

Simply "Mahvelous".....

Our Readers Theatre production of *Enchanted April* was a pure delight! The audience thoroughly enjoyed this story of four dissimilar women in the 1920s who leave London's damp and rainy environs to go on a one-month vacation to a secluded mediaeval chateau on Italy's Mediterranean coast. This was a delightful story that explored love, hope and rejuvenation with dramatic, hilarious and poignant consequences.

Under the direction of Jean Llewellyn, the sterling cast and crew sparkled with life and exuberance. Bravo!!!



The cast and crew of "Enchanted April" Rose Jones, Michael Kirkpatrick, Steve O'Neill, Madeleine Ani, Nick Squire, Nancy Jenner, Catherine Andersen, B J Godson, Jean Llewellyn, Margaret Litt, , Alisa Perry



Youth Group

Held April 2nd and 21st The children are "polishing" up their lines of prose and poetry in preparation for their <u>first</u> <u>ever event!</u>

Do plan to attend the "Mad Hatters Tea Party" in support of the children and the Youth Group Project on Sunday June 2, 2:00pm to 4:00pm at the Rollo Centre



We've been busy!!!

Over the years Gabriola Players has accumulated an enormous amount of "stuff". Costumes, props, technical equipment, scripts, tools, and well, the list goes on and on. Many people graciously allowed us to store our "stuff" in their homes, stores and garages and we would like to thank them all for their help. Now that Gabriola Players has a new "home" at the Rollo Centre we had ourselves a moving day and have been able to place almost everything in a central location at the Rollo Centre and The Commons. Once again a big THANK YOU to those who carefully minded our belongings and another THANK YOU to the good people at the Rollo Centre and The Commons for providing us with the storage space.

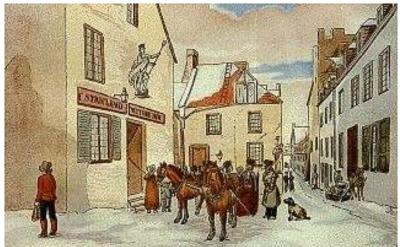


The First Theatre

Aboriginal peoples were performing rituals and dramas as part of ceremonies and celebrations hundreds of years before Europeans came to the shores of the "New World." Indeed the Aboriginal Theatre we see today, such as Tomson Highway 's plays, is often based on Native mythology.

First European Theatre

Theatre historian, David Gardner believes that European theatre came to Canada with Sir Humphrey Gilbert and "a little company of mummers" in 1583, predating Marc Lescarbot' production of *Le Théâtre de Neptune en la Nouvelle-France* on November 14, 1606. Samuel de Champlain, in Port Royal (in what is now Nova Scotia) organized a social club called L'Ordre de Bon Temps and it was through the Ordre that Lescarbot mounted his entertainment, performed by members of the French colony disguised as natives and mythological beings. The purpose of the event was to celebrate the return of the colony's founders from a dangerous expedition. The site of the colony and the production was abandoned in 1607 and there is no other mention of theatrical activity until 1640, though it is more than likely that light-hearted entertainments were presented as a part of colonial life.



The Neptune Inn, Quebec City, in the 18th century; the kind of gathering place which served as this country's earliest theatrical venues (National Archives)



Questions and Answers!

We are often asked what roles and duties are required by production crews so, this is the first in a series of information bits on how you can become involved in a production by Gabriola Players.

"What is the role of?"

Stage Manager

Preparation:

- 1. Work closely with the director. Understand the director's vision for the play and help bring it to life.
- 2. Attend all rehearsals and performances.
- 3. Prepare a preliminary list of props.
- 4. "Spike" the stage for spots where actors should stand.

During Rehearsals:

- 1. In cooperation with the director set up rehearsal schedules.
- 2. Go over the rehearsal schedule with director and cast.
- 3. Maintain a list of email addresses and phone numbers of cast and crew.
- 4. Ensure all rehearsal props are available.
- 5. Ensure rehearsal space is ready.
- 6. Take notes of blocking, missed lines, entrances, exits and stage business.
- 7. Prepare and distribute daily production notes.
- 8. Have sharp pencils and erasers on hand for rehearsals.
- 9. Be familiar with all aspects of the venue.
- 10. Act as a liaison between the director and department heads.

During the Performance:

- 1. Collect valuables before performance, store safely and return after the show.
- 2. Be responsible for the running of the show.
- 3. Coordinate with FOH, lights and sound prior to the show.
- 4. Be ready for any emergency (tech or personal) and trouble shoot.
- 5. All production personnel and actors report to the stage manager.
- 6. Give 15, 10, 5 minute calls plus "positions please".
- 7. Have cues for lights and sound
- 8. Be "on Book" during the performance.
- 9. Keep the stage manager's box handy.
- 10. Responsible for evacuations in case of emergency.

So, any time you want to assist in a production we welcome your participation and there will always be someone to help "teach you the ropes".



Mark Your Calendars!



Billed as a tragi-comedy, this play gives us a glimpse into the lives of two people reaching the end of their lives in an Old Folks Home. Weller is obsessed with the game of Gin; Fonsia is his opponent. Together they show us their past and present lives.





"Mad Hatters Tea Party"

Put on your "mad hat" in support of the Youth Group Program.

Featuring a Special Presentation by the Gabriola Players' Youth Group

Enjoy a "cuppa" and a tasty treat!
Prizes for the "maddest hat"
Door prizes!

Sunday June 2, 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm at the ROLLO CENTRE Admission: \$5 All proceeds to benefit the Youth Group Program



Readers Theatre Production

Friday June 7 – 7pm and Saturday June 8 – 2pm and 7pm Rollo Centre "Under Milk Wood" by Dylan Thomas Tickets and Details available soon.



MEMBERSHIP

When you become a member of Gabriola Players your membership fee helps to pay for scripts, royalties, insurance, venue rentals, make-up and costumes, acting and training courses and printing and advertising just to name a few.

We also have members' only special events such as discount theatre tours and wine and cheese receptions.

We welcome you and any talents and skills you can bring to continue to make Gabriola Players a vibrant and integral part of our community!

MEMBERSHIP + YOU = A BETTER GABRIOLA PLAYERS!

If you know someone who would like to become a member of Gabriola Players please tell them to visit our website at:

http://www.gabriolaplayers.ca

Go to the "membership" tab and select their preferred option for membership.



And the last word.....

is coming!