our excellence.

Ivan Hahel





Community & Artistic Connections Manager

Development Coordinator Front of House Manager Education Coordinator B4Play Audio Technician Indigenous Cultural Advisor

**Box Office Clerk** 

Front of House Supervisor

Box Office Clerk

Marketing & Communications Director Director of Production & Operations

**Audience Services Manager** 

**Executive Director** 

Head Technician & Systems Administrator

Company Manager Front of House Supervisor

Scenic Artist
Graphic Designer
Head of Wardrobe
Box Office Clerk
B101 Co-Facilitator
Financial Officer
Box Office Clerk
Box Office Clerk
Head of Props
Master Carpenter

Associate Artist
Artistic Director

Scenic Painter & Custodian

Technical Director Venue Technician

Director of Development

Box Office Clerk Associate Artist Box Office Clerk Box Office Supervisor Box Office Clerk Photographers:

B4Play Host:

Taiwo Afolabi Kate Barry Jane Broomfield Jonathan Brower Ben Brysiuk Kristy Charlie Evan Coates Samantha Currie Helena Descoteau

Mark Dusseault Mike Ford Ian Gibson Ivan Habel Keith Houghton Valerie Houle

Nora Kidson
Carole Klemm
Jeff Kulak
Joanne LeSage
Rebecca Marchand
Dave Morris

Dave Morris
Patricia O'Brien
Morganne Orchard
Sarah Pitman
Peter Pokorny
Dale Pudwell
Anita Rochon
Michael Shamata
Lara Shepard
Gregory Smith
Lukas Smith
Susan Stevenson
Celine Stubel

Celine Stubel
Deborah Williams
Allison Yauk
Eryn Yaromy
Golnaz Zad

David Cooper, Emily Cooper, Don Craig, Derek Ford, Jo-Ann Richards, Peter Pokorny

**Gregor Craigie** 

The Belfry Theatre is a member of:

The Professional Association of

**Canadian Theatres** 

Theatre Communications Group, USA

**ProArt Victoria** 

The Victoria Chamber of Commerce

**Tourism Victoria** 

The Belfry Theatre engages professional artists who are members of Canadian Actors' Equity Association.



# REPORT FROM THE TREASURER OF THE BOARD

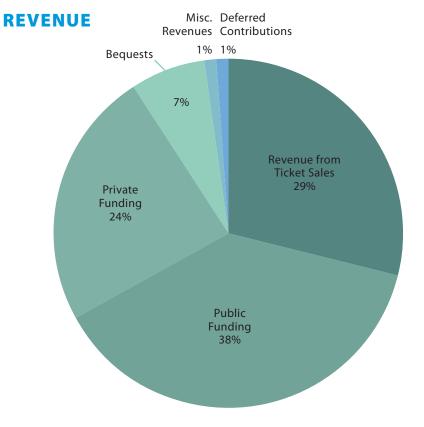
As you are probably well aware, the difficulties placed on all of us through the current pandemic have placed significant strains on our people and our operating results. We continue to plan for a return to performances but planning is made extremely complex when our crystal ball is significantly cloudy. Through this difficulty our management and staff have performed admirably, and I cannot thank them enough for their efforts.

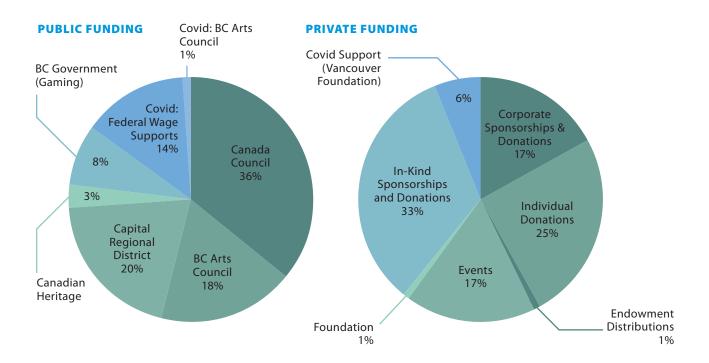
The curtailment of the balance of our 2020 season in March resulted in a significant shortfall in earned revenues which were \$511,000 lower than in 2019. Public and private funding, including pandemic relief funding, helped offset some of this decline with public funding up \$210,000 over the prior year and private funding increasing by \$88,000 to \$699,000. Total expenses were somewhat reduced with the shortened season, dropping by \$175,000 to \$2,776,000, resulting in an operating loss of just under \$59,000 for the year. We were the fortunate benefactors of an estate bequest of just over \$211,000 during the year which resulted in a surplus of approximately \$152,000 for the year.

Our balance sheet remains healthy even after the significant capital expenditures during the year, with working capital of \$407,000 at the end of the year, compared to \$162,000 in the prior year. Total fund balances improved to \$2,483,000 this year, compared to \$2,331,000 in 2019.

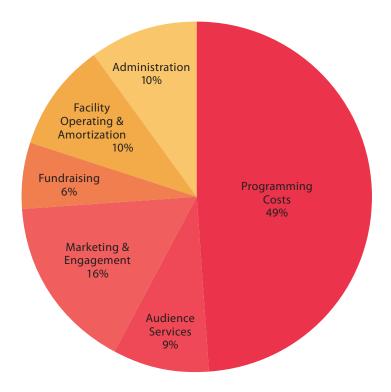
We continue to diligently monitor our cash flows and operating activities as we hope for a planned resumption of performances in early 2021.

