

**Thank you**  
to all our  
**supporters!**  
We couldn't do it without you!



Regina Little Theatre  
Society, Inc.

1077 Angus Street  
Regina, SK S4T 1Y4

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October to  
December  
2022



Volume **87**  
Number **1**

Regina Little Theatre's comeback from the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic took a giant leap forward with the presentation of *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* from Nov. 30 through Dec. 3 at the Regina Performing Arts Centre.

Attendance for the five shows totalled 1,201, and the near-sellout for the Saturday matinee was so popular that Santa Claus himself showed up!

Crowds were boosted by support from the Anglican, Catholic and Lutheran dioceses of Regina, which was evident right from Opening Night, when a group of more than 40 parishioners from St. Mary's Anglican Church turned out in enthusiastic force.

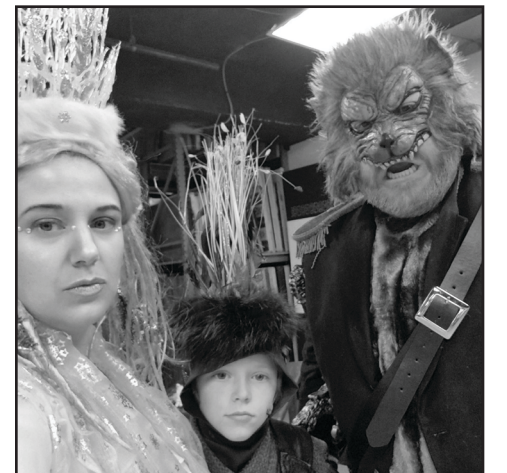
In pre-pandemic times, a total attendance of anything over 1,000 was considered a grand success. For this production spearheaded by the esteemed tandem of **director Jean Taylor** and **stage manager Cheryl Scherle**, there was a feeling of extra satisfaction and triumph.

Not that the coronavirus was entirely absent; RLT's two-year streak of having every show disrupted kept going as four cast members had to sit out various stretches of rehearsals with the virus. As usual, the production soldiered on and a dedicated team effort sent every performance off without a hitch.

The cast of 18 included eight young actors making their RLT debuts: **Sophia Brito, Nicholas Fuzesy, Leighton Klein, Cassie Robb, Kiernan Schneider, Ashlee Selensky, Bruce Ughetto** and **Jillian Wiens**.

While warnings persist that Covid-19 could re-emerge as a major health threat, the RLT board and volunteers continue to strive for resumption of full activity while remaining vigilant for any adjustments that may become necessary.

As many remarked over the first December weekend, *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* demonstrated that the public still wants to attend live theatre.



Meghan Ryan, Kiernan Schneider, and Mark Kelly rehearsing *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*.

Thanks to our show GOLD SPONSOR:



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**(306) 352-5535**

Masks and Faces is the official publication of Regina Little Theatre Society, Inc. and is published four times per year.

Help RLT to be both environmentally friendly AND fiscally responsible. Let us know if we can send your newsletter electronically! Leave your email address at the box office or contact us at **306-352-5535** or [rlt@sasktel.net](mailto:rlt@sasktel.net).

## RLT CALENDAR

### Saturday, Jan. 21: Stage Management Workshop.

At Regina Performing Arts Centre (RPAC), 1-3 p.m.

Conducted by Cheryl Scherle.

Admission \$20, payable by e-transfer to [rlt@sasktel.net](mailto:rlt@sasktel.net) or by cash at the workshop.

### Saturday, Jan. 28: Directing a Play Workshop.

At Regina Performing Arts Centre (RPAC), 1-3 p.m.

Conducted by Nora Berg.

Admission \$20, payable by e-transfer to [rlt@sasktel.net](mailto:rlt@sasktel.net) or by cash at the workshop.

### Feb. 15-18: Mainstage production of Time After Time.

Wednesday through Saturday evening performances at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday matinee at 1:30 p.m.

**WARNING:** Graphic and violent content.

### Thurs.-Fri., March 2-3: Auditions for Spring One-Acts.

At RPAC, 7:30 p.m. See further information elsewhere in this newsletter.

### Mon.-Tues., April 3-4 (tentative): Auditions for Steel Magnolias.

April 12-15:

### Mainstage production of Making God Laugh.

Wednesday through Saturday evening performances at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday matinee at 1:30 p.m.

