

Artistic Vision Statements of Local / Neighbouring Theatre Companies

Kaleidoscope Theatre

Our Mission

To create original, innovative and relevant theatre experiences that stimulate and inspire young people to think critically about the world around them, and to engage in constructive and creative self-expression.

Our Mandate

- To produce innovative, high-quality theatre experiences for young people and their families principally in the Greater Victoria area.
- To explore the art form of theatre through the development and presentation of new works.
- To produce and present theatre that reinterprets the classics, explores our history, or explores current social issues.
- To provide outreach through theatre-based educational activities for the Greater Victoria community including classes, workshops, and camps.
- To produce works which provide young artists the opportunity to be mentored by theatre professionals in both performance and technical support roles.
- To provide high-quality professional touring productions for young people throughout British Columbia, across Canada and around the world.

Puente Theatre

MANDATE:

PUENTE Theatre's mandate is to use theatrical experience as a bridge between cultures.

Our objective is to express the immigrant experience while striving for the highest artistic standards. We endeavour to foster respect for the cultural heritage that immigrants bring to our new homeland, and to facilitate the integration of newcomer artists into the local theatre environment.

PUENTE's goals are:

- to offer work and creative development opportunities to immigrant artists.
- to create a multi-ethnic network of immigrant artists and resources, designed to attract and engage newcomers.
- to develop Canadian audiences, and educate them about aspects of the immigrant experience.
- to expose Canadian audiences to works from other cultures.
- to expose immigrant artists to Canadian theatre.
- to build community through collaborative projects.
- to act as an information resource for other organizations and agencies regarding theatrical works from other cultures.
- to use theatre to explore social issues including, but not limited to, those relating to race and culture.

PUENTE pursues these goals through:

- the creation, production and performance of theatrical works, which explore and relate the experiences of immigrants to Canada.
- the production and performance of theatrical works from other cultures.
- the translation of theatrical works from other cultures.
- the touring of locally developed projects for provincial, national and international audiences.
- the use of alternate forms of theatrical presentation, such as workshop productions, readings, and Forum performances, which facilitate dialogue on community issues.
- workshops, training courses, mentorships and other programs whose goal is to support and encourage the participation of immigrant theatre people in the Canadian theatre scene.
- the invitation of theatre personalities from other countries (e.g.. Mexico, Chile, Cuba, Brazil) for local workshops and trainings.
- active communication with theatre artists from other countries (largely in Latin America, but also including India, England and Japan).

Theatre Skam

Mandate

Founded in 1995, Theatre SKAM's mandate is to create a living, contemporary, professional theatre; to provide varied and provocative theatrical entertainment for audiences in Victoria and on tour; and to employ emerging theatre artists.

Mission

Known for our sense of fun, SKAM was formed in 1995 with a mission to create theatre that is innovative and entertaining, and above all – never boring.

Vision Statement

Theatre SKAM continues its mission to produce high quality provocative theatre for audiences in Victoria and on tour, working to create dialogue and partnership with like-minded arts practitioners (professional & non-professional), community groups and local experts.

Blue Bridge Theatre

Blue Bridge Repertory Theatre is a professional non-profit theatre society that seeks to provide:

- Significant creative, production and management opportunities to young theatre artists wishing to pursue a career in the arts.
- The opportunity for emerging artists to play major roles alongside of some of Canada's most respected and established theatre artists.
- The people of Victoria its own professional theatre company that focuses on masterworks drawn from the classical and modern European and North American theatre traditions.

The name Blue Bridge Repertory Theatre is inspired by the beauty and simplicity of the Joseph Strauss designed Johnson Street Bridge that defines the entrance to the Upper harbour in Victoria BC. Offering a unique and innovative way of spanning two parts of this modern day metropolis, this bridge is the perfect metaphor for a new company that provides opportunities to an emerging generation of theatre artists while helping to redefine the nature of it's city's downtown core.

Theatre Inconnu – none listed on the web

St. Luke's – none listed on the web

Peninsula Players – none listed on the web

The Belfry

With love, from scratch, and with some of the country's best theatre artists, we build, rehearse and create our plays in our own home, a renovated 19th century church in Fernwood - Victoria's most interesting neighbourhood

As a professional adult theatre company, we are dedicated to producing contemporary plays, with an emphasis on Canadian work, and to promoting artistic, cultural, and educational events in the Greater Victoria Region.

