

theatre:
CALGARY

Annual Report

Theatre Calgary Society

2015 – 2016



Welcome

The Theatre Calgary Society proudly reports an artistically successful 2015 — 2016 season which resulted in a modest surplus, a contribution to our endowment foundation, and the creation of an artistic reserve fund.

Contents

- 3 **Mission, Vision, Values**
- 4 **Season Productions**
- 6 **Artistic Development**
- 7 **Shakespeare by the Bow**
- 8 **Our Community**
- 10 **Financials**
- 12 **Our People**

COVER: The cast of *The Little Prince – The Musical*, adapted by Nicholas Lloyd Webber and James D. Reid, World Premiere, 2016. Photo by Trudie Lee.



“Our company continues to not only survive in an increasingly challenging economic climate, but to thrive. Through the continued hard work and attention to detail of the Theatre Calgary team, we continue to achieve success on a scale that is the envy of our peers across the country and across international borders.”

Chadwick Newcombe
Chair, Theatre Calgary Society Board of Directors



“Our 2015 – 2016 season, my first full year with the theatre, was a whirlwind of experiences culminating in a true sense of pride made possible by our tremendous team accomplishments. It was a year of ‘new’ – new brand identity, new initiatives, and new leadership – but what remained constant was our commitment to producing theatre that inspires and delights audiences. We have an exciting, vibrant future ahead of us.”

Colleen A. Smith
Executive Director



“Theatre Calgary’s 2015 – 2016 season was one of the most celebrated in recent years, reflecting our passion for dynamic and surprising programming. Overall, it was a thrilling season, celebrating the diversity of storytelling for our incredibly appreciative and supportive audiences. This season also marked my final season as Artistic Director. I offer my humble thanks to the generous supporters who have dreamed with me for the past decade.”

Dennis Garnhum
Artistic Director

“For nearly three decades, Theatre Calgary has staged this classic tale for Calgary audiences, and this year seems more important than ever in keeping the tradition alive. Good cheer is alive through and through. Rarely does a production offer relief in the way this adaptation of A CHRISTMAS CAROL does. Audiences will be enthralled by this profoundly stunning production of A CHRISTMAS CAROL by Theatre Calgary.”

Rodrigo Flores, Joyful Magpies



(centre, l to r) Stephen Hair, Fionn Laird and cast members in *A Christmas Carol* (from the 2012 production). The 2015 – 2016 production marked 29 years of this spirited tradition for Theatre Calgary. Photo by Trudie Lee.

tc MISSION

To stimulate, provoke and delight through ambitious programming created to ignite local, national, and international engagement.

tc VALUES

What we value:

EXCELLENCE

Setting the highest standards of international best practices in artistic expression, audience engagement, stakeholder relationships, and governance.

GREATIVITY AND ARTISTIC INTEGRITY

Striving to bring the best creative talent to our company, prioritizing the creative capacity and well-being of artists as we produce work that is inspiring, relevant, and bold.

COLLABORATION

Developing mutually beneficial relationships with leading local, national and international arts organizations, exemplary community partners, financial supporters, and fostering inter-departmental cooperation through meaningful experiences, and interactions.

INCLUSIVENESS

Striving to reflect diversity in programming, casting, hiring, and board membership, to reflect our global community while taking measures to eliminate barriers that block access to theatre.

SUSTAINABILITY

Embracing transparent business practices and communications with all stakeholders in an environment that upholds fiscal accountability as well as promotes continued learning, personal, and professional growth in order to achieve creative, organizational, and financial success.

tc VISION

To stand amongst the best theatres globally as a leader in innovative, impactful, and diverse programming.

Who we value:

OUR AUDIENCES

We welcome those who have chosen to experience our artistic creations in our theatre and outside our venue as our guests who deserve exceptional service, kindness, and respect in all interactions.

OUR PEOPLE

We recognize the commitment and passion of our leadership, board, artists, staff, crew, volunteers and committee members as integral contributors to the future of Theatre Calgary.

