RLT
REGINA LITTLE THEATRE

MASKS & FACES

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Season 100, here we are!

Big satisfaction for a big job well done!

Our Centennial Gala on May 9 at "Goldman Theatre" (the temporarily renamed RPAC) was a spectacular success! In the merry chaos afterwards, most of the organizing committee was rounded up for a group photo. The people who laboured on preparing the event for more than a year were, as you can see, overjoyed with the result. From left, they are: Nora Berg, Michelle Ramsay, Karin von Staden, Dan Carr, John Chaput, Joan Miller, Bob Nicholls, Pat Wilson, Krystal Pisiak, Carol Gay Bell, Ryan Ramsay, Carolyn McBean and Carla Dorwart. Other key organizers not pictured include Lois Bulbeck, Breann DeHaven, Adrienne Duke, Harvey Linnen and Bonnie Senger. Overall, nearly 100 people were involved in the event, which was attended by 270 patrons. (Photo courtesy of Rose Brewster.) More photos on Page 3.

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Season 101!

Following Season 100 and "A Century of Community," Regina Little Theatre's Season 101 (2026-27) will be "Raising the Curtain on our Second Century."

As usual, there will be five mainstage production with five performances apiece – and, with no celebratory gala as we had this season, we are back to two sets of One-Act Cabarets (Oct. 30-31, 2026, and May 7-8, 2027).

The five mainstages – of which the last three are all by Canadian playwrights – are:

The Mousetrap, by Agatha Christie, directed by Nora Berg, Sept. 30-Oct. 3, 2026: The longest-running play anywhere in the world focuses on seven strangers who are snowed in at a remote English guesthouse. News spreads of murder in London. It's a whodunit, but decades of tradition demand that no one in the audience can divulge whodid!

A Wicked Christmas Carol, by Bobby Keniston, directed by Patrick Pelletier and Bryce Schlamp, Dec. 2-5, 2026: A ghostly figure whisks away the Wicked Witch of the West on a journey through her past, present and future. Will she achieve redemption on Christmas Eve?

Sunshine Express, by Sarah Quick, directed by Carri Lelliott, Feb. 10-13, 2027: Canadian snowbirds take a coach tour that sees dreams realized and lives unfurled. A multitude of characters experience a journey of discovery on this ultimate road trip!

Waiting for the Parade, by John Murrell, directed by Amanda Schenstead, March 31- April 3, 2027. Five Canadian women keep the home fires burning during the Second World War, dealing with their anxieties through courage, tension, humour and a little music.

Dogbarked, by James O'Shea, directed by Brad McDougall, June 9-12, 2027: A precursor of the TV series Corner Gas, this comedy follows two Saskatchewan brothers striving to keep their small town alive when a pair of strangers from Toronto accidentally drop in.

See Page 4 of this newsletter for details on subscription purchases, and for the Calendar which includes tentative audition dates.

What Was and What's Coming

April and May were exceptionally busy months, and there is still more to come as we wind down a tremendously successful 100th Season and take the first steps towards our 101st.

There isn't enough space to do justice to everything, so here are some highlights and important notes:

Les Miserables packs them in

Our fourth play of the season, directed by Bob Nicholls, proved that a well-performed drama can draw and entertain a substantial audience. Total attendance for the five stagings was 1,272 – the third straight show (after *Miracle on 34th Street* and *On Golden Pond*) to draw more than 1,200 patrons.

Cheryl Scherle

Moose Jaw leads TheatreFest awards

TheatreFest 2026, co-hosted April 5-11 by Theatre Saskatchewan and RLT, provided a week of exuberant performances and socializing among our colleagues from across the province.

RLT's entry of *Les Miserables* earned two awards: Cheryl Scherle for best stage manager and Ayrianna Hrenyk for best female supporting actress.

Ayrianna Hrenyk

Moose Jaw Community Players' musical revue *Notoriously Moose Jaw* was the clear highlight of the week and garnered six awards: best production, director (Debbie Burgher), technical merit, visual representation, characterization (Rosemary Schick) and aspirant (Monique Byers).

Alumni Night at BP North

As a prelude to the Centennial Gala, an RLT Alumni Night was held Wednesday, May 6 at Boston Pizza's North Albert location. More than 50 people turned up, including several who hadn't been seen for some time, like David Bellerive, Lyndon Bray, Scott Jones and David Warford. The evening had a festive atmosphere and the RLT trivia quiz was a ton of fun.

Volunteer Appreciation Night June 19

There are more than 150 of you who contributed to our efforts for Season 100, and you are all invited to our **Volunteer Appreciation Night on Thursday, June 19, beginning at 7 p.m., at RPAC.**

As usual, the evening will include the presentation of the Sammy, Freddy, Jacqui and Red Door Awards to those individuals who made especially noteworthy contributions to the centennial season. In addition, the directors of Season 101's five mainstage plays will make presentations about their respective productions.

Refreshments will be served and there will be plenty of time and space to socialize and celebrate the close of a momentous year!

Early auditions for The Mousetrap

Season 101 won't begin until Sept. 30, but director Nora Berg has scheduled her auditions for The Mousetrap extra early: the Tuesday and Wednesday evenings of June 23 and 24.

Nora, who will be directing her 38th RLT production, has a good reason for doing so.

"In the past, the first show of any season has usually experienced a small turnout for auditions because they've been scheduled in July, when a lot of people are out of town on vacations," Nora explains. "The June auditions should give more people a chance to try out. Rehearsals won't get into full swing until August."

The Mousetrap cast is entirely adult. Typically, it requires five men, three women, and an offstage voice, although there is potential for gender fluidity. As usual, auditions June 23-24 will be held in the RPAC basement and begin at 7:30 p.m.

Our spectacular Centennial Gala!

