

MUDDPRINTS

www.mississippimudds.com



The official newsletter of the Mississippi Mudds - September 2018

UPCOMING SHOW: MERCHANT OF VENICE: Show dates: October 19th – 21st and October 26th – 27th. Tickets are available through Tickets Please. Price: \$10

From the President's Desk – Stu West

Today I had the pleasure of attending a Symposium in Almonte, put on by a group known as SPARC. SPARC is a network whose purpose is to ignite and help sustain performing arts communities in rural and remote areas of Ontario. There were a number of people in attendance from surrounding arts communities and we spent our day discussing the local arts scenes, sharing knowledge and resources, and brainstorming about successes and challenges that we face. This couldn't have been more timely: one of the group leaders mentioned that all across the province, people involved with arts programs face two major challenges – creating publicity and finding volunteers.

Perhaps the first problem could be addressed if we can solve the second problem. I have written about this before, and it is a **plea for volunteers**. The Mudds' ability to put on high quality shows is only made possible with the help and skills of many volunteers in a wide variety of jobs. Lately, it seems that our pool of volunteers has been dwindling. We have had to call on our volunteers a little too frequently, and some are pulling back a little and saying "I need a rest!". The more volunteers we can have for any given show makes the workload lighter for each person. Whether you're a parent, a high school student, or a recent retiree looking for some way to volunteer your time and help your community, we can use you. It's not a huge time commitment, and the rewards are many.

Publicity for our productions can make or break whether, or not, they are successful. Publicity is

what gets people out to our shows. Publicity for Mudds productions is too big a job for one person, and once again, it is volunteers that help with this. Publicity is one of the 'behind the scenes' jobs that can help to generate awareness for an upcoming production. Perhaps you have writing skills (for newsletters, or newspaper articles), or skills related to graphic arts and design (posters, programme design), or just enjoy talking to people (handing out posters, or brochures, to local businesses), then you can help us with publicity. I think we need a **publicity team**, made up of three, or four people, and this is where you can help us create an effective team where no one has to carry the full load.

Okay. I'm willing to volunteer and give it a try. How do I do that? There are a number of ways. Get in touch with a Board member and tell them what you think you'd like to do (our names and e-mail addresses were in an earlier Muddprints). Contact the Producer of a show and see if there are any areas where they might need an extra hand. Contact our Secretary, Kate Martin, and ask to be put on a contact list for volunteers so that we can give you a call when we need someone for a particular job. Show up at a set build and offer to help. There are many ways we'd like to put your skills to use. None of us are experts and we're more than willing to help you become involved.

I started as a helper for "Bugsy Malone, Jr." twelve years ago when my daughter first decided she'd like to be in a theatre production. She's now at Queens, and I'm

still volunteering. I'd be happy to welcome you as a volunteer at one of our upcoming productions!

Arsenic and Old Lace - From The Board:

Many of you were saddened to learn that the Mudds have canceled a show perhaps for the first time ever. We did not take this decision lightly and it wasn't without compassion or concern for those who have worked so hard on Arsenic and Old Lace. The board became involved in the production about half way through rehearsals when some highly unusual developments and a lack of full cast came to light. We met with some of the production crew and decided to provide what help we could for the production.

In the late stages of rehearsals a cast member had to leave the production and the show was left again without a full cast. The board was informed that the show had major issues. Ticket sales at this point were negligible and the Mudds was on the cusp of investing more money into the show. It was decided by the entire board that we could not risk the potential financial losses should ticket sales not improve.

Those of you who were at the AGM should be aware of the Mudds' financial position and while we're not destitute, we cannot afford the kind of loss this project might generate. A contributing factor in this situation was the change in our ticket vendor. Once we learned that the Chamber of Commerce was not willing to sell tickets for the season the board worked through the summer to find a new vendor. Tickets Please was found and decided on in early August and details were made available for advertising purposes on August 11.

Other unusual developments were that the Producer had to leave the production for personal reasons on July 15 leaving the co-producer, who had two roles on stage, to take on all duties. The director was on stage in a major role. Promotion of the show was late and had barely started when the cast member dropped out late in the game. Just 11 tickets had been sold (a further 8 reserved) at the time of the board decision. The show needed to sell approximately 450 tickets to break-even.

