

THE SHOCKING RISE IN TEEN GAMBLING HITS THE STAGE!
LKTYP presents Green Thumb Theatre's *CHASING THE MONEY*.

TORONTO, ON (Thursday, October 5, 2006) – LKTYP is proud to welcome Vancouver's Green Thumb Theatre back to Toronto with *Chasing The Money* by acclaimed playwright **Dennis Foon** (*New Canadian Kid*). A riveting tale about the highs and lows of risk-taking and coming of age, *Chasing The Money* will be presented in the Studio from November 13 to December 3.

Kip loves gambling. He figures he has a knack for it. At school Kip bets on anything: from lunchtime poker to the probability of his teacher belching. When he meets a real gambler – his girlfriend's father – Kip ups the ante to big-time gaming and quickly finds he's jeopardizing much more than money...

With the news increasingly dominated by issues about problem gambling, this look at the ease with which one can be trapped into the fantasy of "easy money" can inspire timely discussion with today's teens. Depression and tragedy can be the outcome of making choices based on chance and luck, and this play doesn't hold back in examining these issues.

Although problem gambling has been primarily thought of as an adult behaviour, gambling activities appear to be particularly attractive to today's youth. In fact, studies conducted in the United States, Canada, New Zealand, Europe, and Australia have noted rising prevalence rates of youth involvement in both legal and illegal forms of gambling. While approximately 80% of High School students report having gambled for money during the past year, 4-8% of adolescents presently have a serious gambling problem with another 10-14% of adolescents at-risk for developing a serious gambling problem. Yet, for most parents and teens, gambling is viewed as an innocuous behaviour with few negative consequences. – Youth Gambling International, McGill University

Directed by **Patrick McDonald**. Featuring **Nikolas Longstaff**, **Erin Mathews** and **Joshua Reynolds**. Set Design, **Craig Hall**; Carpenter, **João Carlos D'Almeida** and **Keith Smith**; Props/Costumes, **Angela Beaulieu** and **Robyn Volk**; Stage Management, **Daniel Dolan**.

Chasing the Money

STUDIO | **TORONTO PREMIERE**

Written by **Dennis Foon**

Produced by **Green Thumb Theatre**

November 13 to December 3, 2006

Recommended for ages 13 & up | Grades 7-12

Tickets: \$20 adults; \$15 kids (18 & under); Previews: \$10; all prices incl. GST | School/Group rates available

BOX OFFICE: 416 862-2222 | Schedule & ONLINE TICKETS at www.lktyp.ca

About LKTYP: Committed to the development of young people through professional theatre since 1966.

Since 1966, LKTYP has been using live performance to validate the common experiences young people encounter as they grow up in an increasingly complex world. LKTYP's performances are designed to help children and youth identify with the issues they face today and to offer a platform for addressing these challenges in an entertaining way. LKTYP is the largest non-profit theatre company for young audiences in Canada and presents new Canadian plays, innovative works, and classics from weekend performances for family audiences, weekday school programs for students, quarterly workshops for teachers, and a year-round Drama School.

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