

Board of Directors

boardpresident@langhamtheatre.ca

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John Crickman and Rob Hurst

Members-at-Large to 2021:

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Production Chair 2020/22

Jon Scheer (Sylvia Hosie, Asst. Prod. Chair)

Langham Court News is published 11 times a year. **Deadline for submissions is the 22nd day of the month preceding the month of publication.** Send submissions to Kathy Macovichuk at newseditor@langhamtheatre.ca

For newsletter address changes or deletions, send them to the Transitional Manager of Operations at boxoffice@langhamtheatre.ca

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250-384-2142

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Costume Loft Rentals and Donations

250-384-2025

costumeloft@langhamtheatre.ca

General Inquiries

gm@langhamtheatre.ca

Membership

membership@langhamtheatre.ca

Prop Rentals and Donations

props@langhamtheatre.ca

See our photos on [Flickr](#)

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The Vice-Prez Sayz

Submitted by Kathy Macovichuk

As we move forward into 2021, the Artistic Direction and Production Planning Committee is hard at work trying to figure out the direction that Langham should take in the upcoming months. It is hoped that a "soft" opening might be possible at some time in the fall and the call has gone out (page 2) for suggestions of plays that might fit into these plans.

This month, the Board of Directors made the decision to dissolve the Transition Committee. From its inception, it was meant to be a temporary committee, tasked with advising the board on how to use our resources (building and expertise) to build or strengthen connections to the community. Some suggestions have been made, which the board has taken under advisement and are still processing. The board would like to thank everyone who made the time and effort to be a part of the Transition Committee, and we welcome anyone who wants to continue to make contributions to Langham Court Theatre, to join one of the many committees that are available.

It with a sad heart that we make the announcement that Dawn Schell has stepped down from her position as Secretary on Langham's Board of Directors. We want to thank her for offering her time and energy to the board and committees on which she served.

As many will be aware, the Theatre is presently a respondent to a human rights complaint. The hearing is currently scheduled to begin April 26, 2021. More information can be found on the BC Human Rights Tribunal webpage: <http://www.bchrt.bc.ca/law-library/public-hearings.htm>

Remembering When...

Carol-Anne Moore's acceptance speech when becoming a Langham Life Member:

Thank you for your trust in me, for the support offered over the years, and for your companionship both within this venue and elsewhere. I came here during a rather bleak period in my life looking for purpose, solace and acceptance. The friends I have made, the fun I have had, the interesting folks I have met, and the stuff I have learned, all have met and exceeded my expectations. I see you – actors, directors, creators, all of you – and think of all the experience accumulated and shared. I salute you, celebrate you, and wish you every success in future productions. Thank you for this recognition.



Thank You Ginny!

Life Member Ginny Carter, whose membership goes back perhaps as many as 50 years, left Langham Court Theatre a very thoughtful and kind bequest of \$5,000.

Her daughter Angela survives her, also a long-term member, who often donates her professional musical skills to Langham during the holidays and other occasions.

Plays Needed

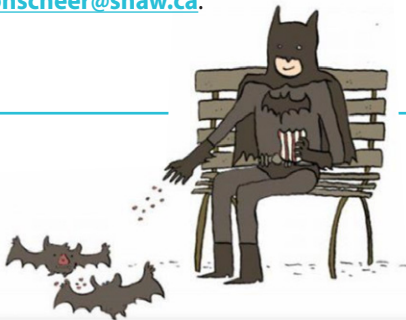
Submitted by Jon Scheer, Production Chair
2020/22 and Sylvia Hosie, Asst Production Chair

The Artistic Direction/Production Planning Committee is looking for play suggestions for this coming fall should conditions improve and we can open again.

Given the need for flexibility, we are looking for small cast shows with no more than three characters. Set and props requirements should be minimal with at most a few pieces of furniture.

We will consider one acts. If you know of plays that might meet these limitations and have a copy of the play to loan us, we want to hear from you.

Please send your suggestions to
jonscheer@shaw.ca.



Fringe Director Needed

Submitted by Kara Flanagan

Fringe Fest: Looking for Directors to direct a new play, *Batman in the Park*.

