

Welcome

Dear Teacher,

We are looking forward to having you and your students come to Tarragon Theatre. This is a season that expands our definition of what a 'new Canadian play' can be at Tarragon, as we pursue our goal of telling stories that reflect, enlighten, and inspire Canadians. Our plays explore themes of mystery, environmental justice, gender identity, politics, family, revenge, feminism, music, growing up, and love. Tarragon is committed to bringing young people to theatre to experience a socially-focused art form that engages the head and heart. We can't wait to share these experiences with you and would welcome the chance to host you and your students here at the theatre.

We hope to see you soon!

Anne Wessels Courtney Fiddis

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Personally it opened me up and pushed me into an ocean of theatre, and I couldn't have been more thankful. To be exposed to such incredible people from writers to directors, actors, teachers, and just theatre folk shows us that our writing is valuable and helped me grow.

2015 YOUNG PLAYWRIGHTS UNIT PARTICIPANT

Exciting Opportunities

Student Matinees

Student matinee performances cost just \$12/student and begin at 1:30pm. The performances are followed by a post-show talkback with members of the cast and creative team. Attend a second or third show in the same season and receive a greater discount with each show you attend.

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Bus Subsidies

We know that the cost of a bus can be prohibitive for students and schools and we are very happy to offer bus subsidies. These will be distributed on a first come first served basis taking into consideration the distance to be traveled.

BUS SUBSIDIES ARE MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH A GENEROUS DONATION FROM PAULINE G. MORRIS.

Workshops at Tarragon or at Your School

Spend the whole day with us or have our professional artists visit your school.

Led by theatre professionals who are experienced youth facilitators, these workshops explore the content of the play and the art of theatre-making: playwrighting, directing, text analysis, performance, improvisation, voice, movement, theatre design, character creation, audition technique, and scene study. These workshops typically begin at 10:00am and run until noon. Matinee performances follow at 1:30pm. Workshop costs vary, starting at \$12 per student.

Getting Ready for Your Visit

Resources

We offer extensive resources to give context for the plays that your students will see. Included are discussion questions that open the themes of the plays, and debriefing questions intended to follow the play-going experience. Available at the beginning of the season at: tarragontheatre.com/education-resources

Accessibility

Tarragon is working to become fully accessible to all, and should any of your students face financial or physical challenges, we welcome conversations about accommodating all youth.

For Teachers

FREE PREVIEW TICKETS FOR TEACHERS

Tarragon would be happy to offer you a free preview ticket. Come and see whether a particular play is suitable for your class. As all of the plays deal with mature subject matter, we would be happy to discuss the content of each play prior to the performance.

TARRAGON CENTRE FOR THEATRE CREATION

This year we are expanding the professional courses we offer at Tarragon.

Professional courses offered at Tarragon include: Playwrighting, Dramaturgy, Directing, Acting and Physical Theatre. Classes take place in the evening and would accommodate a teacher's day.

EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

We are seeking teachers/educators to act as a sounding board for new education initiatives and to advise Tarragon on matters relevant to both students and teachers. Please contact us if you would like to volunteer for this role, involving quarterly meetings followed by a Tarragon performance.

Extend the Theatre Experience

For Youth

YOUNG PLAYWRIGHTS' UNIT

The Young Playwrights Unit is a FREE training experience for young people who are curious and passionate about play-making. We take a page from our professional play development practice to offer a group of dedicated young creators a rigorous context in which to develop some of their first works. Writers will partake in a series of weekly workshops which will culminate in a staged reading presentation led by professional directors who work with Tarragon. A call for submissions will be posted in the Fall of 2017.

YOUNG DIRECTORS' UNIT

In collaboration with the Sears Ontario Drama Festival, we welcome your students to bring their plays-in-progress to Tarragon for feedback and creative input.

THE SCARBOROUGH PROJECT

At Tarragon we believe that the most effective way to engage with youth from the suburbs is to offer programming in their own communities. The Tarragon/Scarborough Arts Youth Playwriting Hub was founded in 2016 as a satellite development centre for young writers in Scarborough. Following the success of #TheDonnellyProject in 2016 and the WORDS WITH A ZED Festival in 2017, Tarragon will continue this season to partner with Scarborough Arts, University of Toronto Scarborough Campus, R.H. King Academy and Agincourt Collegiate Institute to develop and present new plays by Scarborough youth.

STUDENT CLUB

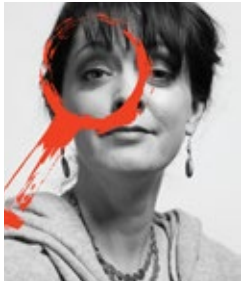
We invite students to experience 8 unique evenings of performance in Tarragon's season, and to meet young theatre lovers from other schools. Student Club events begin with a Q&A with an artist from the show who will talk about a specific aspect of the production – writing, design, rehearsals, etc.

