

September 1, 2013

Such a busy time ahead! The choice of shows for the new season has been a lot of work on the part of the Artistic Committee; Julia Body, James Bowlby, Rebecca Marchand and Youth Advisor Aidan Sparks. They read many plays and kept in mind that our audience and members have been asking for musicals and comedies. And they are getting just that!

- FALL SHOW: 'Little Shop of Horrors' a musical directed by Julia Body
- WINTER SHOW: 'Distracted' a drama directed Adele Kuyek
- SPRING SHOW: 'The Compleat Wrks of Wllm Shkspr' (Abridged) a comedy directed by Evelyn Birch

A heartfelt thank you to the Artistic Committee for their hard work and contribution to Shuswap Theatre.

As well, we are trying something different this year for our Mainstage productions, based on your feedback and audience feedback. We have changed the run dates of our Mainstage productions and now have 10 shows, instead of nine. As well, shows will run over 3 weekends so that we will have 2 Sunday matinees, as well as 2 'Thrifty Thursdays' replacing 'Tuesday 2 for 1'. The theatre will be dark Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays of the run.

It's our goal to provide more training and mentorship possibilities with each of these shows so that our volunteers feel more comfortable with volunteering and taking on new roles with Shuswap Theatre. There are also several workshops being planned to give our members/volunteers the opportunity to learn more about the theatre and the many roles one can have, as well as to hone your skills. This is in keeping with the five priorities the Board came away with at our Spring retreat:

1. our season/the run
2. the theatre atmosphere
3. communications,
4. productions; cast/crew
5. and additional events and features in the theatre

Theatre atmosphere is our focus at our Annual General meeting on Tues. Sept 24 7pm. The business of the evening will be kept to a minimum so that our Guest Speaker, Michelle Ambrose can lead us through a group process of 'Shaping The Future of Your Theatre'. Michelle listened to the stories and comments of members in several focus groups and online surveys and then worked with the Board to help us develop our five priorities for the new season. Now that the season and run has been set, communications are more frequent and thru more avenues, 'the theatre atmosphere' is at the fore front.

We hope that many of you will come out and join us for this wonderful opportunity – we want to hear from you in 'Shaping the Future of Your Theatre'!