The Board was aware that this show was in a unique time slot and that some unusual situations might arise but decided to green light the production.

In light of the cancellation the board has decided to: tighten up the vetting process for show proposals, have board liaisons take on larger involvement in the production early on and add a form to the show proposal package that outlines the commitments of the director and producer and requires their signatures to endorse that they have read and understood the Mudds' Constitution, Practices and Producer's Guide.

We take this situation seriously and are implementing changes to help assure it will not happen again. We hope that all who were involved in Arsenic and Old Lace appreciate our sincere apologies for the unfortunate turn of events and will continue to be active in the Mudds. We are nothing without the passion and devotion of our membership.

Congratulations to Jan Hopkins - Sandra Dunlop, Editor

Carleton Place resident Janice (Jan) Hopkins is the recipient of the 2018 Ontario Senior of the Year award.

Mayor Louis Antonakos presented Hopkins with a framed certificate on Aug. 21, during a special breakfast at Waterside Retirement Community. Too, he brought greetings from the town. Coun. Doug Black was also in attendance.

The Ontario Senior of the Year award gives every municipality in the province the chance to recognize one of its residents who after the age of 65 has enriched the social, cultural or civic life of his or her community.

"This award is in recognition of your dedicated service to our community," Antonakos said.

For more than 25 years, Jan has been actively involved with the local Mississippi Mudds theatre group. In 2007, she joined the Canadian Cancer Society, serving as president and vice president of the

organization's Almonte/Carleton Place/Pakenham chapter. Later, Hopkins served as president of the Lanark, Leeds & Grenville Unit of the Canadian Cancer Society. Locally, she managed the organization's residential campaign, served as a Relay for Life chair and participated in a number of fundraising activities. In excess of a quarter century, Jan has been active in Zion Memorial United Church, holding a variety of positions. She is a former Carleton Place & District Memorial Hospital board member.

Last September, Jan received Carleton Place's 2017 Senior of the Year award. Waterside Retirement Community established the honour in 2011, in partnership with the municipality. It recognizes the varied and valuable contributions of seniors to the community. Jan was nominated alongside Diane Nel, Flora Neave and Paula Sanderson.

The Aug. 21 breakfast introduced the nominees for Carleton Place's 2018 Senior of the Year. On Sept. 27, the town will name its top senior. The contenders this year: Joan Bray, Dianne Nel, Garry Postma, Marion Reilly, Paula Sanderson and Gary Strike.

Jan's certificate was signed by: Minister of Seniors Affairs, The Honourable Dipika Damerla; Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, Her Honour the Honourable Elizabeth Dowdeswell; and Antonakos.

Talking about the joys and pleasures of volunteering, Jan said: "It is lovely to be recognized, but the pleasure coming from doing the job is a special kind of recognition in itself."

Congratulations from the Mudds, Jan.

Nevada - Kate Martin, Secretary

ALL CURRENT MEMBERS (OR PARENTS OF CURRENT MEMBERS):

Remember to sign up for your Nevada shift(s) on our new sign up website.

Our current block of dates is till 12 January, once this is full we will work at sign ups till end June. HUGE thank you to all those that have signed up already.

1) Visit this link to see our sign up page for Nevada Schedule-
<http://signup.com/go/vbGAECX>
Mississippi Mudds Nevada Schedule
signup.com

2) Review the dates listed and choose at least 1 of the spot(s) you like. (you can isolate dates that are not filled yet by checking the box hide full spots at top of the list of dates)

3) Sign up! It will ask for your email to send reminder and name, so we can keep track of who is supporting the Mudds and honouring your commitment. It's Easy - you will NOT need to register an account or keep a password on SignUp.com.

Note: SignUp.com does not share your email address with anyone. If you prefer not to use your email address, please contact me and I can sign you up manually.

I can be reached at
muddsmisissippi@gmail.com

Merchant of Venice - Stephanie Stephens, Co-Producer

The Merchant of Venice is this year's Youth production. Auditions were in late spring and it features a cast of amazing young actors, some experienced with a few Shakespeare productions under their belts, and some brand new this year to performing the bard's works, but all with a passion for performing and the acting chops to back it up.

