

Lorraine Kimsa Theatre for Young People

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SEASON PARTNER



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MEDIA CONTACT: JOSEE DURANLEAU 416 652-7672 | josee@duranleau.com

LKTYP Announces 2009|10 Season Celebrating True Character

Lorraine Kimsa Theatre for Young People is proud to announce its line-up for the 2009|10 Season! This year, LKTYP will feature eight productions – including two World Premieres and a North American Premiere – each designed to have a positive and lasting impact on the character development of young people.

LKTYP is thrilled to officially launch its season with the World Premiere of ***The Princess and the Handmaiden***, by critically-acclaimed playwright-composer **Leslie Arden**. *Mean Girls* meets the Brothers Grimm in this fresh musical take on the classic fairy tale, *The Goose Girl*. Then ***El Numero Uno***, by **Pam Mordecai**, starts the New Year off with a bang (or rather, an oink), as the World Premiere of her delightful Caribbean tale about a persevering pig on a mission to save his island takes over the Mainstage. March Break heralds the North American Premiere of ***The Monster Under the Bed***, by England's **Kevin Dyer**. This hilarious new comedy was first presented as a staged reading in April 2008 at the John F. Kennedy Center for Performing Arts in Washington, DC, as part of *New Visions/New Voices*, and will have its World Premiere at London's Polka Theatre in June 2009.

The season is further distinguished by the return of ***Hana's Suitcase*** by **Emil Sher**, based on the book *Hana's Suitcase* by Karen Levine, published by Second Story Press. Originally premiered at LKTYP in 2006, the compelling, true story of *Hana's Suitcase* went on to enjoy a nationwide tour. Due to overwhelming audience demand, LKTYP's production returns to the Mainstage for Spring 2010.

In addition to these great productions, LKTYP will present works from some of Canada's top TYA companies. The season begins with **Green Thumb Theatre's *Blind Spot***, a highly-charged look at teens wrestling with friendship, sexuality and responsibility. In December, LKTYP will present ***There's a Mouse in My House*** by **Carousel Players**. This charming audience-participation piece is sure to delight the littlest theatre-goers. Then **DynamO Théâtre** is back with its signature acrobatic moves in ***Thrice Upon a Time*** – a rousing adventure that pits a young boy against a wicked witch on a mysterious island (performances offered in French and English). Rounding out the season will be the gripping **Youtheatre** production, ***In This World*** where two teen girls confront each other on race, class and sex while serving detention after getting into a vicious fight. And, finally, LKTYP's Drama School will once again conclude the 2009|10 season in The Studio with another series of thought-provoking public performances by ***The Ensemble***.

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Lorraine Kimsa
Theatre for Young People

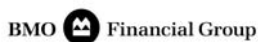
165 Front Street East
Toronto, ON M5A 3Z4

ADMIN 416 363-5131
FAX 416 363-5136

BOX OFFICE 416 862-2222
WEBSITE lktyp.ca

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Artistic Director, **Allen MacInnis**, has programmed a season dedicated to *True Character*. The Ontario Ministry of Education has identified a list of positive traits that aid both parents and teachers in helping children develop the characteristics of good citizens, good neighbours – good people: respect, fairness, integrity, honesty, cooperation, teamwork, perseverance, empathy, kindness and caring, and responsibility. These traits provide the framework for a season that will provoke discussion and inspire young people.

"I am convinced that great theatre developed for the different ages and stages of childhood, can offer powerful examples of these characteristics. Sometimes by revealing their absence; other times, by showing the positive consequences of having them. Whatever the case, through stories that engage, excite, and challenge, I believe theatre truly contributes to young people learning what it is to be good. This coming season at LKTYP, we are introducing into the world of children's theatre a range of wonderful, complicated, foolish, smart, timid, brave, troubled, happy and thoroughly intriguing personalities. In fact, it's a whole year of truly inspiring characters!"
- Allen MacInnis, Artistic Director

This season, LKTYP has even more to celebrate as it marks the **40th anniversary of LKTYP's renowned Drama School**. Classes were first offered in 1969 at what was then Young Peoples Theatre, initiated by YPT founder, **Susan Douglas Rubes**. Since that time, the Drama School has gone on to educate and inspire over 50,000 young people, expanding to three locations with satellite schools in North York, Etobicoke and downtown Toronto. Registration is currently underway for the Summer Session with a variety of classes available at the downtown location for ages 4 to 18. LKTYP also offers scholarships to qualifying applicants, with information available online at lktyp.ca or by calling 416 862-2222.

Scholarships for the Drama School and *The Ensemble* are funded in part by a generous donation from **Ada Slaight**.

2009|10 SEASON PLAYBILL

BLIND SPOT

By Meghan Gardiner

Directed by Patrick MacDonald

Produced by Green Thumb Theatre

STUDIO | Nov. 10 to 20, 2009

Recommended for Grades 8-12 | Ages 13 & up

Tyler has developed a crush on Carrie. She has her eye on his cousin. A look at the pressure on teens to become sexually active and an examination of the responsibilities boys and girls bear for each other's wellbeing.

THE PRINCESS AND THE HANDMAIDEN

Written and composed by Leslie Arden

By special arrangements with Ginger Cat Productions

Directed by Allen MacInnis

WORLD PREMIERE! | MAINSTAGE | Nov. 15 to Dec. 30, 2009

Recommended for Grades SK-11 | Ages 5-16

A witty and joyous new musical from the critically-lauded Leslie Arden, about loyalty, friendship, magic potions, and talking sheep. Whose grass is greener? The good-hearted, pampered Princess – or her hard-working, jealous Handmaiden?