In the past 30 years the Belfry has produced 230 plays, including 158 Canadian plays, and more than 33 premieres. Many of those premiere productions have gone on to acclaim across Canada, in the U.S., Australia, Europe and London's West End. Belfry productions regularly tour to other cities and have won awards in Toronto, Vancouver and Calgary.

The Belfry produces up to 12 plays per year: one or two summer productions, a four play Mainstage series, and SPARK, our mid-winter festival of innovative and alternative work from across Canada.

The Belfry's mission is to produce theatre that generates ideas and dialogue, and that makes the audience see the world a little differently.

Belfry's ARTISTIC STATEMENT:

From Artistic Director, Michael Shamata

To paraphrase E. M. Forster:

The only plays that influence us are those for which we are ready and which have gone a little further down our particular path than we have yet gone ourselves.

For the past 35 years, the Belfry Theatre and its audiences have been on a journey through the best of contemporary theatre. At this particular time, we are focused on Canadian work, including premiere productions, recently premiered plays, and scripts from the canon of Canadian classics. Once per season we produce a non-Canadian play.

We have a reputation for exceptional productions of musicals, both Canadian (Anything That Moves) and non-Canadian (The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee). Through tours and collaborations with theatres that share our aesthetic, audiences across the country are able to experience our work.

Central to our artistic practice is the development of new work, from commissions and dramaturgy, to workshops, readings and productions. We recognize our responsibility as an artistic leader within our region, and have a commitment to artists and companies from the Victoria area, as well as from the rest of British Columbia. We support cultural diversity, and the development of aboriginal artists and stories.

Chemainus Theatre Festival

Welcome to the Chemainus Theatre Festival! We are a vibrant, established and fully professional theatre nestled in the seaside community of Chemainus, BC. We feature some of the finest performers and performances in Canada, Vancouver and Vancouver Island.

The Chemainus Theatre Festival is your place to get together and liven up. As a non-profit society, we exist to serve Vancouver Island and its visitors by creating exceptional theatre that explores and nourishes truth, hope, redemption, love and the human spirit.

Three main goals focus and direct our organization and programming on this dynamic path. They are ambitious, far ranging and seek to impact our local, regional, provincial and national community....

1. Enriching the Region

We strive to produce theatre from a repertoire of classic and award winning plays, to encourage and facilitate the production and sales of arts and crafts in our Gallery, to deliver outstanding hospitality and service in our Playbill Dining room, to utilize our facilities (when available) for the regions cultural and social life, to establish and maintain fiscal stability, and to enrich the lives of Vancouver Island residents and its visitors as a diverse regional arts centre by providing a unique "Chemainus Theatre Festival experience"!

2. Advancing the Arts

We strive to develop new Canadian classic adaptations and plays, to employ professional artists and artisans, and to educate, support and inspire artists at all levels of development (student, community, emerging and professional artists).

3. Cultivating the Community

We strive to establish an environment and spirit of service, integrity, respect, cooperation and trust, to ensure a standard of excellence and to motivate all who participate in the Chemainus Theatre Festival.

We welcome you to join us – there is a place for anyone and everyone at the Chemainus Theatre Festival!

(Or, viewed a different way...)

MISSION STATEMENT: The Chemainus Theatre Festival Society, a non-profit, charitable organization, exists to serve Vancouver Island and its visitors by creating exceptional theatre that explores and nourishes truth, hope, redemption, love and the human spirit.

Enriching the Region

- To produce theatre from a repertoire of classic and award winning plays of enduring value
- To encourage and facilitate the production and sales of arts and crafts in our Gallery
- To deliver outstanding hospitality and service in our Playbill Dining room
- To utilize the facilities (when available) for the regions cultural and social life
- To establish and maintain fiscal stability
- To enrich the lives of Vancouver Island residents and its visitors as a diverse regional arts centre by providing a unique “Chemainus Theatre Festival experience”

Advancing the Arts

- To develop new Canadian classic adaptations and plays
- To employ professional artists and artisans
- To educate, support and inspire artists at levels of development (student, community, emerging and professional artists)

Cultivating the Community

- To establish an environment and spirit of service, integrity, respect, cooperation and trust
- To ensure a standard of excellence
- To motivate all who participate in the Chemainus Theatre Festival