

Welcome

Dear Teacher,

We are looking forward to having you and your students come to Tarragon Theatre. Continuing our focus on new Canadian play creation this is a season full of brand new perspectives told in unique and interesting ways. Building on last season our plays explore themes of: economic disparity, family dynamics, intergenerational trauma, feminism, storytelling, and power dynamics in academia. Tarragon is committed to bringing young people to theatre to experience a socially-focused art form that engages the head and the 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!



Danielle Bourgon
Education and Community Engagement Manager

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

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

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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 them 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-show talkback with members of the cast and creative team. Attend a second or third show in the same season and the cost for the additional show will be \$12/student.

STUDENT TICKETS AND EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES ARE MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF SCOTIABANK.

Educational Resources

We offer education guides that provide context for the plays that your students will see. The pre-show discussion questions are a great way to prepare students for the thematic content of the plays. There are also post-show discussion questions that will help to extend your students' engagement with the plays.

Bus Subsidies

We know that the cost of getting here can be prohibitive for students and schools and we are very happy to offer bus subsidies. These subsidies are distributed on a first come first served basis to schools that complete the application form.

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 shows. 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
- 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 with your students. 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, Devising, 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 NIGHT

This season Tarragon is hosting Student Night for each of our nine world premieres. On this night student tickets will be only \$16.00 and students will be given an opportunity to ask the artists questions following the performance, in a question and answer period. For a full listing of Student Night performances be sure to check out our website.

THE TARRAGON 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 #TheDonnellyProject in 2016, WORDS WITH A ZED Festival in 2017, the DQ Plays in 2018, and the Tarragon Project in Scarborough in 2019 we will continue this season to partner with Scarborough Arts, University of Toronto Scarborough, Ryerson University, R.H. King Academy, Milliken Mills High School, Albert Campbell Collegiate Institute, Jean Vanier Catholic Secondary School and Agincourt Collegiate Institute to develop and present new plays by youth living in Scarborough and beyond.

INTERGENERATIONAL THEATRE

Tarragon offers intergenerational theatre projects linking youth and community elders with a professional Tarragon-associated playwright. For more information about this program and how to participate in it please contact us at: education@tarragontheatre.com

TARRAGON

THEATRE



Opportunities for Learning

Yaga

Written and Directed by
Kat Sandler



MATINEE DATES
Oct. 2, 9, 16
Mainspace

From the mind that brought you *Mustard*, a genre-bending fairy tale meets whodunit inspired by the notorious figure of Baba Yaga, the hideous old witch who lives alone in the woods grinding the bones of the wicked.

A gruesome murder in a small town leads a local sheriff, a young detective and a university professor with a taste for younger men into a labyrinth of secret lives, ancient magic and multiple suspects.

A play that gives voice to the wicked old witch, *Yaga* is part thriller, part revenge play and has lots of comedy.

THEMES Russian folklore and fairytales, Witches, Feminism
RECOMMENDED WORKSHOPS
This writing workshop explores folk tales made contemporary and/or the thriller genre.

The Jungle

Written by Anthony MacMahan



MATINEE DATES
Oct. 16, 23, 30
Extraspace

She's from Moldova, he's the son of Chinese immigrants. She's a factory worker by day and a waitress by night. He's a cab driver.

One night he picks her up running from job to job and their whirlwind romance begins...

A typical Toronto love story, stolen in the moments between shifts. But can their love survive a city in late capitalism?

THEMES Immigration, Economics and Capitalism (Theory vs. Reality), Income polarity/inequality, The Canadian Dream

RECOMMENDED WORKSHOP
This creation workshop gives students an opportunity to explore how the economy affects their lives. The facilitator will work with the students to link these explorations into a short devised piece.

Copy That

Written by Jason Sherman



MATINEE DATES
Nov. 20, 27, Dec. 4
Mainspace

Renowned playwright Jason Sherman's caustic look at the entertainment industry, *Copy That* takes us behind the scenes of network television. Four writers struggle to get their new cop show approved for production. When the team's only Black writer is roughed up by an actual cop, the fallout threatens to not only kill the show, but expose the systemic racism at the heart of popular entertainment itself.

From the author of last season's moving account of the life of Marshall McLuhan (*The Message*).

THEMES Police Brutality, Role of Media/Media Ethics, Racism
RECOMMENDED WORKSHOP
This writing/social studies workshop explores how media frames current events and how these events can be turned into theatre.