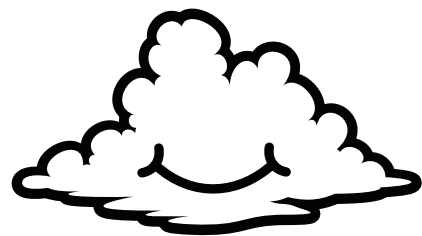
Fri.-Sat., May 5-6: Spring One-Acts.

Doors open for dinner at 6:30 p.m., performances begin at 7:30 p.m.

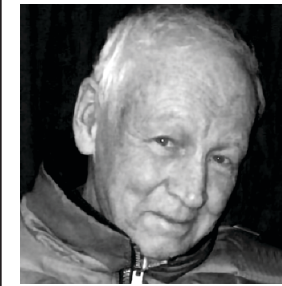
### June 7-10: Mainstage production of Steel Magnolias.

Wednesday through Saturday evening performances at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday matinee at 1:30 p.m.



## In Memoriam



### Chris Mansbridge

December 7th, 2022

Chris Mansbridge, a frequent performer at Regina Little Theatre in the 1990s, passed away on Dec. 7 at the age of 85.

Mansbridge, a professor and teacher, appeared in several RLT productions, most notable **Moon Over Buffalo** and **The Diary of Anne Frank**. A native of England, he resided in Wilcox, Regina and Lumsden and is remembered for his kind and humble nature.

RLT extends its condolences to Chris's family and friends. In lieu of flowers, remembrances are encouraged in the form of donations to the Lumsden District Heritage Home, Lumsden SK, S0G 3C0.

## Tickets and Memberships

### Season Tickets – Main Stage Plays

Become a **subscriber** for **BIG SAVINGS** on a **five-play package!**

Season tickets can be purchased at any time throughout the year at a prorated cost that reflects the number of plays remaining.

<b>Adults</b> (19-54 years)	<b>\$100<sup>00</sup></b>	<i>That's only \$20<sup>00</sup> per show!</i>
<b>Seniors</b> (55+ years)		
<b>Students</b> (Adult with current student ID)	<b>\$90<sup>00</sup></b>	<i>That's only \$18<sup>00</sup> per show!</i>
<b>Youth</b> (18 years and under)		

### Season ticket subscribers automatically become members of RLT!

Individuals who wish to participate on stage or behind the scenes but who are not subscribers must purchase a basic membership of \$25 for the season.

## Single-Admission Tickets

### Main Stage Plays

<b>Adults</b> (19-54 years)	<b>\$27<sup>00</sup></b>
<b>Seniors</b> (55+ years)	
<b>Students</b> (Adult with current student ID)	<b>\$24<sup>00</sup></b>
<b>Youth</b> (18 years and under)	

### One-Acts Cabaret

<b>All ages</b> (Single admission)	<b>\$15<sup>00</sup></b>
<b>Early bird</b> (Before Wednesdays of performance weekend)	<b>\$12<sup>00</sup></b>

## Box Office

Regina Performing Arts Centre  
**1077 Angus Street**  
Regina

Monday-Thursday:

**12 Noon - 5:00 pm**

Friday:

**12 Noon - 4:00 pm**

Performances:

Open **2 hours prior**  
to performances

On Site:

**Visa, MasterCard, Amex,  
Debit, Cheques, and Cash**

Phone:

**306-779-2277**

**Visa and MasterCard only**

Buy Single Tickets Online at:  
[rpac.na.ticketsearch.com](http://rpac.na.ticketsearch.com)

# Scholarship Update

Regina Little Theatre is inviting applications for the final presentation of the **Shirley Brooks Scholarship.**

The scholarship fund was established after Brooks, a dedicated volunteer and former board member, passed away in 2018. To honour her memory and support of anti-racism causes, the scholarship was set up for applicants of First Nations, Inuit or Metis heritage to assist them in a learning opportunity in the performing arts.

Although there was not enough money left in the fund to meet the established award of \$400, the RLT board voted to draw money from its general scholarship fund to maintain that amount.

When awarded, the \$400 must be paid directly to the educational institution that offers the class or workshop the applicant will attend.

To apply for the scholarship, please download the form available on the RLT Website at <http://www.reginalittletheatre.com/scholarships.html>.