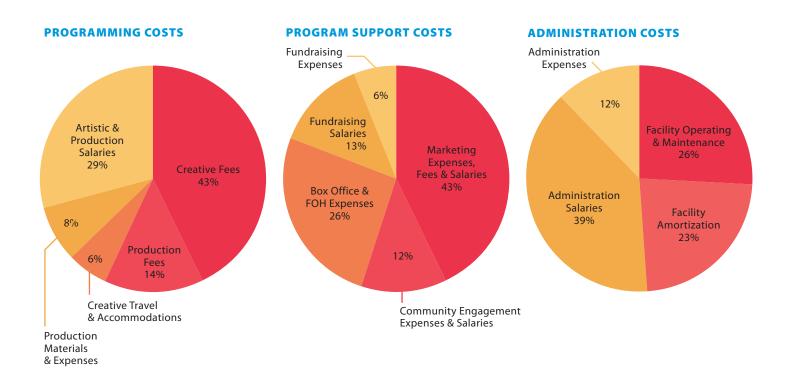
Robert Thomson, CPA, CA





#### **EXPENSES**





<sup>\*</sup> Full audited statements are available at belfry.bc.ca under About

# **Belfry**Theatre

#### **HISTORY**

The Belfry Theatre was founded in 1974 (as the Springridge Cultural Centre) as an alternative venue for touring productions, concerts and community arts events.

Renamed the Belfry Theatre, it began producing plays in 1976 with a focus on contemporary work, especially Canadian plays. The Belfry is one of the most respected professional theatre companies in Canada.

The company resides in a former Baptist church built in 1892. From the company's inception until 1991, the Belfry rented the main theatre space in the building and shared the complex with a homeless shelter. In 1991, then-owners, The Cool-Aid Society relocated and the Belfry began the first capital campaign to buy and restore the building. Initial interior and exterior renovations were completed in 2000 with the restoration of the exterior. Further renovations of the lobby area, theatre and studio seating were completed in 2016. The building is listed in the heritage registry and has won a number of awards for its restoration.

In 2009, Chair Emeritus Patrick (Paddy) Stewart made an extraordinary contribution of \$250,000 to the Belfry, which was matched with funds from Arts Sustainability Victoria, enabling the Belfry to pay off its building mortgage.

# MANDATE VISION AND MISSION

The Belfry has played an important role in the cultural community of the Greater Victoria region for 44 years. The Belfry's Mandate is:

- To promote the theatrical arts through the year-round professional production of plays from the contemporary repertoire with an emphasis on Canadian plays.
- To develop new Canadian plays and encourage a high standard of writing for the stage through an active and ongoing play development program.
- To serve both our community and Vancouver Island as a theatrical resource centre, providing both rental space and professional workshops to a wide range of community groups.
- To provide Greater Victoria with professionally staffed and managed rental venues, available to both touring and community-based organizations.

Our vision is to achieve excellence in the production and presentation of innovative contemporary theatre in our heritage home.

Our mission is to enrich our community by inspiring and entertaining audiences with theatre that is nationally recognized for excellence, while maintaining our commitment to artistic development, professional integrity and financial sustainability.

In addition to the plays presented on stage, we offer a number of ancillary activities designed to enrich the theatregoing experience for young people and the general public, provide professional development opportunities for local artists, and attract as wide a community as possible to the theatre.

#### **TODAY**

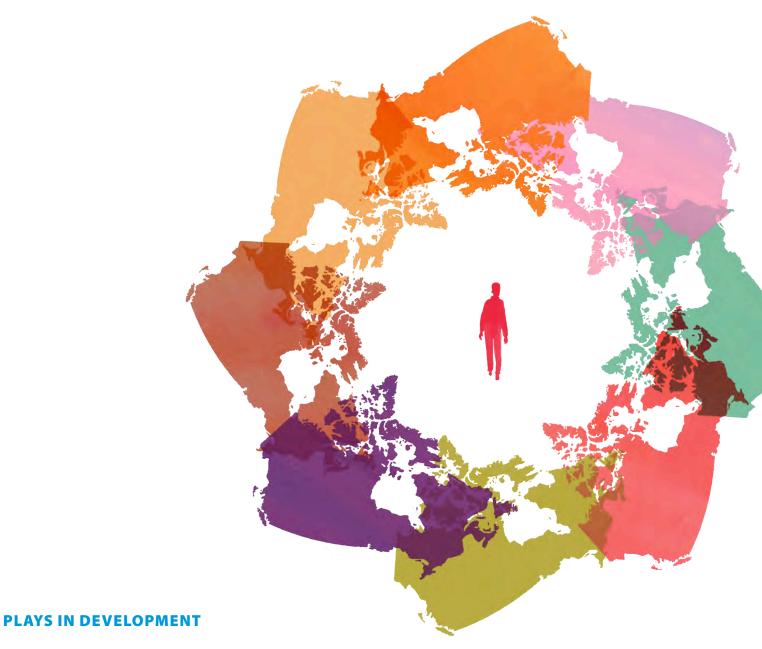
The Belfry produces and presents ten or more plays per year: one or two summer productions, a four-play Mainstage series, and the SPARK Festival, our mid-winter festival of innovative and alternative work from across Canada.

The original five-person staff from 1976 has grown to more than 40 including seasonal employees, contract workers – actors, directors, designers – and hourly work to dozens more technical staff. The annual budget has grown to more than 2.8 million dollars.