Visit tarragontheatre.com/student-club for info.

TARRAGON THEATRE 17/18



Opportunities
for Learning



Undercover

Sep. 19–Oct. 29, 2017
Mainspace

MATINEE DATES
October 4, 11, 18, 25

Created by Rebecca Northan with Bruce Horak
Co-produced by Tarragon Theatre & Vertigo Theatre

One grizzled cop. One audience-member-turned-rookie-detective. One unsolved case.

MURDER on the Tarragon stage! One intrepid audience member is recruited up to the stage for an undercover ride into the criminal mind. When every-one's a suspect, will our rookie detective be able to sort the clues from the red herrings, point the finger at the right perpetrator and see that justice is served?

THEMES Improvisation, comedy, mystery



Marine Life

Oct. 31–Dec. 10, 2017
Extraspace

MATINEE DATES
November 15, 22, 29,
December 6

Written & directed by Rosa Laborde

Produced in collaboration with Aluna Theatre

Save the world or save yourself? Sylvia, ecological activist, is on a mission to clean up micro-plastics infesting our oceans. Can our heroine save the world from environmental disaster, fall in love with an unscrupulous corporate lawyer and caregive her obsessive brother, a one-man Mariachi band? When the rains come and the flood water rises, who will survive the deluge?

THEMES Environmental activism, love, mental health



Mr. Shi and His Lover

Nov. 7–Dec. 17, 2017
Mainspace

MATINEE DATES
November 22, 29,
December 6, 13

Text by Wong Teng Chi
Music & musical direction by Njo Kong Kie
Directed by Tam Chi Chun

A Macau Experimental Theatre/Music Picnic/Point View Art Association Production

An espionage scandal rocks the political world in this intriguing contemporary opera about the delusion of love. Featuring performers from Toronto and Macau, *Mr. Shi and His Lover* illuminates the real-life affair of a French diplomat in China who falls in love with a mysterious opera singer. But is she who she says she is?

THEMES Sexualities/sexual diversity, intercultural performance, Beijing Opera



Hamlet

Jan. 2–Feb. 11, 2018
Mainspace

MATINEE DATES
January 17, 24, 31,
February 7

Written by William Shakespeare
Directed by Richard Rose
Music by Thomas Ryder Payne & Ensemble

Young Prince Hamlet seeks to avenge his father's death in a world torn apart by political deception. Shakespeare's best-known tragedy is re-imagined on the Tarragon stage through the powerful lens of rock & roll.

THEMES Intergenerational conflict, politics and power relations, popular music



Mustard

Jan. 3–28, 2018
Extraspace

MATINEE DATES
January 10, 17, 24

Written by Kat Sandler
Directed by Ashlie Corcoran

Mustard still lives under teenage Thai's bed, while her recently-separated mother looks for solace at the bottom of a wine glass. *Mustard* is a twisted fairy tale about an imaginary friend's quest to stay in our world; a whimsical story about growing up, losing innocence, and our unrelenting quest for love.

THEMES Imagination, mental health and family relations, youth sexuality



Bunny

Feb. 21–Apr. 1, 2018
Mainspace

MATINEE DATES
March 7, 21, 28

Written by Hannah Moscovitch
Directed by Sarah Garton Stanley

Aroused by inappropriate love, young Sorrel discovers the power of her own allure. Ever the outsider, she struggles with the socially acceptable only to find herself increasingly alone in her desires. Dangerous and disorienting, *Bunny* is a play about repressive social convention, personal inhibition and desire unleashed.

THEMES Sexuality, relationships, feminism

MATURE STUDENTS ONLY; TEACHER PREVIEW RECOMMENDED



Girls Like That

Apr. 17–May 27, 2018
Mainspace

MATINEE DATES
May 2, 9, 16, 23

Written by Evan Placey
Directed by Esther Jun

A naked photo of Scarlett goes viral. Rumours spread like wildfire across smartphones and her reputation becomes toxic, threatening to shatter the clique of girls she has grown up with. But how long can Scarlett remain silent? And why isn't it the same for boys? *Girls Like That* is an explosive new play that explores the evolution of feminist consciousness and modern female friendships in the wake of advancing technology.

THEMES Gender politics, social media, cyber bullying

TARRAGON THEATRE

Contact us today to plan an exciting day at Tarragon for your students.

Please call or email Tarragon's Education Department at 416.531.1827 x231 or education@tarragontheatre.com

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The educational programs at Tarragon have been made affordable by our government, corporate, and individual supporters, with special thanks to Sybil Wilkinson and Pauline G. Morris.

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