Batman in the Park, a parody registered with the Canadian Copyright Office, will be produced as part of the Victoria Fringe Fest in August/September (each production has a one-week run in this period).

Synopsis: Broke, homeless and his acting career in the toilet, Batman books *Hamlet* in Shakespeare in the Park. Like Hamlet, Batman faces his greatest enemy, his own fear – and Bane, determined to unseat Batman's role.

About: Batman is no ordinary actor. He does it all from *On the Waterfront* to *Hamlet*. For artists who enjoy classic movie references and jingles, this play will be fun to work with.

Interested directors, please contact Kara Flanagan by email: kara@vadarts.com

Costume Loft Report

Submitted by Linda MacNaughton and Wendy Henderson

Spring is just around the corner, and we are spring cleaning in the Costume Loft! Virtually all costumes rented out before Langham closed have been returned, so the Loft and other storage areas were bursting at the seams. This past month of pandemic down-time has seen a general clear out, with helpers David Burbank, Julius Maslovat and Bill Haisell lugging bags of unwanted items downstairs for disposal or donation, then hauling stored clothing upstairs onto racks. Thank you!

Next focus, cleaning. Enter Jackie with hoover and mop to help in the general spit-and-polish effort. We're still working on culling – the rarely used, never rented, or duplicates of newer items. Everything should be ready for designers and the renting public when we reopen.

Even though we are not officially accepting donations of clothing, etc at this time, generous donors keep finding Langham. To keep the collection manageable, we have decided to **limit donations to '90s and earlier**, plus notable costume pieces.

By appointment only please. Access to the Costume Loft is limited during the pandemic. Contact Linda or Wendy by email at costumeloft@langhamtheatre.ca.

Stay tuned for notice of a **Spring Parking Lot Sale**, to be held when warmer weather allows – maybe in March, we hope!

Calling all Members: Langham Reads a Play

Submitted by Kathy Macovichuk

We've all been missing theatre and our theatre family, so the Membership and Volunteer Committee would like to invite Langham's members to a series of virtual table readings over Zoom, in which all attendees will have their names placed in a hat. As we go through the character list, whoever's name is drawn will be reading for that character. If we're choosing for a male character and any one's name is pulled from the hat, they get to read that part – a true blind casting.

Our second play reading will be a full-length play with 12 characters, written by Gary Ray Stapp, entitled *The Trouble With Cats*.

Synopsis: An experienced house-sitting couple gets more than they bargain for when a Minnesota homeowner intentionally double-books her lakefront domicile. In one corner, there are the upper middle-class and socially-skilled Julians from New Jersey, and in the opposite corner, the anti-materialist and free-spirited vegans from North Carolina who have decided they don't

even need a last name. Personalities collide even further when the Bombays from next door add their own twist to being neighbourly with either a constant barrage of trivial pursuits or an onslaught of candid crankiness. And if that weren't enough for the Julians to deal with, they get another surprise... the uninhabitable master suite is in the midst of being actively remodelled by the Cheshires, a trio of sisters, two of whom are skilled labourers with personal problems of their own and the other who is a chocoholic ditz. Without a head of household, there is little rest or relaxation for anyone... except for maybe the cat... if the house sitters could only find the elusive little creature.

The reading will take place Saturday, March 13, starting at 1 p.m.

Please email me at kmacovichuk@hotmail.com to let me know you'd like to be a part of this evening. I will send you the Zoom link information and a copy of the script to read ahead of time so you're familiar with the story.

VICTORIA VARIETY SHOWCASE SERIES

WANTED: Actors • Singers • Solo Performers • Producers • Directors • Zoom Operators • Comedians • Musicians • Poster Designers



Presenting a new series of one-hour variety shows online, featuring a vast array of pent-up talent from the various theatre artists of Langham Court and St Luke's Players theatres.

Performing soliloquies from the Greeks to Shakespeare; monologues from Westend shows to Broadway musicals; scenes; sketches; songs; solos and two-handers; they'll make you laugh, weep and beg for more!

Best of all – it's free!

No lines to memorise. Rehearsed readings. All this from the comfort of your own home!

Opening soon – first show in March, until the pandemic ends – or beyond!