I have been able to watch scenes from start to finish, and I marvel at the hairs actually standing up on the back of my neck as Kaitlyn Rossigol recites Shylock's lines. I laugh out loud as Kevin MacMillan's Bassanio and Julia Martin's Portia play off one another in the final scene. And most of all, I feel proud of all these young actors and the work they put into this, working throughout their summer vacation: Emily Burns, Colm Cooney, Brady MacKay, Ainsley Mohns, Colleen MacMillan, Bobby Martin, Emily Hogan, and Claire Campbell. I feel very fortunate that this has been my first role as producer with the Mississippi Mudds.

I don't know if I'd ever be able to memorize the lines and lines of Shakespeare dialogue that these kids do. First time Mudds Youth performer, 13 year old Bobby Martin, took the rehearsal stage on Sunday night and recited one of his monologues – one that's almost two pages long. And it was incredible! Every word perfect. Articulation. Clarity. Expression. A group of us couldn't resist applauding. His performance is rich, and he's pretty excited to be a part of the play... And pretty excited that he's being allowed to say "Hell" in front of everyone as part of that speech.

I strongly encourage every Mudds member to come out and see these amazing young actors perform at the end of October. You will enjoy the hairs standing up on the back of your neck, the laugh out loud moments, and you will leave feeling the same sense of pride I do. That these kids are pretty special... As is their director, Mark Piper. We're very lucky to have this as part of the Mudds. Come out and support us!

Mikado Cast List - Barb Dickson, Producer

Here's the cast so far:

The Mikado (Emperor of Japan):- **Mike Lief**

Nanki-Poo (his son, disguised as a wandering second trombone player and minstrel): - **Calvin Beaulieu**

Ko-Ko: formerly a tailor, now Lord High Executioner of the Town of Titipu: - **Laurie Dickson**

Pooh-Bah: the Lord High Everything Else: - **Jesse Gibson**

Pish-Tush, a Noble Lord: - **David Vavasour**

Yum-Yum: a young schoolgirl, betrothed to Ko-Ko, but in love with Nanki-Poo: - **Kathleen Everett**

Pitti-Sing, a young schoolgirl, friend of Yum-Yum, not betrothed to anybody: - **Julia Martin**

Peep-Bo, a young schoolgirl, friend of Yum-Yum, also not betrothed to anybody: - **Helen Gillis**

Katisha: an elderly lady of the Mikado's court, betrothed to Nanki-Poo: - **Julie Hunter**

Mens' chorus of Noble Lords: **Ben Bourne, Emma Ahern, Leigh Gibson**

Ladies' chorus of Schoolgirls: **Annie Ahern, Claire Campbell, Ainsley Mohns**

This production is still looking for people to join the mens' and ladies' choruses. If you are interested please contact Barb Dickson at laubar@sympatico.ca

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 October 20. I would love to hear from you. It doesn't have to be long, just of interest to Mudds members and fans.

Happy Birthday wishes go to members past and present who are celebrating their birthdays between September 23 to October 22: We hope you have a lovely day :-)

Laurel Tye	Sep-24
Cameron Maclaren	Sep-24
Daniel Scott	Sep-25
Laurie Dickson	Sep-27
Ivy MacKay	Sep-28
Joshua Gaines	Oct-01
Stevie Silver	Oct-04
Stu West	Oct-05
Kim Balazsi	Oct-06
Aidan Taylor-Meyer	Oct-06
Amber Berndt	Oct-07
Nora Paterson	Oct-08
Ann Price	Oct-08
Lindsay Rewi	Oct-09
Madison Thompson	Oct-09
Eden Kentfield	Oct-11
Maddy Martin	Oct-14
Lynda O'Connor	Oct-14
Emma Huibers	Oct-17
Lucy Maclaren	Oct-17
Courtney Mason	Oct-18
Janice Bowie	Oct-20
Peter Meyer	Oct-20
Julie Hunter	Oct-20

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

The next issue of Muddprints will be published on October 22. The deadline for articles is October 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 (2018-2019)

