

MUDDPRINTS

www.mississippimudds.ca

The official newsletter of the Mississippi Mudds - July 2020



WE NEED YOUR HELP - Please

From the Desk of the President - Jeff Lee

Hello fellow Mudds: I hope you are all staying safe and sane during the never ending “wait and see” time we're all going through. The board has met recently to finalize the review of the constitution and it's ready to present to the membership for a vote.

Now that we're in phase three of reopening we can have some form of an AGM and distanced get together. **COVID permitting we'll be holding the AGM on August 29, 2020 at 3pm followed by a picnic at 4:30pm.** Karen Lapointe and her husband Reg have generously offered to let us use their property for both out door events. Those wishing to attend must register by email to jeff37801@yahoo.ca you must indicate if you're planning to attend one or both events.

Along with the constitutional vote we'll be holding elections to the board of directors. In the coming days and weeks the nomination committee will be in contact with all current members as to if they wish to run for the board.

While we would normally do a BBQ of the conventional type the times force us to change the format. Those attending the picnic will bring their own food and drink. There will be a BBQ there available for use on a first come first served sign-up basis. Attendees may also bring their own small BBQ or camping stove. Attendees will need to bring their own chairs as well.

Hand sanitizer and sanitary wipes will be available to everyone and every attendee must have a mask with them. Those of you who have

been to the Mudds BBQ before know that Karen and Reg have a large property with plenty of open space for socially distant interaction.

Again all attendees must register for each event by email to jeff37801@yahoo.ca and any questions can be directed to same. Registrants will receive further information such as the AGM agenda, a breakdown of the constitutional changes being put to a vote and the address of the venue. We are still planning things and will be seeking guidance from the Lanark, Leeds and Grenville health unit for putting on such a gathering.

All of these plans are COVID permitting and we'll be monitoring the local and regional situation and will adjust accordingly. Stay safe and healthy my friends.

Membership Drive - Sandra Dunlop, Board of Directors

As you are aware in this unique time we are unable to rehearse and put on our normal theatre performances. **This is where you might be able to help.** We are financially struggling right now as we have no income and we still need to pay bills. Our biggest expense is our storage unit which houses our costumes, sets, and props. We have applied for rent relief and hopefully that will help out. Your 2019/2020 membership expired June 30th.

After some discussion within the Board of Directors we thought **we would ask our current members, former members and friends of the Mudds to purchase a 2020/2021 membership (\$30.00), knowing that we probably won't have a performance during this upcoming year.** If, by chance, we can have a spring show your membership would have already been paid.

If you would like to support us by purchasing a membership you can send your money by e-transfer to pcbear@rogers.com - please make sure you put your name in the message box and no password is required. If you don't have access to e-transfer you can send a cheque to my home address - 133 Antrim Street, Carleton Place, ON K7C 1A6. If you would like to add a donation (up and above the membership fee) that would also be appreciated.

Thank you in advance for supporting the Mudds and helping us through this trying time.

MUDDS Youth/Junior in the time of COVID-19 - Karen Lapointe, Show Development Officer

Hi everyone – and especially Frozen, Lion King, Little Mermaid, Merchant of Venice, King Lear (etc..) people.

As we all know, the COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on the performing arts, mirroring its impacts across all arts sectors. Due to physical distancing requirements and closure of physical venues, curtailing not only public performances but also rehearsals, many performing arts institutions have attempted to adapt by offering new (or newly expanded) digital services; Mamma Mia, the first of our shows to be affected by this closure, have been rehearsing "together" online and keeping up to date with the WHO and Government guidelines on when we can expect this to go back to a more "normal" situation. While the temporary postponement of Mamma Mia is indeed a blow to our production cast and crew as well as the many many supporters who bought tickets resulting in a complete sell-out extremely early in the game, we do know that eventually the show will go on and I know it's going to be a roaring success.

Having been show development officer for a year now, it has been frustrating for me to watch Covid hit so many of us; not just in our mutual love of theatre, but socially, educationally and industrially. I was looking forward to helping anyone who wished to propose a show over the coming season, especially this year and next. I know we are living in an unprecedented time as far as looking ahead goes and we do have one (again postponed) show ready to start auditions etc., for next winter for both youth and adult, but currently and because we have to abide by the restrictions, there are no plans for a junior/youth production in the works. So I wonder if any of our adults or junior or youth members have any ideas on something we can put together in a fairly small timeframe for when we are able to fill our Town Hall with a full audience. The exasperating thing about all of this is we just do not know when we will be able to start showcasing our junior and youth talents again; we have to abide by the guidelines and watch as the world slowly returns to a new normal in phases. Each of these phases can cause a setback in Government/WHO projections, depending on how we, as the public act and react to each of the new rules and regulations. This sucks like a big bag of lemons, but it is not meant to be all depressing and discouraging; I'm hoping that this article fires up our creative juices and makes us all more determined than ever that the MUDDS will come back bigger, stronger and better and with the talent we have among all our members, I know this will become a reality.