THERE'S A MOUSE IN MY HOUSE

By Carrie Costello

Adapted from the book by Sheree Fitch

Directed by Pablo Felices-Luna

Produced by Carousel Players

STUDIO | Dec. 7-19, 2009

Recommended for Grades JK-3 | Ages 4-8

By asserting her right to a glass of pop, a piece of cheese, and the opportunity to relate her life story, a charming young mouse succeeds at making two new friends – but can she overcome the opposition of their mother and find a new home? An interactive play using audience participation to inspire creativity and demonstrate tolerance.

EL NUMERO UNO

By Pam Mordecai

Directed by ahdri zhina mandiola

WORLD PREMIERE! | MAINSTAGE | Jan. 31-Feb. 25, 2010

Recommended for Grades 3-8 | Ages 8 & up

An original Caribbean tale about a little pig who is captured by two greedy Beasts that are threatening the whole island with starvation. If he is to save the day, El Numero Uno will need big-big help from his neighbours – and a magical soup!

THE MONSTER UNDER THE BED

By Kevin Dyer

Directed by Nina Lee Aquino

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE! | MAINSTAGE | Mar. 8 - Apr. 1, 2010

Recommended for Grades 1-6 | Ages 6 & up

Ben has BIG problems. His Dad is far, far away, his *former* best friend Vince has stolen his precious binoculars and Ben has only one day to get them back... Oh, and there's a monster under his bed who wants to trade places with him. An hilarious new comedy about friendship and facing your fears.

THRICE UPON A TIME

By Jacqueline Gosselin

Co-directed by Jacqueline Gosselin and Robert Dion

Produced by DynamO Théâtre

STUDIO | Apr. 18-29, 2010

Recommended for Grades 2-7 | Ages 7-12

A young boy is stranded on a mysterious island where he encounters an outlandish creature who asks for his help in defeating a wicked witch. This modern-day tale bears witness to the courage and resilience children need to have in a sometimes forbidding world.

Performances in English, French, and Spanish.

HANA'S SUITCASE

By Emil Sher

Based on the book, *Hana's Suitcase* by Karen Levine, published by Second Story Press

Directed by Allen MacInnis

RETURN ENGAGEMENT! | MAINSTAGE | Apr. 18-May 21, 2010

Recommended for Grades 5-12 | Ages 10 & up

It is March, 2000. A child's suitcase arrives from Auschwitz at the tiny Children's Holocaust Centre in Tokyo. Painted on the side are a name, Hana Brady, a birthdate and the word, "Waisenkind" (orphan). Spurred on by the children at the Centre, the curator embarks on a relentless search from Tokyo to Prague to Toronto to uncover the story of Hana and her fate at the hands of the Nazis.

IN THIS WORLD

By Hannah Moscovitch

Directed by Michel Lefebvre

Produced by Youtheatre

STUDIO | May 10-20, 2010

Recommended for Grades 8-12 | Ages 13 & up

Bijou and Neyssa grimly await the principal's interrogation after getting into a vicious fist-fight at school. As the former friends confront each other about what happened, their pre-conceptions about race, class, and, especially sex, are completely laid to waste. How do girls define power in our culturally diverse, media-saturated, post-feminist society?

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Single ticket prices for weekend family shows remain just \$20 for adults and \$15 for children (under 18) and grandparents (age 65+). Save on already low ticket prices with LKTYP's **Show Combos**, offering **discounts of up to 25%** off regular prices.

Weekday performances for schools are \$15 for students and teachers, with one **FREE teacher/** escort ticket provided for every 20 student tickets purchased. **Early bird savings of 25%** (all tickets just \$12) are available to teachers booking by June 30th, 2009.

Preview tickets for both weekend and weekday performances are just \$10.

With the generous assistance of **Sun Life Financial**, LKTYP is once again offering Pay-What-You-Can (PWYC) performances for ALL productions this season. PWYC tickets are available at the Box Office for weekend family shows on the day of performance only, with a suggested minimum contribution of \$5 per ticket.

Tickets ON SALE NOW to school groups. Show Combos are on sale May 8th. Single tickets go on sale July 2nd. For more information please call the Box Office at 416 862-2222 or visit lktyp.ca.

Please join us this season – for the fun of it – and for the inspiration it presents to the young people in your world!

LORRAINE KIMSA THEATRE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE (formerly Young Peoples Theatre)

is the largest Theatre for Young Audiences (TYA) company in Canada and a significant institution in the Canadian professional theatre community. Over our 44-year history we have produced many of the most important works that now form the canon of plays for young audiences in this country.

Learning is at the centre of everything we do and LKTYP is renowned as the showplace for presenting important TYA work developed elsewhere. In addition to being a producer and presenter of theatre, LKTYP has also been home to a year-round Drama School for youth since 1969. At the centre of LKTYP's artistic policy is a desire to have a positive and lasting impact on the emotional, social, and intellectual development of young people in order for them to grow into the unique and wonderful people they were born to be. At LKTYP we also believe that the more challenging, the more hostile, the more 'isolated within-the-crowd' our world becomes, the more we need art to help us interpret the universe, connect with each other, and imagine a better future. If adults need this, kids need it more.