Sep 23 (Sun)	1:00pm-4:00pm	Mikado Rehearsal (Music 4)	CPHS
Sep 24 (Mon)	6:30pm-8:30pm	Lion King Rehearsal	St. Mary's
Sep 26 (Wed)	7:00pm-10:00pm	Mikado Rehearsal (Music 5)	CPHS
Sep 26 (Wed)	7:30pm-9:30pm	Murder Medium Rare Rehearsal	Childcare
Sep 30 (Sun)	1:00pm-4:00pm	Mikado Rehearsal (Music 6)	CPHS
Oct 1 (Mon)	6:30pm-8:30pm	Lion King Rehearsal	St. Mary's
Oct 3 (Wed)	7:00-10:00pm	Mikado Rehearsal (Dance 1)	CPHS
Oct 3 (Wed)	7:30pm-9:30pm	Murder Medium Rare Rehearsal	Childcare
Oct 7 (Sun)	1:00pm-4:00pm	Mikado Rehearsal (Music 7)	CPHS
Oct 10 (Wed)	7:00pm-10:00pm	Mikado Rehearsal (Dance 2)	CPHS

Oct 10 (Wed)	7:30pm-9:30pm	Murder Medium Rare Rehearsal	Childcare
Oct 14 (Sun)	1:00pm-4:00pm	Mikado Rehearsal (Music 8)	CPHS
Oct 15 (Mon)	6:30pm-8:30pm	Lion King Rehearsal	St. Mary's
Oct 17 (Wed)	7:00pm-10:00pm	Mikado Rehearsal (Music 9)	CPHS
Oct 17 (Wed)	7:30pm-9:30pm	Murder Medium Rare Rehearsal	Childcare
Oct 21 (Sun)	1:00pm-4:00pm	Mikado Rehearsal (Music 10)	CPHS
Oct 22 (Mon)	6:30pm-8:30pm	Lion King Rehearsal	St. Mary's
Oct 24 (Wed)	7:00pm-10:00pm	Mikado Rehearsal (Music 11)	CPHS
Oct 24 (Wed)	7:30pm-9:34pm	Murder Medium Rare Rehearsal	Childcare
Oct 28 (Sun)	10:00am	Mikado Set Build 1	Town Hall
Oct 28 (Sun)	1:00pm-4:00pm	Mikado Rehearsal (Staging 1)	CPHS
Oct 29 (Mon)	6:30pm-8:30pm	Lion King Rehearsal	St. Mary's
Oct 31 (Wed)	7:00pm-10:00pm	Mikado Rehearsal (Staging 2)	Town Hall
Oct 31 (Wed)	7:30pm-9:30pm	Murder Medium Rare Rehearsal	Childcare
Nov 1 (Thur)	6:30pm-8:30pm	Lion King Rehearsal	St. Mary's
Nov 1 (Thur)	7:30pm-9:30pm	Murder Medium Rare Rehearsal	Childcare
Nov 2 (Fri)		Murder Medium Rare Performance	Grand Hotel
Nov 3 (Sat)	9:00am	Mikado Set Build 2	Town Hall
Nov 3 (Sat)		Murder Medium Rare Performance	Grand Hotel
Nov 4 (Sun)	9:00am	Mikado Set Build 3	Town Hall
Nov 4 (Sun)	1:00pm-4:00pm	Mikado Rehearsal (Staging 3)	Town Hall
Nov 5 (Mon)	6:30pm-8:30pm	Lion King Rehearsal	St. Mary's
Nov 7 (Wed)	7:00pm-10:00pm	Mikado Rehearsal (Staging 4)	Town Hall
Nov 8 (Thur)	6:30pm-8:30pm	Lion King Rehearsal	St. Mary's
Nov 10 (Sat)	9:00am	Mikado Rehearsal (Cue to Cue)	Town Hall
Nov 11 (Sun)	1:00pm-4:00pm	Mikado Rehearsal (Stumble 1)	Town Hall
Nov 12 (Mon)	6:30pm-8:30pm	Lion King Rehearsal	St. Mary's
Nov 14 (Wed)	7:00pm-10:00pm	Mikado Rehearsal (Stumble 2)	Town Hall
Nov 15 (Thur)	6:30pm-8:30pm	Lion King Rehearsal	St. Mary's
Nov 17 (Sat)		Auditions for We Will Rock You	
Nov 18 (Sun)	10:00am-4:00pm	Mikado Rehearsal (Dress)	Town Hall
Nov 19 (Mon)	6:30pm-8:30pm	Lion King Rehearsal	St. Mary's
Nov 21 (Wed)	6:00pm-10:00pm	Mikado Rehearsal (Full Dress)	Town Hall
Nov 22 (Thur)	6:30pm-8:30pm	Lion King Rehearsal	St. Mary's
Nov 25 (Wed)	7:00pm-10:00pm	Mikado Rehearsal (Run-through)	Town Hall
Nov 26 (Mon)	6:30pm-8:30pm	Lion King Rehearsal	St. Mary's
Nov 28 (Wed)	7:00pm-10:00pm	Mikado Rehearsal (Run-through)	Town Hall
Nov 29 (Thur)	6:30pm-8:30pm	Lion King Rehearsal	St. Mary's
Nov 30 (Fri)	6:00pm	Mikado Performance	Town Hall
Dec 1 (Sat)	6:00pm	Mikado Performance	Town Hall
Dec 2 (Sun)	12noon	Mikado Performance	Town Hall
Dec 3 (Mon)	6:30pm-8:30pm	Lion King Rehearsal	St. Mary's
Dec 5 (Wed)	7:00pm-10:00pm	Mikado Rehearsal (Run-through)	Town Hall
Dec 6 (Thur)	6:30pm-8:30pm	Lion King Rehearsal	St. Mary's
Dec 7 (Fri)	6:00pm	Mikado Performance	Town Hall
Dec 8 (Sat)	6:00pm	Mikado Performance	Town Hall
Dec 9 (Sun)	12noon	Mikado Performance and Tear Down	Town Hall
Dec 10 (Mon)	6:30pm-8:30pm	Lion King Rehearsal	TBA
Dec 13 (Thur)	6:30pm-8:30pm	Lion King Rehearsal	St. Mary's
Dec 17 (Mon)	6:30pm-8:30pm	Lion King Rehearsal	St. Mary's
Dec 20 (Thur)	6:30pm-8:30pm	Lion King Rehearsal	St. Mary's
Jan 7 (Mon)	6:30pm-8:30pm	Lion King Rehearsal	Town Hall
Jan 10 (Thur)	6:30pm-8:30pm	Lion King Rehearsal	Town Hall
Jan 14 (Mon)	6:30pm-8:30pm	Lion King Rehearsal	Town Hall
Jan 17 (Thur)	6:30pm-8:30pm	Lion King Rehearsal	Town Hall