Buffoon

Written by Anosh Irani



MATINEE DATES
Nov. 27, Dec. 4, 11
Extraspace

A Clown, a Trapeze Artist, a love triangle, a one-man tour-de-force performance.
WATCH as Felix, the clown takes you on a journey from cradle to grave.
WITNESS a life of chance haunted by inevitable fate.
MARVEL at *Buffoon*, a heartbreaking, tragic, and hilarious tale of a clown finding love at the circus.

THEMES Clowning, Intergenerational Trauma, Family Dynamics
RECOMMENDED WORKSHOP
This workshop explores circus performance and the art of clowning.

Sexual Misconduct of the Middle Classes

Written by Hannah Moscovitch



MATINEE DATES
Jan. 15, 22, 29
Mainspace

An author and star professor, wracked with self-loathing after a third divorce, catches himself admiring a student – a girl in a red coat. Turns out the girl is a huge fan of his work. She also lives just down the street and gets locked out one afternoon...

Hannah Moscovitch takes an archetypal scenario, the 'student-teacher romance', and turns it on its head, re-envisioning it for our post-#MeToo era.

THEMES Intimacy, Performativity/Performance of Identity, Perspective/Point of View, Gendered Power Dynamics
RECOMMENDED WORKSHOPS

- This dramaturgy workshop explores story structure in Hannah Moscovitch's body of work.
- This intimacy and consent workshop will be facilitated the play's intimacy director Siobhan Richardson.

Students will be given an opportunity to learn about the practice of intimacy direction and the overarching ideas of consent and connection.

This Was the World

Written by Ellie Moon



MATINEE DATES
Feb. 12, 19, 26
Extraspace

John, a 60-something white professor of Constitutional Law and Indigenous Rights is unhappy with a new faculty hire. He seeks to draw a student into his conflict with the Dean's office, which leads to a complaint, which leads to a reprimand, which leads to a breakdown of the man, his daughter, and their understanding of the world.
A play about old power and new ideas, academia and decolonization, language and authority.

THEMES Intergenerational conflict and Familial Power Dynamics, Academia and Power Relations, Equity, Dialogue vs. Debate
RECOMMENDED WORKSHOP
This playwriting or devising workshop explores intergenerational conflicts and notions of merit and equity.

The Runner

Written by Christopher Morris



MATINEE DATES
Mar. 11, 18, 25
Mainspace

Z.A.K.A is an Orthodox Jewish volunteer force in Israel. They collect the remains of Jews killed in accidents. When Jacob, a Z.A.K.A volunteer, makes the split-second decision to treat a young woman, instead of the soldier she may have killed, his world is changed forever.

A powerful thriller from Toronto's Human Cargo and winner of the 2019 Dora Mavor Moore Awards for Outstanding Production, Outstanding Direction and Outstanding New Play.

THEMES

RECOMMENDED WORKSHOPS

Three Women of Swatow

Written by Chloé Hung



MATINEE DATES
Apr. 1, 8, 15
Extraspace

"Swatow women are supposed to be fierce."

That's what Grandmother tells her daughter. Grandmother's a butcher and to her disappointment, her daughter's a vegetarian. But to her satisfaction, her granddaughter killed her first chicken at the age of three. In this ferocious comedy, the three generations of women grapple with their dark history, emotional inheritance and the legacy of mothers' life lessons and daughters' love lives.

And there's blood. Lots of blood.

THEMES Resilience, Mother/Daughter Relationships, Murder, Humour
RECOMMENDED WORKSHOP
This creation workshop focuses on intergenerational relationships. Students are given an opportunity to devise based on their own personal histories, interviews with elders and other materials.

Orphan Song

Written by Sean Morley Dixon



MATINEE DATES
May 6, 13, 20
Mainspace

40,027 BCE (when the average human could count to five), a grief stricken Homo-Sapien couple adopts a Neanderthal child. But language separates parents and child only to then separate mother and father – how do we love when we can't communicate?

With that, a mythic journey of danger and sacrifice ensues to connect to the Neanderthals and to protect the child at all costs.

A heroic tale of clashing cultures and how the bonds of family are truly formed.

THEMES Family Dynamics, Communication, Early Language, Intercultural Relationships

RECOMMENDED WORKSHOPS

- This workshop explores early language and pre-history through movement and collective creation.
- This workshop explores how puppetry has been integrated into this piece.

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.

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SCARBOROUGH PROJECT

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