

MUDDPRINTS

www.mississippimudds.ca



The official newsletter of the Mississippi Mudds - November 2020

You can help with this fundraiser: From now until December 1 the Mississippi Mudds will get 10% of the sale of all Mudds Wear. Please go to www.mississippimudds.ca and click on Mudds Wear.

From the Desk of the President - Jeff Lee

Hello my friends, I hope this article finds you safe and well. It's hard to believe we've been in this situation for over 250 days and it's not quite over. While there's a light at the end of the tunnel (that is not an oncoming train) in the form of two or more promising vaccines, containment and isolation efforts will continue for a few more months.

In the mean time we continue to solicit and develop new ideas for fund raising and delivering entertaining content to our community. Jan "Mother Mudd" Ferguson following up on her task on the former board has secured a grant from the Carleton Place Community Enhancement fund to help pay our bills through the gap, THANK YOU MOTHER MUDD! Thanks also the Stefan Kaleb and Static Salon for donating proceeds of jewelry sales to the Mudds. Also big thanks to Judith Scott for tireless work making masks and donating the proceeds to the Mudds. There are other initiatives underway some of which will be detailed in this issue of Muddsprints.

Please stay safe my friends, we'll be seeing each other soon.

Beauty and the Beast Play Reading - Tony Scott gtonyscott@gmail.com

Thanks to everyone who chose to be part of this fun fadoodle (that's a technical term meaning a silly event). There are twenty-one people signed up to play roles or to be audience, and I'm looking forward to an afternoon of dedicated amusement for all. I'm hoping there won't be too many technical glitches with the virtual get-together, but I have expert Meredith Millman as the IT person to help me out. (Thanks Mer).

So, maybe Xmas won't be quite the same this year but as we know, Muddsies can make fun anywhere and anytime. And we'll be doing that on Sunday December 6 at 2pm.

Keep safe everyone.

Write Your Own Show Workshop - Karen Lapoint, Show Development

Hi everyone,

Just recently, Kris and Rob Riendeau, owners of The Humm, showcased a series of short comedy plays, written by locals in the area after a workshop on short story writing. The plays were shown on Friday 30th October and the event was hosted by two of Almonte's puppets under the title

Hallowe'en shorts. We had a great deal of fun both performing and directing in a completely different way to the normal stage setting. I had the privilege of directing one and performing in another. While we were rehearsing I asked Kris if she would be interested in putting on another workshop for any of our Mudds members (past and present) who might be interested in producing a short play that can be performed using Zoom. Kris has set up the following:

Hummteam Productions invites you to a three-week "Write Your Own Short Play" workshop via Zoom. Over three weeks (Wednesday, Dec. 2, 9 & 16 from 7-8:30pm) we'll have fun exploring the essentials of premise, structure and character, as well as some fun techniques to get your creative juices flowing. With luck (and a bit of homework time), you'll come away with a new work fit for performing! The course is open to anyone age 18 & over and is free, but please contact kris@thehummm.com by Friday, November 27 to find out what to bring to the first class (and get the Zoom invitation).

I will be contacting Kris to see if she would also host one for our youth members - or ask if the one in December will be appropriate for anyone under 18 who is interested.

Please reach out to Kris if you would like to be involved in the workshop over the 3 nights - it's completely free and who knows what hidden talents you may unlock...

Attention all Mudds Jr Members - Laurel Tye, Musical Director

Are you interested in keeping your voice in shape? How about learning a few fun, new warm-ups, as well as reviewing the old Lah-Bay-Dah-May's? Join with Laurel Tye via Zoom for a session of singing! These sessions will be comprised of warm-ups followed by a fun sing-through of past Mudds Jr shows using the performance accompaniments. Each session will feature one show which you will be told about ahead of time. Since Zoom includes visual as well as audio, feel free to get dressed up in costume, make-up and home-made props for the session. Let Laurel Tye know if you are

interested sogr8fl@sympatico.ca. Zooming will be scheduled for Monday evenings at 6:30. Start Date TBD

Spider Web-inar Halloween Shorts - Kris Riendeau (by permission)

Hummteam Productions would like to thank everyone for helping to raise over \$2500 for local community theatre! On the evening of Friday, October 30, we put on an evening of Zoom theatre with live puppet emcees that culminated in donations of **\$875 to each of the Mississippi Mudds of Carleton Place**, the Station Theatre in Smiths Falls and the Studio Theatre in Perth. All of the plays are now available for viewing on the Hummteam YouTube channel, but they are intended for ages 18 and up (a few of them have lots of swear words!).

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEO6_uvhFvQuBMIV9rftTOg

Special thanks to all of the writers, directors and actors who donated their time and talent and helped us explore this new way to be creative together. Many thanks also to everyone who Zoomed in to watch and who donated. The money raised will help these troupes to pay their bills until they can fill their houses again, but they will need ongoing support throughout this winter, so watch theHumm and Hummail for other upcoming events — in-person or virtual!

Social Media - Stefan Kaleb

Hello Mudds Members!
Make sure to follow us on all the socials
Facebook - The Mississippi Mudds - Public Page
Instagram - themississippimuddscp
Tic Tok- coming soon

Support the Mudds - Stefan Kaleb

Looking for the perfect gift and want to also Support the Mudds?

Well we currently have 2 great ways to do so!