The Belfry has more than 250 dedicated individuals who volunteer as ushers, ticket- takers and bar staff during performances. Many of these volunteers have been with the theatre for years, including a few who have been volunteering since the theatre's inception. The Belfry Theatre, like all charitable, not-for-profit organizations, is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors.

The 2019-2020 season was truncated as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. Despite the difficulties of this closure, the company managed to keep paying artists and keep most of our staff employed as we turned our attentions to finding new ways to connect with our audiences while planning for the day when we can once again gather in the shared experience of performance.

Charitable Registration 119215549



THE MASTER LIST by Rachel Aberle

**BEING HERE:** created by Joel Bernbaum from

THE REFUGEE PROJECT interviews conducted by Joel Bernbaum

IN A NUTSHELL by David Ferguson

KINDRED by Rosa Dolore

LONG LANCE by Falen Johnson

THE SOLDIER'S WIFE by Sean Harris Oliver

**SAME OLD SAME OLD** by Jan Wood & James Fagan Tait

## Bravo!

#### **2019-20 ANNUAL FUND**

The following individuals have invested generously in support of Belfry Theatre artistic and education programs



# DIRECTOR'S CIRCLE: GODSEND (\$10,000+)

John & Suzanne Stewart

Patrick Stewart

# DIRECTOR'S CIRCLE: PRODUCTION SUPPORTER (\$5,000-\$9,999)

Stephen & Michelle Brown

The Nikki & Bruce MacKenzie Family

Dr. Stephen Tax

Anonymous (2)

#### DIRECTOR'S CIRCLE: ARTIST SUPPORTER (\$2,500 - \$4,999)

Lee Adler

Ian & Gloria Back Fund †

Dr. Perry & Annamaria Bamji

Paul & Sheila Elworthy

Katherine Farris & Kit Pearson

Mohan & Kathy Jawl

Patti-Anne & Martin Kay

# DIRECTOR'S CIRCLE: MEMBER (\$1,200 - \$2,499)

Honorable & Mrs. David & Sandra Anderson

Susan & Gary Braley

Richard Brownsey & Glynis Leyshon

Donna Christie & Richard Shapka ◊ Stephen Cushing & Debbie Gill

Eric & Nora

Lorraine Fallis

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Barbara Greeniaus & Bill Israel

Ivan Habel

Philomena Hanson

Bruce & Barbara Housser

**Rob & Shirley Hunter** 

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Cindy Petrowski & Phil Marsh

Mary McAvoy ◊

Kini McDonald

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& Michael Gaudet

Ronald & Judith Parish

Joan Peggs

**Brad & Shelagh Rinald** 

Michael Shamata

Margaret L. Smith †

**Andy Stephenson** 

Patrick Stewart

Judy Stewart

Robert & Anna Thomson

Al & Judith Title

Lesley Watson

& Evert Lindquist

Jane & Ross Woodland

Michael & Vicki Ziegler

Anonymous (3)

#### **DISCIPLE (\$750 - \$1,199)**

Nancy Bell & Kevan King

Commodore & Janice Drent

Susan Findlay

John & Anne Keay

Ajay Parikh-Friese

Mary Ellen Purkis

Bob & Joan Snowden

Susan Stevenson

& Bruce McGuigan

David Zussman

& Sheridan Scott

#### **ADHERENT (\$500 - \$749)**

Tom & Nancy Bailey

Lorie Bradley & Russ Pym

Nancy Buan

Sherry & John Butler

Chris & Mary Chapman

Darlene E. Clover

Diana Dampsy

Oksana Dexter

Jane Francis & Dave Skilling

Denny Gelinas

Sara Harman

Ray Jones

Continued >

Andrew Karwowski & Sylvie Cote John Krich

Marty Laurence & Mort Nelson

Laurence & Anne Mackett Mia Maki & Brent Iverson

Jeff McEown & Helen Smith

Joan McNeely Sara Neely Carol Nelson

Ivo & Sara Olivotto

Gwen & Wayne Phillips

Carmen & Ed Pitcher

Ronald & Juliana Polstein

Pauline Price

Susan & Peter Salomonsson

Avril & Robert J. Tyrrell

Tom Ward & Marlie Manning

B. Anne Wood

Pat Young

Anonymous (1)

#### CHAMPION (\$300 - \$499)

Arlette Baker

Sherri Bird & Bill Bird

Christine & Michael

Bloomfield

Al Bone & Ginny Crawford

Jane Clinckett

Ross Crockford

& Jennifer Wise

Gail Duguid

Lawrence Eastick

George Galt

Peter Gibson

Chris & Catriona Harker

Rosemarie & Mike Hayes

Peter Kruselnicki

Jeanne Lamon & Christina Mahler

Oliver & Helen Lantz

Frank McGilly

Elinor Mix

Jon & Gail Muzio

Julia Retallack

Jaci Ross

Estelle Shook

Sandra T. Stott

Kenneth Thornicroft

Judy Treloar

Sharon Walls

& Warren Magnusson

Alison Watt Barbara L. Wilson

Anonymous (2)

