

# Dartmouth Players

Our Mission: To bring the magic of live theatre to the residents of HRM

Dartmouth Players  
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**August 2007**

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Website: [www.dartmouthplayers.ns.ca](http://www.dartmouthplayers.ns.ca)

*Our Season Opening Play:*

Dartmouth Players  
Presents

## Patches

By

Robert More

with

Iris Paterson & Valerie MacKenzie

**Director: Clyde Wray**

**Producer: Hope Toumishey**

**Season Opening Gala, Wednesday September 12 at 7pm**

**Thursday, Friday, Saturday, September 13 - 15 at 8pm,**

Bookings Open Mon. Aug. 27

Two women – one of Scottish ancestry, the other of Ukrainian descent – lead solitary lives in a rural Ontario community. They meet with a mutual interest in patchwork & embroidery and develop a deep friendship, a bond that allows them to survive a period of intense personal crises. This play generates a deep emotional response from women and men audiences alike, while they watch the characters evoke both laughter and tears as they grow in love and respect for each other. A 75 minute one act play.

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*Reservations are held until 10 minutes prior to curtain. At that time they will be given to anyone waiting for cancellations. If you find that you need to cancel your reservation, please call us before 5 PM at 465-PLAY and leave a message.*

### **Dartmouth Players 2007-2008 Season**

<b>Jitters</b>	November 2007
by David French	directed by Bryn Rowlands
<b>Good Things</b>	January 2008
by Liz Lochhead	directed by Cliff Tyner
<b>The Clean House</b>	April 2008
by Sarah Ruhl	directed by Geoff Ball
<b>Spitfire Grill</b>	June 2008
by J. Valcq, F. Alley	directed by Ian MacDermid

### **Dartmouth Players Scent-Free Policy**

The Dartmouth Players executive wishes to make our building a comfortable place for all who come to the theatre, whether as volunteers or patrons. To this end, we would like to emphasize that the theatre is a **scent-free space**. We respectfully ask everyone to please be sensitive to others who may become ill or uncomfortable as a result of exposure to perfumes, colognes and other scented products. We thank you in advance for being considerate in this regard.

# Jitters

## Audition Notice:

Auditions for *Jitters* – by David French - directed by Bryn Rowlands, will be held at the Dartmouth Players theatre on Wednesday Sept. 5 and Thursday Sept. 6 from 7:00 to 9:30 PM. *Jitters* is a warm-hearted, lively and truly hilarious examination of backstage shenanigans by one of Canada's leading playwrights. Dealing with the trials and tribulations of a provincial theatre company as it approaches opening night of its latest production, the play will strike a responsive chord with all who have suffered through this agonizing/exhilarating process. There are 3 women and 6 men in the play. It features a leading lady in her late 40's and 2 leading men of about the same age. The director, playwright and stage manager are all men in their 30's. The ASM is a woman likewise in her 30's. The young up- and-coming male actor and the Front of House Girl Friday are both in their 20's.

*Jitters* will run for 13 performances Nov. 7-24, 2007. For the individual auditions you will be reading selections from the play, or you can bring your own prepared piece, or both.

For more information, please call Bryn at 462-3042 or at [rowlands@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:rowlands@ns.sympatico.ca).

**David French** is one of Canada's most popular and critically acclaimed playwrights. Among David's best-loved works are the semi-autobiographical Mercer plays: SALT-WATER MOON; 1949; LEAVING HOME; OF THE FIELDS, LATELY; and SOLDIER'S HEART.

### *Dartmouth Players 2007-2008 Season*

<b>Jitters</b> by David French	November 2007 directed by Bryn Rowlands
<b>Good Things</b> by Liz Lochhead	January 2008 directed by Cliff Tyner
<b>The Clean House</b> by Sarah Ruhl	April 2008 directed by Geoff Ball
<b>Spitfire Grill</b> by J. Valcq, F. Alley	June 2008 directed by Ian MacDermid

### Calendar of Events

<u>Date(s)</u>	<u>Activity</u>
Sep. 4	DP General Meeting 7pm
Sep. 5, 6	Jitters Auditions 7 - 9:30
Sep. 12	Gala Season opener Patches 7pm
Sep. 13 - 15	Patches 8pm

### DP Wants Your E-mail Address

The Dartmouth Players maintains an e-mail list for their theatre/audience members. This list is used in e-mailing the weekly Theatre Nova Scotia Newsletter "Newslink" and in sending out notices for play and audition notices for our own and other local amateur and professional non-union productions. If we don't have your e-mail address, you will unfortunately miss out on a lot of opportunities. If you want to be included in our e-mail service, e-mail [info@dartmouthplayers.ns.ca](mailto:info@dartmouthplayers.ns.ca) and ask to have your e-mail address added to our list, or corrected if you have changed your e-mail address, and we will be happy to do so. Please note our privacy policy is that we **DO NOT** give your e-mail address or any other information to anyone outside of the Dartmouth Players.