Carolyn McBean and Lt.-Gov. Her Honour Bernadette McIntyre rock the 1920s' flapper look that was adopted by many of the women in attendance.

Everyone dressed up.
The lobby and auditorium
never looked so fantastic.
Dozens of performers acted,
sang and danced their hearts out
in a packed program of entertainment
co-ordinated and directed by
Bob Nicholls and Nora Berg.
The applause and smiles said it all.
It was a celebration worth treasuring.

Photos by Tony Cuylle

"Cigarette girl" Amanda Schenstead greets arrivals at the end of the lobby's red carpet.

The cast takes its bows after performing the world premiere of Marion Young's play *Stolen Holiday.*

Bartenders Adrienne Duke and Marty Lelliott serve drinks amidst some of Pat Wilson's sensational décor. (Posters of RLT's decades by Dan Carr.)

Ryan Ramsay leads the flash mob through the surprise "Puttin' On the Ritz" opening number.

Next up: *Birds & Bees*

Our final mainstage presentation of Season 100 –*The Birds and the Bees,* by Ontario playwright Mark Crawford – will be staged June 10-13 at the Regina Performing Arts Centre.

The Birds and the Bees, a comedy, has been one of the most popular and frequently-staged productions in Canada in recent years.

The plot: Sarah has just left her husband and moved back in with her mom Gail, a divorcée of 20 years herself. Sarah's a turkey farmer who spends her days artificially inseminating her birds, and Gail's a beekeeper whose honeybees keep dropping dead. Add to the mix a frisky farmer named Earl and an inexperienced entomology student named Ben, and the feathers start to fly!

The themes: Love, sex, family, the environment … bees … turkeys.

The audience alert: Be advised that this production contains mature themes, strong language, frank discussions of sex and intimacy, and momentary instances of partial nudity. It is recommended for audiences aged 16 and older.

The cast and primary crew: Laura Steponchev (Sarah), Meghan Ryan (Gail), Dean Gurnsey (Earl), Braydon Duncan (Ben) and Bryton Luxton (radio announcer). Bryce Schlamp is director, Andrea McNeil-Wilson is stage manager, set design is by Pat Wilson, intimacy direction by Rachel Walliser, costumes by Krstalynn Lascelle, and hair and makeup by Christine Barss.

The curtain: Wednesday through Saturday evening shows begin at 7:30 p.m. The Saturday matinee starts at 1:30 p.m.

Calendar of Events

Regarding auditions: Dates have been confirmed by the respective directors but at this point are tentative. Any changes will be reported in future newsletters and through social media. **Note that some auditions are scheduled for Sunday-Monday, some for Monday-Tuesday, and some for Tuesday-Wednesday.** All auditions will be downstairs at the Regina Performing Arts Centre and begin at 7:30 p.m. Participants are urged to arrive 10-15 minutes early to fill out the audition form.

June 10-13, 2026: Performances of *The Birds and the Bees.*
June 19: RLT Volunteer Appreciation Night.
June 23-24: Auditions for *The Mousetrap.*
Sept. 8: Annual General Meeting.
Sept. 14-15: Auditions for Fall One-Acts Cabaret.
Sept. 21-22: Auditions for *A Wicked Christmas Carol.*
Sept. 30-Oct. 3: Performances of *The Mousetrap.*
Oct. 30-31: Fall One-Acts Cabaret.
Nov. 29-30: Auditions for *Sunshine Express.*
Dec. 2-5: Performances of *A Wicked Christmas Carol.*
Jan. 25-26, 2027: Auditions for *Waiting for the Parade.*
Feb. 10-13: Performances of *Sunshine Express.*
March 15-16: Auditions for *Dogbarked.*
March 22-23: Auditions for Spring One-Acts Cabaret.
March 31-April 3: Performances of *Waiting for the Parade.*
June 9-12: Performances of *Dogbarked.*

Season ticket renewal

First, the good news: Attendance and general financial support has been so solid that Regina Little Theatre will maintain its current ticket pricing for the fourth straight season!

Now, the potentially inconvenient: Those who want to purchase or renew subscriptions for the 2026-27 season need to be mindful of the following calendar windows:

If you were an RLT subscriber in 2025-26 and you want to maintain your reserved seats, you have from Monday, June 15 through Friday, August 28 to renew through the Regina Performing Arts Centre box office.

If you were an RLT subscriber in 2025-26 and you want to change to different reserved seats, you can do so during the week before Labour Day – that is, from August 31 through Sept. 4.

If you are a new subscriber and purchase your tickets before Labour Day (Sept. 7), you can purchase "flex" seating any time from June 15 onward. This will not give you reserved seats, but you will have the flexibility of attending shows for any performance you please (Wednesday through Saturday nights, or Saturday matinee).

If you are a new subscriber who prefers reserved seating for a specific night or matinee, you will have to wait until after Labour Day (Sept. 7) to make your purchase. This policy allows renewing subscribers to maintain or upgrade their reserved seating.

Subscriptions remain $115 for adults and $99 for seniors (55 and over), students and youths aged 18 and under.

Individual show admissions are $30 for adults; $26 for seniors, students and youths; and $12 for children 12 and under. The children's pricing is available for all performances. No tax is added to these prices as amateur productions are exempt from taxation.

(RPAC will charge a ticket fee of $1 per show for subscribers and $1.50 per show for single-show purchases.)

From July 13 through Sept. 4, the Regina Performing Arts Centre box office (1077 Angus Street) is open Monday through Thursday from noon to 5 p.m., and Friday from noon to 4 p.m. Before July 13 and after Labour Day, the Monday through Thursday hours are noon to 8 p.m., and Fridays are noon to 4 p.m. Subscriptions can be handled either in person at RPAC or over the telephone at 306-779-2277.

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