OUR COMMUNITY

We respect, value and contribute to Calgary's vibrant creative energy through our outstanding productions, our support for artists and creators, and our desire to be caring and contributing neighbours.

Season Productions

SHAKESPEARE BY THE BOW: THE TEMPEST

by *William Shakespeare*
directed by Diane D'Aquila



The cast of *The Tempest*. Photo by Trudie Lee.

THE SHOPLIFTERS

by *Morris Panych*
directed by Haysam Kadri



(l to r) Anna Cumber, Jeff Lillico, Stephen Hair, Nora McLellan. Photo by Trudie Lee.

THE CRUCIBLE

by *Arthur Miller*
directed by R.H. Thomson



The cast of *The Crucible*. Photo by Trudie Lee.

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

by *Charles Dickens*
adapted and directed by Dennis Garnhum
associate director Simon Mallett



(l to r) Doug McKeag, Stephen Hair (2012 production). Photo by Trudie Lee.



THE LITTLE PRINCE — THE MUSICAL

based on the book by Antoine de Saint Exupéry
adapted by Nicholas Lloyd Webber and James D. Reid
directed by Dennis Garnhum

(l to r) Sarah Caraher, Adam Brazier. Photo by Trudie Lee.



SPIN

created and performed by evalyn parry
directed by Ruth Madoc-Jones

Presented in partnership with One Yellow Rabbit
and the High Performance Rodeo

evalyn parry. Photo by Jeremy Mimnaugh.



BAD JEWS

by Joshua Harmon
directed by Valerie Planche

(l to r) Jeremy Ferdman, Bobbi Goddard, David Sklar. Photo by Trudie Lee.



THE LIGHT IN THE PIAZZA

book by Craig Lucas
music and lyrics by Adam Guettel
directed by Michael Shamata

(l to r) Anwyn Musico, Louie Rossetti. Photo by Trudie Lee.

Artistic Development

SUPPORTING NEW WORKS AND EMERGING ARTISTS

Theatre Calgary is one of the most recognisable arts and cultural institutions in Calgary. For 48 years, we have focused our energy on providing our community with quality classic and contemporary productions, featuring the best talent on our mainstage. Today, we are Calgary's largest professional theatre company and a proud supporter of local emerging artists.

Theatre Calgary's Stephen Hair Emerging Actor Award, established in 2007, honours the distinguished career of Stephen Hair, including 22 consecutive years in the role of Ebenezer Scrooge in our production of *A Christmas Carol*. This \$2,500 award is granted annually to assist new actors from the Calgary region in advancing their professional careers and the training

For the fourth year, Theatre Calgary continued one of Calgary's most beloved summer traditions: Shakespeare by the Bow. Our annual Pay-What-You-Can outdoor experience in Prince's Island Park offers an accessible theatrical experience for all Calgarians, as well as opportunities for Albertans who are new graduates from post-secondary institutions from across the country. Through SBTB, participants gain practical skills and are supported by a professional creative team, ranging from the director to costume design, wardrobe, set production, and stage management.

In 2015, Theatre Calgary featured 11 emerging artists in our SBTB production of *The Tempest*.

During the 2015-16 season, Theatre Calgary proudly showcased SBTB alumni in our mainstage productions. *The Crucible* featured Graham Mothersill, Lennette Randall, Jesse Lynn Anderson, and Brianna Johnston, while Bobbi Goddard performed the leading role of Daphne in *Bad Jews*.



2015 Stephen Hair Emerging Actor Award recipient, Brett Dahl, and Stephen Hair.
Photo by Meghan McMaster.

Theatre Calgary believes in developing new work. This year the Enbridge New Play Development Program commissioned and provided workshop development for two new plays by significant Canadian playwrights: *Blow Wind High Water*, by Sharon Pollock, and *Silence: Mabel and Alexander Graham Bell*, by Trina Davies. Both of these new works were presented in staged public readings in June 2016.

necessary to become an actor in a highly competitive international environment. Eligible recipients are recent graduates from post-secondary studies in theatre who have a demonstrated a significant commitment to the pursuit of a professional career as an actor. In 2015, Theatre Calgary awarded the 9th annual Stephen Hair Emerging Actor Award to Brett Dahl, a recent graduate of the University of Alberta and a former participant in our Shakespeare by the Bow (SBTB) program.