The application should then be either e-mailed to [rlt@sasktel.net](mailto:rlt@sasktel.net) or mailed to Regina Little Theatre, 1077 Angus Street, Regina SK, S4T 1Y4.



A little something of an early Christmas gift was given to the occupants of a pair of local seniors' residences when the play **A Little Something for the Ducks** went out into the community.

**Ducks**, which was part of the **Fall One-Act Cabaret Oct. 28-29**, was performed **Nov. 24 at College Park II Retirement Residence** and again on **Dec. 15 at College Park Retirement Residence**, with actors **Bonnie Senger** and **Dan Carr** performing under the direction of **Hope Van Vliet**.

**Ducks** follows the interplay at a park between a pair of seniors with differing opinions and priorities.

"We presented the show to packed rooms on both occasions and the response was delightful!" Senger said. "The subject matter seemed to reach them on a personal level and we received warm congratulations and huge thank-yous from the crowds."

Or, as the College Park residences posted on their own Facebook page: "The residents loved it! **A Little Something for the Ducks** was a smashing success! Thank you Regina Little Theatre for a great evening of theatre!"

Similar outings will be considered in the future, dependent on technical considerations. Plays reliant on major light, sound, or set considerations would be impractical, but RLT will look for further opportunities to present basic entertainment like **Ducks** to audiences that may not be otherwise able to attend live theatre.



Regina Little Theatre's next mainstage production is **Time After Time**, which has been in rehearsals since early December and will be presented Feb. 15-18 at the Regina performing Arts Centre. **Director Amanda Schenstead** offers some insights into this compelling thriller.

**The central characters in Time After Time are well entrenched in history: H.G. Wells and Jack the Ripper. How do you see them portrayed in the context of this play?**

We are mainly using any evidence found in the script as a means of portraying these characters: the way they speak and the bits of history they reveal through their words have been very helpful in assisting the actors in portraying these two characters. There is also a considerable amount of mystery surrounding "Jack the Ripper"... there is some speculation, but nobody really knows much about him. The script reveals a troubled childhood with an abusive mother and questionable relationship with a sister which sits at the core of his psychosis. Evan Walker, the actor playing Jack the Ripper, has been developing this character quite well using both the clues in the script and his own imaginative flair. H.G. Wells' character is revealed mainly through his ideas and philosophy and through the way that his relationship grows with Amy. Braden Schmidt has been doing a lovely job developing this character as very interesting, naïve, and a bit quirky.



**The other major character, Amy, differs not just in her gender but in being a product of 20th-century upbringing. How does she fit in?**

Amy is an interesting character! We have had a few discussions about how she seems to be career driven, advocating the idea of women in positions of power ... yet, she immediately becomes attracted to this new and strange guy (H.G. Wells) who then becomes her primary focus, and we hear nothing more of her workplace or hopes and dreams for quite some time. It seemed a bit odd. However, in studying this character together further, we discovered that she is attracted to H.G. because he is so different from the typical 19th century male that she may be used to encountering. Amy is a very strong, intelligent character and Amanda LeForte has been doing well portraying Amy in a genuine way.

**Being set decades in the past with key parts played by 19th Century notables, what makes this story relevant today?**

Aside from all the suspense and drama, relationships are central to this story. Relationships of any kind come with challenges and the way that one navigates through challenges creates what H.G. Wells describes as "utopia" or "dystopia." In the case of H.G. and Amy, it seems as though they embark on a search for and eventually find their utopia. "Utopia" is something that we as human beings are all searching for in one way or another. With John (Jack the Ripper), dystopia is central to who he is and how he acts and reacts to situations leaving him no room for developing any kind of relationship outside of this chaotic vision.

**The story, originally a screenplay, is obviously inspired by Wells' novel The Time Machine. Can you disclose how you will depict the time machine on stage without spoiling it?**

It's not every day that you can ask your set designer and the shop boys to create a time machine. That, in and of itself, is a pretty special opportunity for everyone involved. Without spoiling the big reveal, the time machine will closely resemble an object associated with time and will include pieces that show the passage of time. As it is an object coming out of the 19th Century where technology included gears and steam, the shop boys are also planning to give it a "steampunk" look. Special lighting and sound effects will also help make the time machine "come to life."