#### **ADVOCATE (\$150 - \$299)**

Marianne Alto

Sandra Anderson

Harry & Beryl Borris

Frances Bryan

Monty & Nancy Bryant

Jane Butler McGregor

Elaine Calder

& William J. Bennett

Colin & Linda Campbell

Karen Carter

Ida Chong, FCPA, FCGA

Chris & Susan Considine

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George & Diane Copley

Alex Currie

Trudy David

Susan & Graham Debling

Malcolm Foy

Adria Fraser

Leslie Glazier

Daphne Elizabeth Goode

Carol Goodger-Hill

Danelle Hames

& Matthew Law

Alan & Dianne Hanna

Piers Henwood

Anne Holtzman

& Gordon Philippe

Cara Joy Hughes

Sheila Hunter

Rex D. Johnson

Sydney Kalef

George Kyle

Sang-Kiet Ly

Joan MacLeod

Robert & Lynda Malpass

Ronald Manzer

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Pauline & David McDowell

Barbara McLauchlin

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Peter Seward

Linda Stead

Lorna Stirling & Edward Fong

Leonard & Valerie Stubel

Jeanette & Stephen Titus

David & Dorothy Torontow

Lindy Van Alstine

Donald & Adelina White

Glenn & Louise White

Carolyn Whitfield

Meredith Zwicker

Anonymous (15)

As of May 31, 2020

Our thanks to the 49 Believers (\$75 - \$149) and 62 Friends (up to \$74)

† Through the Victoria Foundation

♦ Contribution to the Belfry Futures Fund (Capital Improvement Fund)

# VI ARMSTRONG PLAY CREATION FUND

# The following donors have contributed towards new play development at the Belfry

David Alexander and Paul McKinnon

Barbara Armstrong

Violet Armstrong

Paul and Salome Crowley

Dan MacDougall and Karen McDiarmaid

Dave Secord and Amy Adams

Burke Taylor & Sue Harvey

Deanne Taylor & Michael Hollingsworth

Dr. Stephen Tax

Jan Wood & Brian Linds

Anonymous (1)

## Bravo!

The Belfry Theatre gratefully acknowledges the financial support of The Canada Council for the Arts, the Government of Canada, the Province of British Columbia through the British Columbia Arts Council and the Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch, the Capital Regional District Arts Development Office and the City of Victoria.













#### **SEASON SPONSORS**

Helijet

**Times Colonist** 

#### **SHOW SPONSORS**

**BMO Financial Group** 

**Broadmead & Oak Bay Hearing Clinics** 

Graham Isenegger & Neil Chappell

of CIBC Wood Gundy - Blue Heron Group

PARC Retirement Living

Peninsula Co-op

TD Bank Group

#### **AFTERPLAY**

**Accomplishment Coaching** 

#### **BELFRY 101**

The Joint Pizzeria & Deli

**London Drugs** 

#### **BELFRY 101 IN THE NATIONS**

FortisBC

#### BELFRY LEGACY SOCIETY

Horne Coupar LLP Lawyers & Notaries

#### **BMO STUDIO THEATRE**

**BMO Financial Group** 

#### **CRUSH 2019**

Presented by Odlum Brown Limited

Boulevard Magazine

Delta Ocean Pointe Resort

**EAT Magazine** 

Used.ca

**Vessel Liquor Store** 

#### EMERGING ARTIST

**ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM** 

**RBC Emerging Artists Project** 

#### **FACILITY AND OPERATIONS**

CD Specialty Cleaning & Restoration

Costa Verde Landscaping

Dowell's Moving & Storage

The Finishing Store

**Gabriel Ross Furniture** 

**KPMG** 

Monk Office

**Showcase Awards** 

#### **FLORAL**

Jennifer Roberts Florist

#### HOSPITALITY

Phillips Brewing and Malting Co.