Shakespeare by the Bow

THE TEMPEST



Our 2015 Shakespeare by the Bow company. Photo by Trudie Lee.

Our 2015 SBTB production of *The Tempest*, played to record crowds and record support. Our final attendance peaked at **11,008** patrons, which marks the largest overall crowd since Theatre Calgary first became involved with this emerging artist program in 2012.

Theatre Calgary is committed to offering programming that enriches lives and makes a difference in our community. SBTB is a Pay-What-You-Can performance that increases accessibility for all Calgarians to experience live theatre annually. Proceeds collected are contributed back to the SBTB program and further professional development opportunities for emerging artists.

Theatre Calgary was able to showcase our work and reach event more Calgarians in two of the city's most incredible gathering spaces: Prince's Island Park and Heritage Park. This opportunity allowed Theatre Calgary to place the education and training of Alberta's emerging artists front and centre, raising awareness of this incredible mentorship program and the next generation of theatre artists.

AUDIENCES

38%

were new to our outdoor performances

21%

had never attended a Theatre Calgary production before

35%

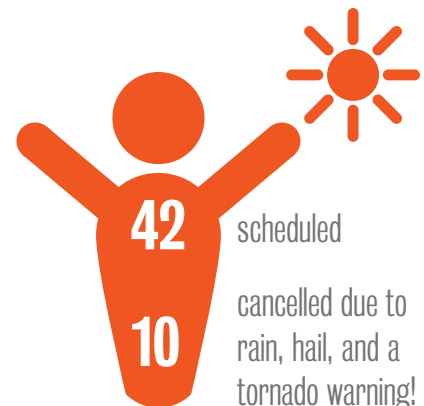
were between the ages of 25 – 40 years

ON-SITE DONATIONS

\$101,857.35

collected for SBTB
(that's an average of \$9.25 per attendee)

PERFORMANCES



Our Community

As Theatre Calgary approaches our 50th anniversary in 2018, part of our strategic vision is to create an opportunity for all Calgarians to experience live theatre, and to deepen and expand the impact of our work, on and off the stage, throughout our city's diverse communities.

We offer accessible and stimulating artistic learning opportunities to

supplement our theatre experiences, for community members of all ages.

During the 2015 – 2016 season, our ongoing interACTIVE pre- and post-show engagement programs included learning, participation, and discussion opportunities for seniors, students, teachers and community members, as well as theatre artists and enthusiasts.

Theatre Calgary is committed to making live theatre accessible through a number of affordable initiatives, such as Student Matinees, Senior Saturdays, Pay-What-You-Can performances and RUSH Ticket Tuesdays. In addition, Theatre Calgary is also pleased to support fellow charities and non-profit organizations across Southern Alberta.

ACCESS



patrons accessed
Pay-What-You-Can



patrons accessed
\$25 RUSH TUESDAY



tickets provided to various
community and charity event
through the Charitable Ticket
Donation program

PARTICIPATION



students attended 17 student matinees



teachers hosted
by Teachers Club

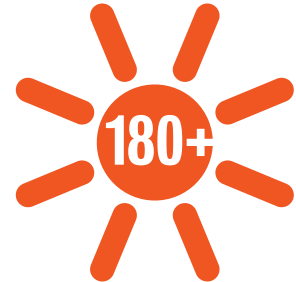


Young Artist Club
members



7,451

patrons attended post-show Talkbacks



attended Spotlight Saturdays



attended Senior Saturdays



Backstage Tours

230+

attended 4 Industry Nights

tc CHRISTMAS SPIRIT

A Christmas Carol is a longstanding Calgary holiday tradition. For many young Calgarians, it is one of their first opportunities to see a large theatrical production. To



