

Welcome

Dear Teacher,

We are looking forward to having you and your students come to Tarragon Theatre. Continuing our focus on the “new Canadian play” this is a season full of brand new perspectives told in unique and interesting ways. Our plays explore themes of: free speech, race, reconciliation, technology, immigration, love, and the evolving relationship between nature and humanity. 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 *Danielle Bourgon*

Anne Wessels
Education Director

Danielle Bourgon
Education Coordinator

Please contact us today for further information about our plays or programming.

You can reach the Education Department at:
416.531.1827 ext. 231
education@tarragontheatre.com
anne@tarragontheatre.com

Exciting Opportunities

Picking a Play

Plays at Tarragon often deal with mature subject matter. We would love to help you choose the right play for your class and to help you better prepare your students for their experience at the theatre by discussing the themes and content of each play prior to your ticket booking. Please contact us about this at any time. Also, Tarragon would be happy to offer you a free preview ticket to help you determine the suitability of a play for your particular students.

Student Matinees

Student matinee performances cost \$14/student and begin at 1:30PM. Every performance is followed by a post-play talkback with members of the cast and creative team. Attend a second or third play in the same season and the cost for the additional play will be \$12/student.

Resources

We offer resources that give context for the plays your students will see. We highlight discussion questions as they are a great resource for helping students prepare for the thematic content of the plays. We also feature post-play discussion questions that will help to extend your students’ experience.

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.

Extend your Tarragon Experience

For School Groups

WORKSHOPS

Led by theatre professionals who are experienced youth facilitators, these workshops (to be held in the theatre or in your school) can enhance and extend your experience with our plays. This season each play has a recommended workshop for deeper curriculum connections.

We are also able to offer skill-based workshops specific to theatre making, these are especially great options for SHSM students. These courses include:

- Playwriting
- Directing
- Text Analysis
- Performance
- Voice
- Movement
- Design
- Character Creation
- Audition Technique
- Scene Study

Have an idea for a workshop not listed? Let us know and we will work to help you find the right artist facilitator to accomplish your goals. Email us at education@tarragontheatre.com.

Workshop costs start at \$15 per student and can be arranged for whatever time works best for your group.

For Teachers

COURSES AT THE TARRAGON CENTRE FOR THEATRE CREATION

We’d love to be a part of your professional development. 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.

For Youth

STUDENT CLUB

We invite students to experience six 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 play who will talk about a specific aspect of the production including: writing, design, and the rehearsal process.

Visit tarragontheatre.com/student-club for info.

YOUNG DIRECTORS’ UNIT

In collaboration with the NTS Drama Festival, we welcome your students to bring their plays-in-progress to Tarragon for feedback and creative input. For further inquiries please contact anne@tarragontheatre.com.

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. Founded in 2016 the Tarragon/Scarborough Arts Youth Playwriting Hub acts as a satellite development centre for young writers in Scarborough. Following the success of #TheDonnelly-Project in 2016, WORDS WITH A ZED Festival in 2017, and the DQ Plays in 2018, Tarragon will continue this season to partner with Scarborough Arts, University of Toronto Scarborough, Ryerson University, R.H. King Academy, Jean Vanier Catholic Secondary School, and Agincourt Collegiate Institute to develop and present new plays by Scarborough youth.

INTERGENERATIONAL THEATRE

Tarragon offers intergenerational theatre projects linking youth with community elders. For more information about this program and how to participate in it please contact anne@tarragontheatre.com.

TARRAGON THEATRE **18/19**



Opportunities
for Learning

Harlem Duet

Created by Djanet Sears



MATINEE DATES

Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24
Mainspace

The return of a Canadian theatre milestone! Djanet Sears' rhapsodic blues riff on Othello whisks the tale off to Harlem, where a college professor leaves his grad student wife for a white colleague. The stinging abandonment leads to profound questions about love, loss, loyalty and race, played out over two centuries in a wide range of settings. An iconic work that packs as powerful a punch now as it did when it debuted over twenty years ago.

THEMES African-American history, Othello, love and loss

RECOMMENDED WORKSHOPS

Students devise original theatre using the scenes from Harlem Duet and Othello as inspiration. Students learn classroom presentation skills using the works of Harlem Renaissance poets and/or Othello.

Theory

Written by Norman Yeung



MATINEE DATES

Oct. 31, Nov. 7, 14, 21
Extraspace

A hot button play for our times! Isabelle, a young tenure-track professor, tests the limits of free speech by encouraging her students to contribute to an unmoderated discussion group. When an anonymous student posts offensive comments and videos, Isabelle must decide whether to intervene or to let the social experiment play out. Soon, the posts turn abusive and threatening, leading Isabelle and her unknown tormentor to engage in a high-stakes game of cat-and-mouse that not only have Isabelle questioning her beliefs, but fearing for her life.

