

Lorraine Kimsa Theatre for Young People

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SEASON PARTNER  **Bank Financial Group**

Allen MacInnis
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Nancy J. Webster
MANAGING DIRECTOR

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Slaight Family shows support for artistic creativity at Lorraine Kimsa Theatre for Young people

**New Play Development, Production and Planning
receives unprecedented three-year \$300,000 Gift**

Today, **Lorraine Kimsa Theatre for Young People (LKTYP)** proudly announced that **Gary and Donna Slaight** have made a landmark show of support for new productions in Toronto. Over a three-year period, **LKTYP will receive \$300,000** specifically ear-marked for new play commissions, support of the workshopping process, and investment in the critical funding needed to premiere newly developed scripts. Additional monies will be utilized in the analysis and on-going planning stages necessary to help LKTYP to continue its successful growth and expansion.

This substantial support for new artistic creation is very important on the Canadian cultural scene. **Allen MacInnis**, Artistic Director of LKTYP explains: "LKTYP needs to create much of its own work because we are a unique producer of theatre for young audiences. We need to have enough plays in a 'production development' phase in order to serve our diverse programming needs. To achieve that, we need consistent financial backing. Luckily, Donna Slaight really understands this reality for LKTYP, having served on our Board for seven years, three as a forward-thinking, pragmatic, and generous President".

The Slaight Family has long been a supporter of LKTYP and its ground-breaking productions, created especially for young audiences. Together with a multi-year gift by **Ada Slaight** dedicated to LKTYP's Education & Participation Department and their Scholarship programme, **the Slaights will invest nearly \$600,000 in LKTYP's work between 2008 and 2012.**

"As parents who took our children to LKTYP's shows and events, we experienced first hand the positive impact these plays and programmes have on all young people. To be in a position to help make sure this level of creativity is maintained is very important to us as a family." – Donna Slaight

LKTYP Managing Director, **Nancy Webster** says, "Gary and Donna have been good friends to LKTYP. Their generosity together with the long-standing philanthropy of Ada Slaight has ensured that high quality, high impact art is created every day in Toronto. Our company is very grateful for their innovative generosity."

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Lorraine Kimsa
Theatre for Young People

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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.