Our Junior Reporters were joined onstage by *A Christmas Carol* cast members. (front row l to r) Greta, Kate, Alexis, Ava, and Julianne; (backrow l to r) Paula Humby, Karl H. Sine, Julie Orton, and Braden Griffiths. Photo by Meghan McMaster.

celebrate our 29th production of *A Christmas Carol*, we launched a Junior Reporter initiative. Five finalists, Alexis (Grade 5), Ava (Grade 3), Greta (Grade 7), Julianne (Grade 5) and Kate (Grade 4) were selected and given the chance to enjoy VIP treatment, take a photo with cast members and have their reviews published by Theatre Calgary, in addition to watching the show with their families.

Each year, Theatre Calgary employees, *A Christmas Carol* cast members, and volunteers look forward to raising donations that go towards supporting local families in need. This season, our annual holiday tradition generated an astounding **\$82,391.90** for the Calgary Interfaith Food Bank.

Since 1997, this actor-led initiative, known as Toonies for Turkeys, has raised **\$1,682,311.81** for communities across the Calgary region and area.

“Community is important to us, and being a part of a community weathering through a recession means that we all have to do our part to continue to bring hope and inspiration to Calgarians.”

Colleen A. Smith, Executive Director of Theatre Calgary

FORT MCMURRAY

In response to the devastating May 2016 wildfires that tore through Fort McMurray and its surrounding areas, Theatre Calgary patrons supported relief and recovery efforts by raising **\$11,598.35** for the Canadian Red Cross – funds which were matched by the Government of Alberta. These funds were donated by audience members attending *The Light in the Piazza*, in collection boxes set up in our lobby for anyone who wished to make a voluntary donation. Theatre Calgary staff and volunteers were humbled by overwhelming solidarity and generosity of our patrons for the families of Fort McMurray.

Theatre Calgary also offered complimentary tickets for Fort McMurray evacuees to attend *The Light in the Piazza* in hopes of uplifting the spirits of our guests.

SOCIAL MEDIA

7,825  Followers

40.4K  Impressions

2,948  Visits

4,810  Followers

798  Followers

Financials

Theatre Calgary's 2015 — 2016 season resulted in a **\$228,259** surplus; an increase of 6.5% over the prior year. These results included a **\$275,000** contribution to the Theatre Calgary Endowment Foundation (TCEF), which now totals **\$8,638,561**. From the 2015 — 2016 operating surplus, we created an internally restricted artistic fund of **\$150,000**, intended for extraordinary artistic projects considered beyond our regular scope of work.

MAINSTAGE RESULTS

10,601

Season Subscriptions



45,710

Single Tickets

10,916



Student Matinee Attendance

223

Performances

119,417

Total Attendance

77%








100%

Capacity











2015 – 2016 Statement of Operations*

REVENUE

	2015 - 2016	2014 - 2015		
Earned Revenue	6,792,293	6,833,686		63%
Fundraising	1,694,104	1,550,106		16%
Grants	1,193,428	1,164,942		11%
Other	36,731	45,405		0%
Donated Material	730,592	594,587		7%
Disbursement from TCEF	275,285	333,284		3%
	\$ 10,722,433	\$ 10,522,010		100%

EXPENSES

Production	4,779,867	5,161,212		45%
Facility & Concessions	1,666,774	1,847,075		16%
Marketing & Communications	1,462,976	1,232,091		14%
Administration	910,699	906,964		9%
Fundraising	668,266	613,806		6%
Donated Material	730,592	594,587		7%
Contribution to TCEF	275,000	-		3%
	\$ 10,494,174	\$ 10,355,735		100%

EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES **\$ 228,259** **\$ 166,275** **GROWTH** **6.5%**

*Theatre Calgary Society Condensed Statement of Operations for year ending May 31, 2016.
Above results are non-consolidated as they exclude the results of the TCEF.