THEMES Technology, mystery, free speech, film theory, sexuality

RECOMMENDED WORKSHOP

Using the themes of the play students will explore, through drama, issues of equity, free speech, and digital media.

The Message

Written by Jason Sherman



MATINEE DATES

Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12
Mainspace

“Whatcha doin’, Marshall McLuhan?” That’s what the world wanted to know back in the 1960s, when Canada’s internationally renowned professor-turned-prophet started to sound the alarm on the effects of technology on the human body and spirit. But after a lifetime of warning us all about the hazards of modern life, McLuhan suffered a stroke that robbed him of his ability to speak. What it couldn’t do, though, was stop this deeply religious man from trying to finish his magnum opus: a last desperate attempt to save our souls – and his own.

THEMES Technology, Media Studies, aging, Religion

RECOMMENDED WORKSHOP

A collective creation workshop focused on the evolving relationship between technology and humanity.

Kiviuq Returns

Created by The Qaggiq Collective



MATINEE DATES

Jan. 8, 16*, 23*
Mainspace

*PLEASE NOTE THAT THESE PERFORMANCES
WILL BEGIN AT 1:00 PM

Journeying across the vast expanse of the Arctic, beset by treacherous creatures wreaking havoc on his world, Kiviuq gathers strength from his ancestors and spirit guides as he defends his people and fights his way home. Music, drumming, dance, and storytelling combine in this thrillingly modern evocation of the legendary figure of Kiviuq: hero, seeker, wanderer. An Inuit Odyssey, performed in Inuktitut.

THEMES Indigenous storytelling traditions, relationship between nature and humanity, Inuktituk language

RECOMMENDED WORKSHOP

A workshop that explores how movement can create place/story without the use of words.

Cottagers and Indians

Written by Drew Hayden Taylor



MATINEE DATES

Feb. 13, 14, 20, 21
Extraspace

Back by popular demand. *Cottagers and Indians* takes a sincere and pragmatic look at the current conflicts between First Nations traditional water usage and property owners in cottage country who are looking to enjoy an undisturbed summer getaway.

THEMES Reconciliation, land use disputes, culturally defined relationships between nature and humanity

RECOMMENDED WORKSHOP

A storytelling workshop focused on telling a story from multiple points of view.

New Magic Valley Fun Town

Written by Daniel MacIvor



MATINEE DATES

Mar. 6, 13, 20, 27
Mainspace

Cape Bretoner Dougie hasn’t seen his best childhood pal Allan in twenty-five years, so it’s no surprise that their reunion is a boisterous night of memories, laughter, drinking and dancing. But as evening becomes day, as the smiles begin to fade and the bottles sit empty, the old friends revisit other memories, uncomfortable ones that force them to confront the realities of who – and what – they really are.

THEMES Mental health, reunion, trauma, friendship

RECOMMENDED WORKSHOP

A playwriting workshop that explores the themes of friendship and/or mental health.

Old Stock

Written by Hannah Moscovitch
with songs by Ben Caplan &
Christian Barry



MATINEE DATES

May 1, 8, 15, 22
Mainspace

Halifax, 1908: two Romanian Jews stand in line at Pier 21 in Halifax, would-be immigrants to an unknown country. Chaim’s entire family was murdered in a pogrom; Chaya lost her husband to fever and starvation. But the New World is giving them a second chance, and they embrace it to the fullest. Narrated by The Wanderer – part showman, part rabbi – this genre-bending rock concert/theatre hybrid stars Klezmer-folk sensation Ben Caplan and is inspired by the real-life story of Moscovitch’s great-grandparents.

THEMES Immigration, Klezmer-folk music, family, love

RECOMMENDED WORKSHOP

A workshop that explores how historical immigration documents and personal letters can inspire storytelling and performance.

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
education@tarragontheatre.com
anne@tarragontheatre.com

416.531.1827
Tarragon Theatre
30 Bridgman Ave, Toronto
M5R 1X3
416.531.1827

tarragontheatre.com
facebook.com/tarragontheatre
twitter @tarragontheatre
youtube.com/tarragontheatre

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

Tarragon Theatre is pleased to be a TDSB approved Excursion vendor.

SEASON SPONSOR

BMO  Financial Group

SCOTIABANK STUDENT TICKET PROGRAM

 Scotiabank®

SCARBOROUGH PROJECT

 TD

GOVERNMENT AND PROGRAM SUPPORT

 Canada Council
for the Arts

 Conseil des Arts
du Canada

 TORONTO
ARTS
COUNCIL

 ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL
CONSEIL DES ARTS DE L'ONTARIO