Sea Cider

Truffles Catering

**Vessel Liquor Store** 

Continued >

#### **HOST HOTELS AND ACCOMMODATION**

Chateau Victoria Hotels & Suites

Villa Marco Polo Inn

# INDIGENOUS LEARNING EXCHANGE PROGRAM

Vel and Don Ferns Fund †

Anne McLaughlin Fund †

Patricia Margaret Shanahan Fund †

Victoria Foundation

Vital Victoria Fund †

#### **MEDIA SPONSORS**

98.5 Ocean

100.3 The Q

107.3 Virgin Radio

**Boulevard Magazine** 

CFAX 1070

**FOCUS Magazine** 

**Times Colonist** 

The Zone @ 91.3

Used.ca

#### **DONATIONS IN MEMORIAM SPONSOR**

McCall Gardens Funeral & Cremation Service

#### SPARK 2020 FESTIVAL

Government of Canada

Caffe Fantastico

CVTV

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#### **UPSTAGE MAGAZINE**

**Fastrac Printing** 

#### **VOCALEYE SPONSOR**

ArtSEE Eyewear

#### **FOUNDATIONS**

APM Fund for the Arts†

Belfry Theatre Society Endowment Fund †

Benevity Community Impact Fund

Irma J. Brydson Foundation

Cederberg Family Fund †

Charitable Gift Funds Canada Foundation †

Government of Canada

The Jawl Foundation

The Mclean Foundation

Elizabeth McPherson Fund for the Arts †

**Provincial Employees Community Services** 

Fund

Lee & Karl Soberlak Foundation

The Stewart Fund

through the Vancouver Foundation

Vancouver Foundation

Victoria Foundation



#### **GOLD BUSINESS CIRCLE MEMBERS**

**Andrew Sheret Limited** 

Simply Computing

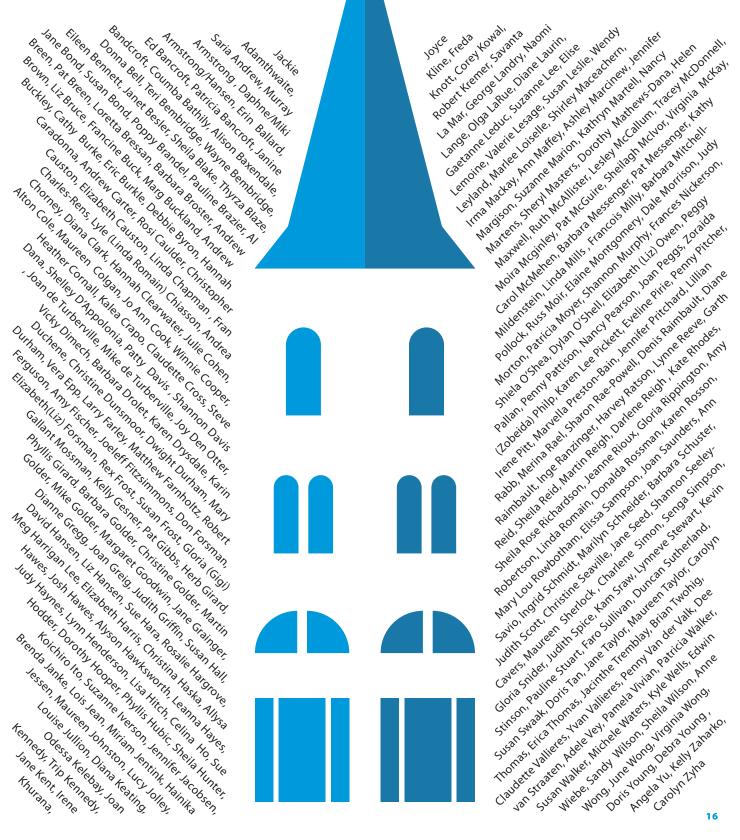
Moxie's Bar and Grill

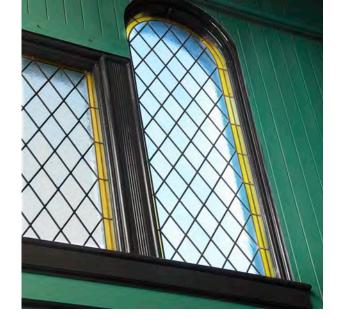
#### SILVER BUSINESS CIRCLE MEMBERS

Garside Signs & Displays

Victoria Arts Marketing

† through the Victoria Foundation





# DONATIONS IN SUPPORT OF OTHER NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS 2019–2020

During the 2019-20 season, the Belfry donated 170 tickets in support of 77 different groups, including:

100 Women Who Care

Arts Club Theatre

artsREACH

Astrolabe Musik Theatre

**Ballet Victoria** 

Boys & Girls Club of Greater Victoria

Broken Rhythms - LASHBASH

Cat's Cradle Animal Rescue

**CBC Food Bank Day** 

CCPA

Cedar Hill Ladies' Golf

Central Music Parents' Association

CFUV

Chemainus Theatre Festival

Citizens' Counselling Centre

**CNIB Eye Appeal** 

Cook St Village Activity Centre

**Cool Aid Society** 

Cowichan Valley Performing Arts

Foundation

Dance Victoria

Delta Victoria

Esquimalt Music Parents' Association

Family Services of Greater Victoria

Fernwood Community Association

Gateway Theatre

George Jay PAC

**Gonzales Cooperative Preschool** 

Gordon Head Refugee Sponsorship

**Constituency Group** 

Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce

Greater Victoria School District 61

HeadWay

In spire Health

Intrepid Theatre Company

Island Farms Employee Association

Island Montessori House School

JDRF Canada

Kalmo Refugee Support Group

Kidney Foundation of Canada

KidSport Greater Victoria

Lambrick Park Secondary

Make-A-Wish BC & Yukon - Vancouver Island

Maritime Museum of BC

**MAXIMUS** Canada

Ministry of Indigenous Relations and

Reconciliation

Music by the Sea

**Mustard Seed Street Church** 

Newcomers Club of Greater Victoria

Oak Bay Tea Party

Our Place

Pacific Peoples' Partnership

Parent Support Services of BC

Resistance Rising Choir

Restorative Justice Victoria

Rotary Club of Oak Bay

Sierra Systems

Signs of Hope in Africa

South Island Foster Parent Association

South Park Family School

Story Theatre

Theatre Inconnu

Theatre SKAM

TheatreOne

**Together Against Poverty** 

Urban Wildlife Stewardship Society

Victoria Academy of Ballet Scholarship

Society

Victoria Arts Council

Victoria Brain Injury Society

Victoria Hospice

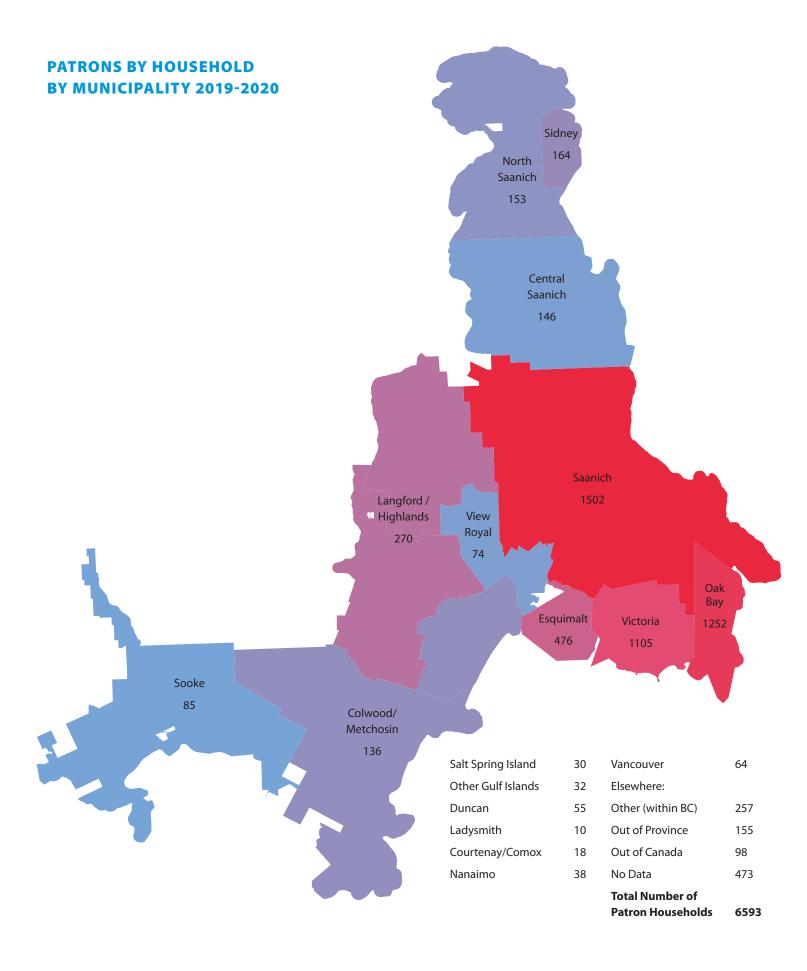
Victoria Hospitals Foundation

Victoria Humane Society

Victoria Minor Hockey Association

Victoria Symphony & Pacific Opera Victoria

Western Canada Theatre





#### **RENTAL EVENTS AND ATTENDANCE**

Event	Mainstage	BMO Studio	Studio B	Lobby	<b>Total Attendance</b>
Fernwood NRG	•	•	•	•	840
100+ Women Who Care Victoria (x3)	•			•	324
Black History Month Concert	•			•	256
University of Victoria IdeaFest	•			•	262
Here Magazine Gala	•	•	•	•	225
University of Victoria - Faculty of Humanities	•			•	222
Dan McDougal Art Exhibit				•	140
Hedwig & the Angry Inch	•			•	530

#### **2019-20 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

President Richard Brownsey
Vice President Dr. Sheila Elworthy
Secretary Ross Woodland
Treasurer Robert Thomson, CA
Directors Gloria Back

Gloria Back Paulina Grainger Dr. Joan McArthur-Blair Kini McDonald

Joan Peggs Andy Stephenson Alison Watt

Honorary Board of Directors Chair Emeritus

Patrick Stewart Sherri Bird Barbara Greeniaus

Robert Johnston Q.C.

John Keay Joan Snowden Dr. Brian Winsby Michael Ziegler





#### **BELFRY LEGACY SOCIETY MEMBERS**

Ian & Gloria Back

Lynne Bain

Dr. Perry & Annamaria Bamji

Richard Brownsey & Glynis Leyshon

Barbara Greeniaus & Bill Israel

Bruce & Barbara Housser

Judi James

John & Anne Keay

Robert & Ann Myers

Joan Peggs

Cindy Petrowski & Phil Marsh

Ross Richardson

Jane Francis & Dave Skilling

**Judy Stewart** 

Plus a further four anonymous members

We invite you to join the Belfry Legacy Society by making a planned gift or bequest. Gift planning is an inspired, meaningful and deeply personal way to secure the future of the Belfry Theatre. The support of visionary philanthropy ensures that the Belfry will continue to flourish as Greater Victoria's premier contemporary theatre company.

Consult your professional advisors about the many forms through which you can achieve tax advantages of charitable donations and bequests. Please inform us if you have included the Belfry in your estate plans, so we can acknowledge your support during and/or after your lifetime, according to your wishes, as well as to invite you to special events. Contact: Susan Stevenson, Director of Development, 250-385-6835 ext. 229 or development@belfry.bc.ca

#### **BELFRY LEGACY SOCIETY SPONSOR**

**LEGACY GIFTS** 

The Belfry acknowledges the generous recent and past gifts from the estates of:

**Violet Armstrong** 

Helena Balczewska

Roger J. Bishop

Shirley Mae Dawson

Marguerite Kathleen Friesen

David Neil Lee

Maria Luisa Macrae

M. Grace Mersereau

**Margaret Seens** 

Alan Geoffrey White

Anonymous

#### **DONATIONS IN MEMORIAM**

In Memory of my sister Beth, from Casey

In Memory of Eric Adler

In Memory of Violet Armstrong (2)

In Memory of Agnes and Arnold Davies

In Memory of brother Gerry Emery

In Memory of Michael Fallis (2)

In Memory of Jean Elizabeth Kõdar

In Memory of Nikki & Bruce MacKenzie from the family

In Memory of Ronald Adam Polstein

In Memory of Jacqueline Price

In Memory of Jack & Lisa Valikoski

#### **DONATIONS IN MEMORIAM SPONSOR**

McCall Gardens Funeral & Cremation Service



#### **PAID MEDIA**

	Circulation	Number of Ads	Impressions
Times Colonist	45,000	54	2,160,000
Times Colonist - Digital	80,000	5	400,000
Monday Magazine	18,000	10	180,000
Boulevard	15,000	3	45,000
Upstage	2,000	3	6,000
Focus	12,000	7	72,000
Victoria Arts Marketing	Varies	10	72,000