Our People

tc LEADERSHIP

COLLEEN A. SMITH
Executive Director

DENNIS GARNHUM
Artistic Director

tc SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CHADWICK NEWCOMBE
Chair

MARGO RANGLES
Vice Chair, Chair
Governance and
Nominating Committee

MARY E. COMEAU
Secretary

KELLY BERNAKEVITCH
Vice President Audit and
Finance

MARK THOMPSON
Past Chair

KATHRYN HEATH
Chair Artistic Committee

CRAIG D. SENYK
Chair Fundraising
Committee

RICHARD S. HANNAH
Chair HR Committee

PAUL POLSON
Chair Facility Committee

JOY ALFORD
CHELSEY CARRICK (ANSELL)
MICHELE BEITEL
DR. DAVID DOCHERTY
PETER EDWARDS
JIM FLOYD
BRUCE GRAHAM
GORD HARRIS
DEBRA JOHNSTONE
BARRY R. KENLEY
TRICIA LEADBEATER
RIAZ MAMDANI
IAN MCAULEY
DOUG PAGE
JAMES READER
CATHERINE SAMUEL
DR. NORMAN SCHACHAR
MAGGIE SCHOFIELD
EDITH WENZEL
TRECIA WRIGHT
WARD ZIMMER

tc TEAM

JASMINE ASLAN
LEE BOOTH
NORM COOK
CATHARINE CRUMB
KAYE DAUTER-BOOTH
KRISTEN DION
ALIXE EDWARDS
BRENT FALK
TRYPHENA FRIC
KIRSTIE GALLANT
SARAH HUGHES
CHRIS JACKO
ROSEMARIE JOHNSTON
JENNIFER KINCH
GRAHAM KINGSLEY
MICHELLE LATTA
CHRISTOPHER LOACH
JANE MACFARLANE
LISA MACKAY
LESLEY MACMILLAN
TRISH MATHESON
MEGHAN MCMASTER
SUSAN MCNAIR REID
LILLIAN MESSER
SCOTT MORRIS
ZACHARY MOULL
CIANI MUZA
AMELIA MARIE
NEWBERT
RONALD PETERS
JOCELYN PHU
STEVE PILON
ANDREW RAFUSE
VIRGINIA REMPEL
TAMMIE RIZZO
ADAM SCHRADER
RON SIEGMUND
JAMIE TYMCHUK
SHARI WATTLING
SHIRLEY YURCHI
Full-time listing as
of May 31, 2016.

We graciously thank our **423 volunteers** who provided more than **10,000 hours** of service, welcoming and assisting patrons as our front line ambassadors!

2015 – 2016 COMPANY



Actors



Creative Team Members



Stage Managers



Full-Time Staff



Part-Time Staff

VOLUNTEERS



25 years or more



20 years or more



10 years or more

Thank you to all Theatre Calgary supporters for an incredible 2015 — 2016 season!



Volunteer committee members for Theatre Calgary's annual gala fundraiser, *Night With The Stars*: Jasmine Aslan (l), Tania Drews, Jerry Drews, Lidia Serpas, Trish Matheson, Melody Williamson, Josh Traptow, Colleen A. Smith, Barry Kenley, Trecia Wright (Gala Chair), Roxanne Dunlop, Michele Beitel, Karen Garrick, George Edwards, Claudette Miller, Kathryn Heath, Sarah Hughes, Ciani Muza, Richard Hannah, Heather Hannah (r). Photo by Jeff Yee.

theatre: **CALGARY**

Theatre Calgary is a professional non-profit theatre company and a resident company of Arts Commons, operating out of the Max Bell Theatre.

It is a member of the Professional Association of Canadian Theatres and operates within the jurisdiction of the Canadian Theatre Agreement. Theatre Calgary employs technicians under a collective agreement with the I.A.T.S.E.

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