

GABRIOLA PLAYERS

2004-2014

Autumn 2014 newsletter



**And who might this buxom wench be?
To find out you'll have to see next month's panto!**

Artistic director's message

What an amazing start to our 2014/15 season!

Our 10th anniversary revival of **The Vagina Monologues** was our most successful [Readers Theatre](#) production ever. Thank you, Gabriola!

There were bravas all round for the eight women who delivered Eve Ensler's smart, sassy and bittersweet monologues. Like the women in the 2004 production, our acting experience ranged from some to none. Kudos to director Jean Wyenberg (the narrator in the original production) who coaxed such persuasive performances from all of us.

The women had their fun in September – and what a lot of fun we had! In October it was the turn of the male members of Gabriola Players to shine.



In March we gave audiences a chance to sit in the courtroom during *Inherit the Wind*. This month, thanks to director Anne Drozd's innovative staging, we got to be flies on the wall in a jury room. As Reginald Rose's **Twelve Angry Men** so clearly illustrates, jurors are also human beings whose emotions and prejudices can cloud the question of "reasonable" doubt.

Bravos this time to the twelve far-from-angry men who so convincingly brought these individuals to life.

As our cover photo suggests, rehearsals are well underway for this year's pantomime. We are excited to be performing the **world premiere** of **Will Shakespeare The Panto** by Robin Bailes. As the director, I can tell you, all the familiar panto elements are included in this uproariously funny musical comedy. Plenty of booing and hissing and cheering for the kids and a little something extra for the parents and grandparents. (Without giving too much away, if you're a Monty Python fan, book early to avoid disappointment.)

If you fancy getting a bit more involved in the panto than simply buying a ticket, there are still plenty of ways to get involved. We're looking for stage crew and make-up artists. And we're still in the market for a few props. Do you, for example, have a couple of ostrich (or peacock) feathers we could borrow? Or a lightweight, luxurious quilt? (Think velvet and satin!) We promise to take care of them. If you can help out, drop me a line at gabriolaplaywrights@gmail.com.

And finally, on behalf of the board of Gabriola Players, I would like to thank **Robert's Place** for once again taking on the role of season sponsor. We would also like to thank all the other Gabriola businesses supporting us through season ads in our programmes. That support and your membership fees are what make what we do possible.

Miranda Holmes

Did you know...

Shakespeare is widely credited with writing the first knock, knock joke? (It was some much needed comic relief in Act II Scene 3 of *Macbeth*.) In honour of this achievement, we will be producing a sort of "Pantovent" calendar of Shakespearean-themed knock, knock jokes, delivered daily in November in the run up to opening night of *Will Shakespeare The Panto*. Like us on [Facebook](#) to ensure you don't miss any of them!

The Vagina Monologues



Bravas all round for director Jean Wyenberg, stage manager Donna Deacon and the cast of our 10th anniversary revival of **The Vagina Monologues**. Monologuers, from left to right: Miranda Holmes, Michelle Young, Laura Johnson, Margaret Litt, Liz Ciocea, Alisa Perry, Adrienne Vance and Sheila Malcolmson. As the *Sounder* [review](#) put it, this was the perfect way to celebrate 10 years of storytelling.

Twelve Angry Men



Beyond all reasonable doubt, a wonderful rendition of **Twelve Angry Men**. Kudos to director Anne Drozd and the cast. Standing, left to right: Peter Dzierzawa, Cec Ashley, Dave Innell, Konrad Mauch, Erik Andersen, Alex Dewar, Henk Blok, Steve O'Neill. Seated: Dean Clark, Tom Cameron, Gerry Stefanson, Joe Di Cara, Lawrence Spero.

And now for something completely different...

He may be revered today, but in the early days young Will Shakespeare had it tough. This pantomime reveals the great untold story of Shakespeare's early career: how, with the help of a motley troupe of actors, he won the Globe Theatre, saved Queen Elisabeth I, met the love of his life, and defeated the evil, sonnet-stealing Earl of Nanaimo! Is this story true? Who can say? Probably not, but it is entertaining!

GABRIOLA PLAYERS presents

The world premiere of

Will Shakespeare The Panto!

By Robin Bailes



The pun is mightier than the sword!

COMMUNITY HALL

NOVEMBER 28 & 29 at 7pm

NOVEMBER 29 & 30 at 2pm

Sponsored by Robert's Place

Coming in 2015

MARCH 2015

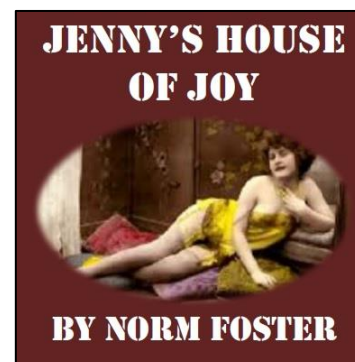
Set in a warehouse in Baxter Springs, Kansas in 1871, Norm Foster's *Jenny's House of Joy* has been described by reviewers as "funny, touching and ripe with comic surprises."

Auditions: Tuesday, January 6 at 7pm

**Performances: Friday, March 13 at 7pm,
Saturday March 14 at 2pm and 7pm. Sunday, March 15 at 2pm**

Rollo Centre

Mature themes.



MAY 2015

As a special highlight of our 10th anniversary season, the 2015 Festival of One-Act Plays will feature four works by Gabriola Playwrights.

Auditions: Thursday, March 19 at 7pm

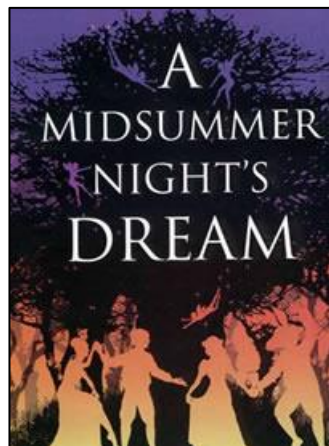
**Performances: Friday May 22 at 7pm.
Saturday May 23 at 2pm and 7pm. Sunday May 24 at 2pm.**

Rollo Centre

Mature themes.

GABRIOLA PLAYERS
Presents
**A FESTIVAL OF
ONE-ACT PLAYS**
By
**GABRIOLA
PLAYWRIGHTS**

JUNE 2015



With the success of last July's alfresco Readers Theatre performance of *On Golden Pond*, a new season feature was born. What else could we possibly stage outdoors in June?

Readers Theatre production of William Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (adapted by Bob Gonzalez).

Auditions: Tuesday, June 2

**Performances: Friday and Saturday, June 26 and 27 at 6pm.
Sunday, June 28 at 2pm.**

Venue to be confirmed.

Suitable for all ages.

There are still plenty of opportunities to get involved in our 2014/15 season. Can you build or decorate a set? Can you make a costume, find props? How about trying your hand at producing or stage managing a play? There are dozens of volunteer opportunities that don't involve standing on a stage. To find out more, check out the [Who Does What](#) section of our website.