

TARRAGON THEATRE OUTREACH NEWSLETTER

Edition 4.1

Winter 2005

Teacher Nights at Tarragon

Teacher Nights occur shortly after a Tarragon show opening and are designed to allow educators of all types (pre-service and in-service teachers, graduate students, non-traditional educators, etc.) from different regions to meet in a social setting and experience live theatre. The events feature a pre-show chat with someone involved in the production and an opportunity for Q&A. A complimentary performance ticket and bar ticket is included. Each evening begins between 6:45pm and 7pm.

The first two teacher nights of the 04/05 season have been very successful. Associate artistic director Andy McKim engaged Tarragon literary manager Joanna Falck in a conversation about her career and her role in selecting Oren Safdie's *Private Jokes*, *Public Places* as the first play in Tarragon's season. At the *No Great Mischief* teacher night, Andy and set and costume designer Charlotte Dean talked about her development as a designer and her work on the show.

The next Teacher Night is for John Mighton's *Half Life* on March 3. Reservations are limited to 25 educators and are accepted **one month** before. To book, please call Tarragon's OutReach department at 416.536.5018 X243. Please note that, due to the high volume of interest and limited space for such an event, a Visa or MasterCard number will be required to secure a space for the evening.

Upcoming Youth Programs

Spring Training Project

Every spring, we offer the Tarragon Theatre Spring Training Project. We select a group of talented young people, aged 16 - 19, to participate in a free, intensive series of workshops led by professionals in the field. These workshops require a high level of commitment as they span all of March Break and every Saturday afternoon from mid-March to mid-May. In the middle of May, classes are also held after school to rehearse a group presentation, which will be performed publicly. One post-mortem class will follow in early June.

Students interested in the program must send an application form, a 25-word description of what they hope to achieve and one letter of recommendation, c/o Spring Training Project, to the OutReach department at Tarragon Theatre **no later than January 17, 2005**. Each person who applies will be invited to a meeting with the program director at which time they will be asked to perform a short published monologue of their choice and discuss their interest in theatre.

The program is FREE and admits 12-15 participants each year. For more information, or to download an application form, visit <http://www.tarragontheatre.com/ed-student-out.htm#stp>

Young Playwrights Unit

As a playwright's theatre, Tarragon has programs designed for young writers as well as young actors. The Young Playwrights Unit is a FREE program for young writers aged 15-19 that will enable them to share their own stories and experiences in an innovative and creative manner. The program requires a high level of commitment.

Interested students should submit a sample of their writing (maximum: 10 pages) and a letter expressing why they wish to take part in the program to the OutReach department. This package, c/o Young Playwrights Unit and complete with name, phone number, school name and number, address and email address, must be received **no later than January 17, 2005**. Every applicant will then be invited to meet with the program director. Following these meetings, we choose a group that meets throughout the March Break and then every Saturday through the beginning of June. The participants also attend workshops in design, direction and improvisation to gain a sense of play development. Through intensive sessions, which include creative exercises and text study, they can begin to develop their own scripts.

For more information, or to download an application form, visit <http://www.tarragontheatre.com/ed-student-out.htm#playunit>

Under 20 for Under 20s

The deadline for this year's annual Under 20's playwriting competition is **January 17, 2005**.

We accept submissions from Ontario resident writers who are under the age of twenty on January 17, 2005. Plays must be no longer than twenty minutes in length; they can not have had a professional production, and should require no more than four actors to perform. The winner will receive \$250. Their play will receive a professional workshop reading.

Interested writers should submit one copy of the script, c/o Under 20's, on single-sided 8.5" x 11" paper that is typed or word-processed (no faxes please). We will also require proof of age. The plays are read blindly by a jury (this means that each writer's identification is separated from their script so as not to influence the adjudicators). The scripts will not be returned but Tarragon will notify all participants by mail about the result of the competition by April 1, 2005.

For more information, or to download an application form, visit <http://www.tarragontheatre.com/ed-student-out.htm#under20>

Paprika Festival

The fourth annual Paprika Festival is a two-week festival of new, short works of theatre created by artists under the age of 21. This festival features the creations of young playwrights, directors, actors, and designers in a professional theatre environment. The Paprika Festival takes place from **March 17—27, 2005**, in the Near Studio of the Tarragon Theatre.

For more information, visit www.paprikafestival.com. Ticket information will be sent out on the Tarragon Theatre email bulletins in early March 2005.

Tarragon Theatre Email bulletins

Tarragon is constantly exploring new ways to communicate with our patrons and have launched email services to help keep you informed about the exciting things that are happening here. We offer the following free email bulletins to anyone who wishes to subscribe. Please share with your students!

Tarragon News

A bi-monthly wide-ranging news service, including information about upcoming events, opportunities to be involved at the theatre in different ways, and early notices about programs and new initiatives.

Play Development News

A newsletter that discusses the process of developing new works for the stage.

OutReach News

A newsletter primarily for educators, but open to anyone who is interested in education activities at Tarragon and elsewhere in Canada.

Youth News

Email bulletins about the latest youth activities available at Tarragon Theatre and elsewhere in Canada including contests, audition calls and ticket offers generally geared towards theatre practitioners between the ages of 15 and 25.

To subscribe to any of these publications please email info@tarragontheatre.com with the words SUBSCRIBE and the list(s) of your choice in the subject line. We look forward to keeping you up-to-date!

IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES

January 17

Spring Training Project Applications
Young Playwrights Unit Applications
Under 20 for Under 20's Submissions

March 3

Half Life Teacher Night

March 17-27

Paprika Festival

For questions, concerns, or feedback, or to book a group for a performance, please contact:
Avery Swartz, OutReach Associate, at 416.536.5018 x243 or email avery@tarragontheatre.com