Muddsweat - Projecting Mudds Pride with Style
- Super soft tees, hoodies and hats for the whole family. Th colour options are amazing and the graphics are superb.
Order before December 1st to receive before Christmas.

Mudds x Static Jewellery Fundraiser is still live. Order great costume jewellery from staticsalon.ca. All items only \$5-10(with a values of \$15-60) and the proceeds goes to the Mudds.

From the Editor - Sandra Dunlop, Editor

Please - if you have a change in any of your information (address, telephone number and especially email address) please make sure

that you get that information to Sandra Dunlop at 613-599-7221 or pcbear@rogers.com. This will make sure that you continue to receive the Mudds newsletter and any other pertinent information that is sent out.

Know that I welcome articles monthly, be it from members, former members and people involved in current productions. The deadline for the next edition of Muddprints is December 20. I would love to hear from you. It doesn't have to be long, just of interest to Mudds members and fans.

Mudds in Your Eye #7 November 2020 (coordinated by Stephanie Stephens)



Here is another in a series which profiles members of the Mississippi Mudds, written especially for the readers of the Muddprints!

The spotlight is on Sandra Dunlop – a strong presence behind the scenes of many Mudds productions. Her artistic vision and attention to detail has helped one show after another become the masterpieces the community has enjoyed so much over the years. Whether she is directing ('Mary Poppins' and 'Frozen'), or she is producing ('We Will Rock You'), Sandra is a member you can rely on to put everything she has into making the show the best it can be, and she is able to pull the best out of everyone involved. This month's interview is done by Mudds Youth members, Brady and Ivy MacKay.



1. **What made you join the Mississippi Mudds?**

My sister and niece were involved in a production and I came to see it. I was impressed and on the verge of moving to Carleton Place. I joined the next year and have been involved ever since.

2. **What was your favourite play you've been involved with in the Mudds and why?**

That's a hard one - I would have to say directing Anything Goes. It was the first time I directed for the Mudds. I taught the choreography and I gave tap dancing lessons in my family room to some of the cast and they were awesome.

3. **Were you involved with the theatre before the Mudds?**

I was involved in high school musicals and also did community theatre in Stittsville.

4. **I heard you were a professional dancer. What types of dance did you study?**

I'm not a professional dancer. I was an assistant teacher and mentor for the younger ones in the dance studio. I started at the age of 5 doing ballet. I then added tap and highland dancing to my resume. It all came to an end at the age of 18 when I had to have major surgery. I joined a ladies barbershop singing organization, Harmony, Inc. and have been a member for 53 years. For 23 years I was part of the choreography team with the Capital Chordettes.



5. **What do you prefer, directing, producing, or choreographing?**

If I had a choice I would direct. Choreography would come next and then producing. At this point, I just like to be involved.

6. **What was your favourite number to choreograph with the Mudds?**

I have a favourite show that I did all the choreography for and that was Nunsense: The Mega Musical. It was so much fun.

7. **What was the most memorable Mudds moment for you?**

There have been many memorable moments but I would say directing Mary Poppins. It took a lot of hard work to bring that show together and the cast and crew were outstanding. I have one more - and that was directing Frozen Jr. The kids were wonderful and there was so much support between the kids.

8. **What is the difference between directing adults and directing a kids' show?**

I love directing the kids - they are more than willing to step out of their comfort zone much faster than the adults. The adults can take their role and (most of the time) run with it. Whereas the kids need a little more direction - but when they know what they are required to do there's no stopping them. I think the kids are more appreciative of each rehearsal. They come and say thank you and give



you a hug. The bond is closer with the kids. The adults bond a lot more with others in the cast - plus they don't give as many hugs (lol).

9. **When choosing a play to produce or direct, what do you look for?**

I look for something that speaks to me and musicals I can relate to. It's hard to direct when you don't buy into the production. I also look at the complexity of staging it at the Town Hall. The first show I did with the kids had already been chosen (Pirates of Penzance) and it took me a while to buy into it - I had to believe in the story.

10. **What is some advice you'd give a future director?**

Do your homework. It starts much earlier than rehearsals. Make sure that you know what your plan is and how you are going to make it happen. Choose a team you can work with and trust them. Develop a show proposal that you believe in - if you can sell it, it will happen.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY wishes go to members past and present who are celebrating their birthdays between November 23 and December 22. We know this is not a time that we can go out and party with our friends, but we hope you find something awesome to do! :-)

Meaghan McBryan	Nov-25
Seo-Yeon Whyte	Nov-25
Grace Campbell	Nov-26
Curran Hall	Nov-26
Calvin Beaulieu	Nov-28
Jan Hopkins	Nov-30
Ray Bains	Dec-06
Kaitlyn Wright	Dec-05
Danielle Gregoire	Dec-06
Linda Beiglee	Dec-07
Julie Kevan	Dec-07
Tracy Ahern	Dec-08
Shawn Millman	Dec-08
Peter Irvine	Dec-10
Candice Burns	Dec-10
Colleen MacMillan	Dec-10
Cheryl Waters	Dec-13
Jesse Osborne	Dec-17
Fiona Brophy	Dec-17
Jeff Lee	Dec-20

Watch this space for more birthday celebrations next month :-) Karen Lapointe, Membership

The next issue of Muddprints will be published on Decembet 22. The deadline for articles is December 20.

If you wish to be removed from the Muddprints mailing list please send an email to pcbear@rogers.com - please make sure you give me your full name in the email.

Mudds Calendar (2020)