Jan 21 (Mon)	6:30pm-8:30pm	Lion King Rehearsal	Town Hall
Jan 24 (Thur)	6:30pm-8:30pm	Lion King Rehearsal	Town Hall
Jan 26 (Sat)	9:00am-4:00pm	Lion King Set Build	Town Hall
Jan 27 (Sun)	9:00am-4:00pm	Lion King Set Build	Town Hall
Jan 28 (Mon)	6:30pm-8:30pm	Lion King Rehearsal	Town Hall
Jan 31 (Thur)	6:30pm-8:30pm	Lion King Rehearsal	Town Hall
Feb 2 (Sat)	9:00am-4:00pm	Lion King Set Build	Town Hall
Feb 3 (Sun)	9:00am-4:00pm	Lion King Set Build	Town Hall
Feb 4 (Mon)	6:30pm-8:30pm	Lion King Rehearsal	Town Hall
Feb 7 (Thur)	6:30pm-8:30pm	Lion King Rehearsal	Town Hall
Feb 9 (Sat)	10:00am-4:00pm	Lion King Rehearsal (Cue to Cue)	Town Hall
Feb 11 (Mon)	6:30pm-8:30pm	Lion King Rehearsal	Town Hall
Feb 14 (Thur)	5:00pm-9:00	Lion King Dress Rehearsal	Town Hall
Feb 21 (Thur)	6:30pm-:30pm	Lion King Rehearsal	Town Hall
Feb 22 (Fri)	5:00pm-9:00pm	Lion King Performance	Town Hall
Feb 23 (Sat)	12:00pm-4:00pm	Lion King Performance	Town Hall
Feb 24 (Sun)	12:00pm-4:00pm	Lion King Performance	Town Hall
Feb 28 (Thur)	5:00pm-9:00pm	Lion King Performance	Town Hall
Mar 1 (Fri)	5:00pm-9:00-m	Lion King Performance	Town Hall
Mar 2 (Sat)	12:00pm-4:00pm	Lion King Performance	Town Hall
Mar 3 (Sun)	12:00pm-7:00pm	Lion King Performance, Tear Down and Party	Town Hall