

## ARTISTIC COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT - SEPTEMBER 20, 2023

2022-2023 was another successful season for Shuswap Theatre.

We began with the musical *The Secret Garden* directed by guest director Liz Hobbs. This show had a large cast and crew, who all worked very hard to produce a great show. As usual, working with Liz was a fun and truly satisfying experience for everyone involved. The show was well received by the audience and the music was beautiful. It was visually stunning.

Our winter production was *The 39 Steps*, a comedy, directed by Julia Body. All four of the actors in this show were new to the Shuswap Theatre mainstage. The energy and commitment brought by all involved with this show contributed to its incredible success. There was a lot of physical comedy, a fabulous set, soundscape and lighting effects.

We finished our season with our O-Zone festival entry, *Concord Floral* directed by Ann Skelhorne. It was wonderful to see so many young and enthusiastic actors on stage. Even though our houses were not large, the response from the audience was very positive. This show garnered much recognition at festival including Best Production, Best Director, Best Ensemble, Best Lighting and the Adjudicator's Merit Award for Meaghan Delaney who had to step in last minute when one of the actors was not able to go to festival. Koodos to Ann and her cast and crew! Unfortunately, we were not able to attend Mainstage.

The committee put together our 2023/24 season which includes, *Treasure Island* in November directed by Julia Body. The show has already been cast and will be starting rehearsals in early September. The winter production will be *Dry Streak*, a prairie comedy directed by Howard deLong. Our spring play, and festival entry is *Outside Mullingar*, directed by Kim MacMillan.

We would like to recognize Frank Manning who stepped down from the Artistic Committee this year, and thank him for his time and input. His position will be filled by Kim MacMillan.

The AC will also be putting on Theatre 101 in September. Theatre 101 is our opportunity to tell people new to Shuswap Theatre how we pick our shows and what role each department plays in contributing to the final product. This also includes a theatre tour. This will take place on September 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Respectfully submitted

Julia Body

Laura Lelond

Kim MacMillan