*continued...*

**Coming on the heels of *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*, a story that features Jack the Ripper is obviously not for a young or squeamish audience. How graphic does *Time After Time* get? Is it for everybody?**

No! Do not bring your kids to this show! (Unless, of course, they are mature for their age and show interest in crime thrillers/horror.) I have planned one of the murder scenes to be quite violent and bloody. This is not to sensationalize anything about Jack the Ripper but to depict his acts in a historically accurate way and to show how truly evil he is.

**Who do you have on board for cast and crew?**

We have a whole fleet of newcomers in our cast/crew as well as some old friends. In particular, I am very happy to be working with Patrick Pelletier as my stage manager. There are a lot of fight scenes which need to look as real and as violent as possible so I am also grateful to have Devon Bonneau on board as fight choreographer. Aimee Tetreault also comes with her knowledge and expertise on set design and props. And I cannot go on enough about how dedicated and hard-working the cast has been throughout the process. We're excited to put on a marvelous show!

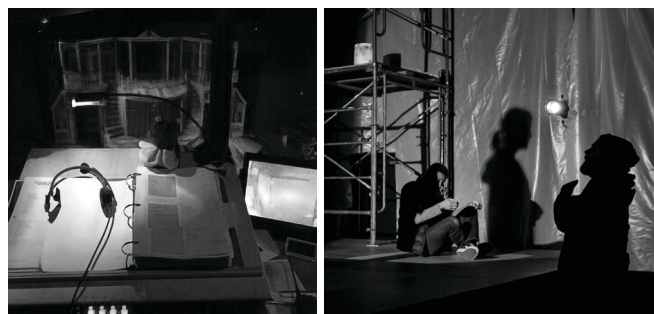
## Workshops!

**Two of Regina Little Theatre's most experienced and accomplished organizers will be conducting workshops this month in Stage Management and Directing.**

The ***Stage Management Workshop*** will be held **Saturday, Jan. 21**, from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Regina Performing Arts Centre (RPAC). It will be conducted by **Cheryl Scherle**, who has managed some of RLT's most complex and ambitious productions like ***The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, *Charlotte's Web*** and ***Anne of Green Gables***. Cheryl, renowned for her organizational skills and reliability, will cover the general and finer points of technical and practical matters that lead to a successful show.

The ***Directing a Play Workshop*** will follow a week later on **Saturday, Jan. 28**, from 1 to 3 p.m. at RPAC. This will be led by **Nora Berg**, whose lengthy list of credits includes shows that have garnered numerous awards at provincial festivals, like her most recent effort, ***Sylvia***. Nora will focus on the fundamentals of blocking, and on developing a production from a solid foundation.

Admission for each workshop is \$20, payable by e-transfer to [rlt@sasktel.net](mailto:rlt@sasktel.net) or by cash at each workshop.



## 2023 Spring One-Acts Cabaret

One-Acts Producer Hope Van Vliet has lined up an entertaining program with a bit of an edge to it for ***RLT's Spring One-Acts Cabaret*** to be presented **Friday and Saturday, May 5-6** at RPAC.

Current plans are to continue with the same format that was employed in pre-pandemic days and was resumed for the Fall One-Acts last October – that is, there will be table seating, doors will open at 6:30 p.m. for meal and beverage service, and the performance of plays will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Our ***One-Act Cabarets*** are an opportunity to exercise and showcase emerging talent among actors, directors and crew, as promising people with little or no theatre experience are integrated with seasoned participants.

The Spring program consists of:

### ***The Plot***

by **Mark Troy**, directed by David Hopkinson. Comedy.

### ***Jimmy the Antichrist***

by **Keith J. Powell**, directed by Slayte Prefontaine. Comedy/Satire.

### ***Anniversary***

by **Rachel Bonds**, directed by James Park. Drama.

### ***Variations on the Death of Trotsky***

by **David Ives**, directed by Joseph Shane McLellan. Comedy.

Some of the comedy will be of the dark variety, and there will be explorations of mature themes including gender identity. Total running time, not including intermissions and set adjustments between plays, will be about 75-80 minutes.

**Auditions for these plays are scheduled for Thursday and Friday, March 2-3, 7:30 p.m., at RPAC. In all, the plays require seven male and eight female actors.**