So, as a previous director or producer of Disney Junior and Youth Shakespeare, I really want to give our young members something to look forward to and work towards. **It's too late and still too restrictive for a youth production for this year and still might be too tight a squeeze for our usual junior show in February/March as we do not know how long it will be before we are able to have a full audience**, but please, young or young at heart, reach out to me if you have an idea and let's work together to make this happen. Even if it means the performances are later in the year than normal, there are ways we

can rehearse at a safe and socially acceptable distance (like our cast in Mamma Mia are doing for instance) and thanks to the implementation of Phase 3, we have more flexibility to work together safely. It doesn't have to be a Disney show or Shakespeare; it can be anything that gives our younger members the chance to be back on stage.

If there is someone in our huge pool of members who is ready to take the next step and propose a show please reach out to me and let me know your idea; you don't have to be the director, but if you do have an idea, then let's do this, let's give Carleton Place a big ol' MUDDS Welcome Back with another awesome junior/youth production.

Talk to you soon!!

From the Editor - Sandra Dunlop, Editor

Please - if you have a change in any of your information (address, telephone number and especially email address) please make sure that you get that information to Sandra Dunlop at 613-599-7221 or pcbear@rogers.com. This will make sure that you continue to receive the Mudds newsletter and any other pertinent information that is sent out.

Know that I welcome articles monthly, be it from members, former members and people involved in current productions. The deadline for the next edition of Muddprints is July 20. I would love to hear from you. It doesn't have to be long, just of interest to Mudds members and fans.

Mudds in Your Eye #3 July, 2020 (coordinated by Stephanie Stephens)



Here is another in a series which profiles members of the Mississippi Mudds, written especially for the readers of the Muddprints!

The spotlight this month is on Kenny Martin, the young lighting apprentice that is a man of few words but of intense loyalty to the Mudds. He's not on the stage, but he is as committed to each production as each of the actors onstage and the senior production crew, attending rehearsals on school nights and weekends, just because of his love for what he's doing and his desire to learn more. A special thank you to Stephanie and Olivia Scott for our interview questions!

Why did you decide to get involved with the MUDDSs?

I really admired the quality of the shows and lighting, and I was curious on how they put together the shows.

How long have you been a member?

I have been a member for almost 2 years now.

What are some of the productions you have been involved in?

The Mikado, The Lion King, We Will Rock You, Frozen.

What is your favourite part about being a part of the lighting/tech crew? Do you have a memorable moment from a show you have been involved in?



My favourite part about being a part of the crew is that we help each other with certain problems before, during, and after a performance. One of my most memorable moment is when Clark first taught me on how to use the lighting board.

In your opinion, which MUDDs show that you have worked on has had the most challenging lighting cues?

The show that had the most challenging lighting cues would probably be Frozen.

When you are not at the theatre, what other interests do you have? What do you do in your free time?

When I am not at the theatre, I normally spend lots of my free time playing video games.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY wishes go to members past and present who are celebrating their birthdays between July 23 and August 22. We know this is not a time that we can go out and party with our friends, but we hope you find something awesome to do! :-)

Alexandra Levstek	Jul-24
Meagan Brodie	Jul-24
Mary Alexander	Jul-26
Cheline Collier	Jul-27
Gillian Whitlock	Jul-28
Jenny Pfitzer	Jul-29
Catherine Clark	Jul-30
Fiona McCready	Jul-30
Keely Welin	Jul-30
Sharon Stelzner	Jul-31
Mary Marten	Aug-02
Vivien Bolger	Aug-02
Madison Sonnenburg	Aug-03
Ayden Baldwin	Aug-04
Yolande Hardy	Aug-04
Kate Martin	Aug-05
Adrian Osborne	Aug-05
Jaime Birrell	Aug-05
Ben Bourne	Aug-06
Jenna Wicks	Aug-08

Stephanie Scott	Aug-08
Erica Danells	Aug-09
Judith Scott	Aug-10
Kiera Uriarte	Aug-12
Tracy Julian	Aug-13
Toni Moffa	Aug-13
Sydney Osborne	Aug-14
Ainsley Mohns	Aug-14
Brady Mackay	Aug-14
Kaleigh Irvin	Aug-15
Heidi Nephin	Aug-15
Janis Nutty	Aug-15
Hanna Pringle	Aug-16
Callum Leroy	Aug-17
Aiden Letemplier	Aug-18
Stefan Kaleb	Aug-18
Aurora Hardy	Aug-19
Christine Dever	Aug-19
Olivia Grummish	Aug-20
Heather McDermid	Aug-20
Kevin MacMillan	Aug-21
Stephanie Stephens	Aug-22

Watch this space for more birthday celebrations next month :-)
 Karen Lapointe, Membership

The next issue of Muddprints will be published on August 22. The deadline for articles is August 20.

If you wish to be removed from the Muddprints mailing list please send an email to pcbear@rogers.com - please make sure you give me your full name in the email.

Mudds Calendar (2020)

Sat, August 29 Annual General Meeting and Picnic Residence of Karen and Rej Lapointe