#### **ONLINE PLATFORMS**

	Туре	Followers	Engagements	Views	Notes
Facebook	Social Media	7,862	1,038,799	18,660	
Mailchimp	E-News	11,320	122,472		
Vimeo	Video Sharing			7,520	Video Views – That's 16 days, 18 hours, 50 minutes and 35 seconds of viewing time
YouTube	Video Sharing			28,657	Video Views – That's 28.5 days
Twitter	Social Media	8,597	245,616		
Instagram		1,761			
Flickr	Photo Sharing			36,478	Photo Views
SoundCloud	Podcast			723	Listens (up from 960 last year)
Website			71,094	530,007	Page Views - Up Next and Calendar are our most popular pages
Database					
New Audience N	lembers		2,554		New folks who bought tickets this past year



*SUMMER*July 30 – August 18, 2019

#### **BOOM X**

Written, directed and performed by Rick Miller

Produced by Kidoons and WYRD Productions, in association with Theatre Calgary and The 20K Collective

Executive Producer Jeff Lord

Lighting Designer and

Production Manager Bruno Matte

Video and Projection Co-Designer Nicolas Dostie

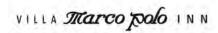
Video and Projection Co-Designer Irina Litvinenko

Virginie Leclerc Costume and Props Designer

Stage Manager and Dramaturg Craig Francis
Stage Manager (select performances) Laurel Oneil
Set and Sound Designer, Composer Rick Miller
Assistant Production Manager Aidan Ware
Graphic Design Logograph

Music Licensing Lucie Bourgouin (Permission)
Michael Perlmutter (Instinct)

PRODUCTION SPONSORS



**parc** retirement living

SEASON SPONSORS





Total attendance: 2986



MAINSTAGE #1 September 17 – October 13, 2019

#### **THE CHILDREN**

By Lucy Kirkwood

Starring Nancy Palk

Brenda Robins Joseph Ziegler

Director Michael Shamata

Set & Costume Designer Christina Poddubiuk

Lighting Designer Alan Brodie
Composer & Sound Designer Tobin Stokes
Stage Manager Jennifer Swan
Assistant Stage Manager Carissa Sams
Choreographer Jacques Lemay
Dialect Coach Adrienne Smook
Assistant Director Molly McDowell-Powlowski\*

\*Molly McDowell-Powlowski's participation made possible through the Belfry's Emerging Artist Enhancement Program, funded by the RBC Emerging Artists Project.

NANCY PALK AND JOSEPH ZIEGLER PHOTO BY DAVID COOPER

PRODUCTION SPONSOR





SEASON SPONSORS



TIMES COLONIST

Total Attendance: 6420



MAINSTAGE #2
October 29 – November 24, 2019

#### **BANG BANG**

by Kat Sandler

Starring

Sébastien Heins Tom Keenan Beverly Ndukwu Alex Poch-Goldin Warona Setshwaelo

Director
Set Designer
Costume Designer
Lighting Designer
Sound Designer
Fight Director
Firearms Consultant
Consulting Director
Apprentice Director
Stage Manager
Assistant Stage Manager

Warona Setshwaelo
Kelly Thornton
Adam Parboosingh
Joseph Abetria
Scott Henderson
Brian Linds
Jacquie Loewen
Dave Brown
Audrey Dwyer
Eric Rae
Jennifer Swan
Zahra Larche

ALEX POCH-GOLDIN, BEVERLY NDUKWU, SÉBASTIEN HEINS AND WARONA SETSHWAELO PHOTO BY DAVID COOPER

#### **PRODUCTION SPONSORS**







**SEASON SPONSORS** 



TIMES COLONIST

Total Attendance: 7127



*ноциа* December 3 – 22, 2019

#### **EVERY BRILLIANT THING**

by Duncan Macmillan with Jonny Donahoe

Starring Dawn Petten

Director Estelle Shook
Lighting Designer Kerem Çetinel
Sound Designer Brian Linds

Stage Manager Christopher Sibbald

Apprentice Stage Manager Becca Jorgensen

Assistant Sound Designer Lancelot Knight\*

\*Lancelot Knight's participation is made possible through the Belfry's Indigenous Learning Exchange Program.

Total Attendance: 3239

DAWN PETTEN
PHOTO BY DEREK FORD

#### **PRODUCTION SPONSORS**



BLUE HERON ADVISORY GROUP







**SEASON SPONSORS** 



TIMES COLONIST



MAINSTAGE #3 February 4 - March 1, 2020

#### THE MINISTRY OF GRACE

by Tara Beagan

PJ Prudat

Director Set & Lighting Designer

Starring

Costume Designer Composer & Sound Designer Fight Director

Stage Manager Assistant Stage Manager

Dialect Coach

Total Attendance: 7019

Sheldon Elter Stafford Perry

Lara Schmitz

Tara Beagan

Andy Moro Jeff Chief Allison Lynch Morgan Yamada Meghan Speakman Becca Jorgensen Adrienne Smook

SHELDON ELTER AND PJ PRUDAT PHOTO BY ANGELA FUNK

#### **PRODUCTION SPONSORS**









**SEASON SPONSORS** 



TIMES COLONIST



OPEN PIT THEATRE (WHITEHORSE, YT)