To join up and join in, or for full details, please e-mail Terry Oliver at toliver36@hotmail.com

**PROPOSED SHOW FORMATS:
45 minutes of short solo performances**

"An Evening of..."

1 – Your favourite audition pieces – maximum of 5 minutes

2 – Famous Shakespeare monologues – Tony Cain

3 – Comic monologues and sketches, eg. Joyce Grenfell

4 – Classic monologue scenes, - *Oedipus to A Streetcar Named Desire*

5– Favourite two-hander scenes, eg. Neil Simon

6 – Favourite poetry, your choice, comic/serious

7 – Musical theatre solos and duets, your choice

8 – Radio sketches from CBC/BBC archives, eg. *Jake and the Kid*

9– Song and dance solos and duets, your choice

10 – Restoration comedy two-hander scenes – *She Stoops to Conquer*

11 – Victorian melodrama two-hander scenes, - *Sherlock Holmes*

12 – American two-hander scenes, eg. *The Odd Couple*

13 – British two-hander scenes, eg. *Educating Rita*

Other Theatre Happenings

14 – Canadian two-hander scenes – Sharon Pollock

15 – French, Russian, two-hander scenes – *Bald Primadonna*

16 – Dramatized short stories, narrated, your choice

17 – Short scenes from 90 years of Langham Court Theatre repertoire

18 – Short scenes from 75 years of St. Luke's Players repertoire

AUDIENCE: online up to 100, including cast – open to all, and will provide feedback during a Q&A session afterwards.

It's backstage on opening night in a community theatre as a diverse group of women battle nerves, last minute changes and sometimes each other.

This play examines the idea that not all of a show's drama takes place on the stage—and no matter what, the show must go on!

**ONE PERFORMANCE • Sat., Mar. 13th
7:30pm via ZOOM**

Tickets \$5 (plus additional donation option) • online via [eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com) for the Zoom link.
Like us on Facebook • www.stlukesplayers.org • 250-884-5484 • stlukesplayers@yahoo.ca



Fantasy and Reality a Big Hit!

Submitted by Wendy Merk

An excellent time was had by all involved in Langham Court Theatre's first-ever cold (unrehearsed) play reading via Zoom on Thursday, February 11.

Participants comments:

"It was all REALLY FUN!! Thanks for writing it. Didn't it just come alive?!!"

"Thank you, Wendy, last night was a lot of fun and I was really happy to participate!"

"Reminds us of what fun theatre is to do."

"It was really fun..and fun to see everyone... and people I haven't seen for a long while. Puts a whole new meaning to "can you come out to play!"

My thanks to Kathy Macovichuk for coming up with this idea and for organizing it for us.

And, if you're curious, the novelette is available to order via Goodreads.



Next up: *Effie and the Vampire* via Zoom

A reading of *Effie and the Vampire* will be broadcast via Langham Court Theatre's Zoom on **Saturday March 6 at 7 p.m.**

This is an audience-participatory, musical melodrama written by Wendy Merk, very loosely based on a play by J.R. Planche. Some of the characters include: Floozie, a lovely woman who likes her drops; Lady Pandora, an innocent maiden; Effie, who harbours a hidden passion for another; and Lord Carnsew, a handsome man who loves to sing.

Actors participating are: Jean Topham, Pippa Catling, Ursula Szkolak, Caroline MacKenzie de Korte, Ron Skelton, Blake Handley, and Lorene Cammiade.

Audience participation will be encouraged!

The performance is completely free of charge. Join us via Zoom using the following link:

<https://zoom.us/j/92527051264?pwd=UndQY3pTZklNQ2hESHZQV2s1ZzErZz09>

Langham's Guidelines for Respectful Communication

Good communication occurs within positive climates. To maintain a positive communication climate:

**BE AN
ENCOURAGER.
THE WORLD
HAS PLENTY
OF CRITICS
ALREADY.**

- Maintain open communications about small issues. If bigger issues arise, they will be handled in the same way. Use the small issues as practice.
- Accept and confirm others. Spend time to honestly hear what people are saying.
- Respect diversity in relationships and work habits. Not everyone will work the way you do, but there is often more than one way of doing things.
- Don't permit inappropriate behaviour to go unaddressed, but respond tactfully and at the right time.