#### **BUSTED UP: A YUKON STORY**

Created by Geneviève Doyon & Jessica Hickman

Starring Joel D. Montgrand

Caleb Gordon Kaitlyn Yott Lisa Goebel

Christine Quintana

Brenda Barnes Geneviève Doyon

Jessica Hickman

**Brooke Maxwell** 

**Brad Trenaman** 

Michel Gignac Rosie Stuckless

& Odile Nelson

Becca Jorgensen

Playwright

Director & Tour Producer Composer & Sound Designer Lighting Designer

Set Designer

Costume Designers

Stage Manager

Total Attendance: 420

SYRACUS, NY & VICTORIA, BC

#### **DESTINY, USA**

Written & Performed by Laura Anne Harris

With Tamyka Bullen

Natasha Cecily Bacchus

Sage Lovell

Director

Projection & Caption Designer

Sound Designer Stage Manager

& Lighting Consultant

Total Attendance: 154

. . . . .

Krystal Osborne Matthew Koutzun

Alex Eddington

Siena Shepard

#### PRODUCTION SPONSORS











SEASON SPONSORS







ARTISTIC FRAUD OF NEWFOUNDLAND

#### BETWEEN BREATHS

Written by Robert Chafe

Directed by Jillian Keiley

Original Music Composed & Arranged by The Once (Phil Churchill, Andrew Dale & Geraldine Hollett)

Musical Direction by Kellie Walsh

Cast Steve O'Connell Berni Stapleton

**Darryl Hopkins** Brianna Gosse

Steve Maloney

Kevin Woolridge

Dramaturgy Iris Turcott

Additional Dramaturgy Sarah Garton Stanley

**Assistant Director** Sharon King-Campbell

Lighting Designer Leigh Ann Vardy

Costume Designer Shawn Kerwin

Sound Design

Musicians:

& Technical Director **Brian Kenny** 

**Production Manager** 

Mara Bredovskis & Stage Manager

Patrick Foran **Managing Producer** 

**Associate Producer** Mallory Fisher

Total Attendance: 0

THE CHOP THEATRE, VANCOUVER BC

#### KISMET, THINGS HAVE CHANGED

Created and performed by

Visual Design

Sound Design & Original Music

Lighting Design **Projection Design** Stage Manager

**Projection Support Team** Visual Design Assistant

Set Construction

**Transcribers** 

**Drew Facey** 

Daryl King

Anita Rochon

Hazel Venzon

**Emelia Symington Fedy** 

Antoine Bédard **Brad Trenaman** Sophia Wolfe **Geoff Jones** 

Chimerik

Jessica Hood

**Great Northern Way Scene Shop** 

Kyle Jesperson Mark Chavez Lindsey Angell

**Donna Soares** 

Agent Dani Fecko

**Producers** Lisa Goebel and Chelsea MacDonald

Total Attendance: 0

PUENTE THEATRE PRESENTS

#### WORLDPLAY

Readings of plays from around the world.

**Insomniacs: The Far Side of the Accordion** by Mimi Branescu (Romania)

Motswana: Africa, Dream Again by Donald Molosi (Botswana)

Burning Vision by Marie Clements (Canada)



GENEVIÈVE DOYON, KAITLYN YOTT, ROY NEILSON, JOEL D. MONTGRAND, CALEB GORDON, DINAH GASTON, AND BRENDA BARNES IN BUSTED UP: A YUKON STORY PHOTO BY ALISTAIR MAITLAND PHOTOGRAPHY

#### **BELFRY 101 LIVE VIA ZOOM**

Created and performed by the students of the Belfry 301 Ensemble

Directed by Jonathan Brower and Dave Morris

Total Livestreamed:

697 (Facebook) 442 (Vimeo)

MINICEATSVID

Created by Krystal Cook, K.P Dennis & Tobin Stokes

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMEN

Acting Shakespeare with Michael Shamata

NEW PLAY CABARET

Combine fourth year and MFA playwrighting students from UVic's Department of Writing, add one part directors and two parts actors from UVic's Theatre Department. Simmer and serve hot off the press.

#### **PLAY READINGS**

Same Old Same Old Written & Performed by Jan Wood & James Fagan Tait

Women in Clothes
Adapted by Michael Shamata & Paula Wing
Featuring K.P. Dennis, Erin Ormond, Tenyjah McKenna, Jana
Morrison & Celine Stubel

#### **HOOTENANNY**

An all-ages dance party of awesome. Live humans playing music. Live humans dancing to music. Featuring The Avram McCagherty Quartet: Calvin Cairns, Avram McCagherty, Peter Dowse and Matthew Pease.



MAINSTAGE #4 April 21 – May 17, 2020

by Michael Healey

Starring

Director Set & Costume Designer Lighting Designer

Composer & Sound Designer Video Designer Stage Manager

Assistant Stage Manager **Assistant Director Jennifer Assistant Costume Designer** 

John Ullyatt Glynis Leyshon Pam Johnson Geoff George **Tobin Stokes** Carolyn Moon

Luisa Jojic Anton Lipovetsky

Jennifer Swan Becca Jorgensen Dawn Bishop\* Hailee Jake Friesen^

\*Participation made possible through the Belfry's Indigenous Learning Exchange Program

^Participation made possible through the Belfry's Emerging Artist Enhancement Program, funded by the RBC Emerging Artists Project

Total Attendance: 0

ILLUSTRATION BY JEFF KULAK

**PRODUCTION SPONSORS** 







**SEASON SPONSORS** 

**PUBLIC FUNDERS** 

