The *Dartmouth Player* Newsletter is published five times a year.

To be added to our mailing list free of charge, please send your name and address to:

Dartmouth Players  
23 Wildwood Blvd.  
Dartmouth, NS B2W 2L7  
or e-mail: [ctyner@eastlink.ca](mailto:ctyner@eastlink.ca)

**Editor: Bryn Rowlands**

**Next deadline: Oct. 1, 2007**

[www.dartmouthplayers.ns.ca](http://www.dartmouthplayers.ns.ca)

# Nunsense

Thanks to all you great Dartmouth Players fans, we've done it again – another highly successful run of the musical comedy “Nunsense,” by Dan Goggin, directed by Geoff Ball.

In November 2006, the show was incredibly popular, having been seen by 1925 people, an all-time DP record by hundreds. It was critically acclaimed as well, including such accolades as “Best bang for the buck...good fun well done, and a amazing value at \$12 per ticket” by Kate Watson,



entertainment critic for The Coast, in her year-end evaluation of theatre in HRM for all of 2006. Many theatre-goers were unable to obtain tickets.

So...we decided to bring “Nunsense” back August 16<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>, 2007. As far as we know, this is the 1<sup>st</sup> time Dartmouth Players has staged a major production in “high summer,” before Labour Day. Thank you, air-conditioning!

From the November cast, Carole Ball returned as The Reverend Mother; Valerie Bellamy was recast as Sister Amnesia; the other three sisters were new to this production: Lori Errington as Sister Hubert, Mistress of the Novices; Karen Shewbridge as Sister Robert Anne; Rose Allen as Sister Leo, Novice.

Lori Errington was also Musical Director, while Valerie Bellamy “double-hatted” with the Choreography. We were very fortunate to have Nhat-Viet “Toto” Phi, an incredibly skilled, highly trained professional musician, as Accompanist. Check his biography at [www.phifamily.com](http://www.phifamily.com).

With a rehearsal period half the length of the usual, the learning curve for this cast and crew was more like a rock cliff than a hill! The amount of energy, dedication, skill, and rigorous work they put in during 4 long rehearsals per week was truly awesome to watch. They were a director’s dream come true!

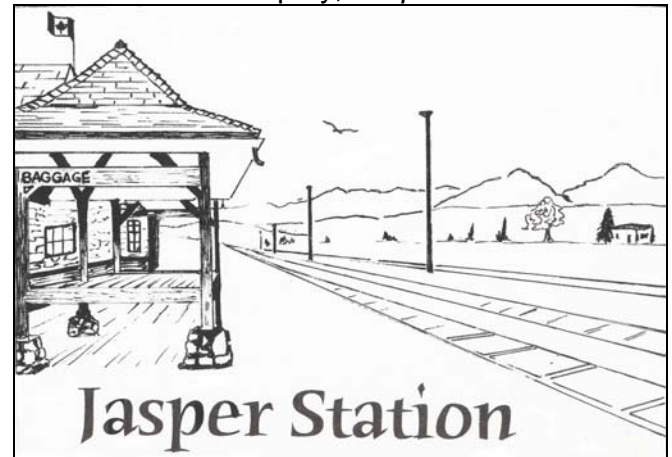
The results? Excellent, professional-level performances, consistently “bringing down the house” at all nine shows and receiving rave reviews.

Like lightning striking twice, an exceptionally talented and dedicated cast and crew have, once

again, made “Nunsense” an historic, smash-hit success for Dartmouth Players! Our profoundest thanks and congratulations to all!

Geoff Ball, Director and Co-Producer  
Carole Ball, Co-Producer  
“Nunsense” (August 2007)

Last season’s final play, *Jasper Station*.



A very successful presentation of this well-written Canadian play. Our audience loved it, and we took great pleasure in bringing it to you. Many hours of rehearsals proved to be time well spent in perfecting the songs and coordinating the choreography. Besides entertaining our audience, there was a real-life message contained in the script. Many of us could relate to the actors on stage. It has been my pleasure to be involved with this wonderful cast and crew.

Angus Duncan  
Producer

## Gift Certificates

Christmas...Birthday...Just Because!

Give the gift of Live Theatre to that **special person** in your life!

Dartmouth Players offers gift certificates for both subscriptions or individual plays.

Subscriptions:	<u>4 Plays</u>	<u>Last 3 Plays</u>
Adults	\$44.00	\$33.00
Senior/Students	\$36.00	\$27.00

**Single Play Tickets:** Adults - \$12.00  
Senior/Students - \$10.00

Deadline for 4 plays is **November 5, 2006**  
Deadline for 3 plays is **January 8, 2007**

Simply contact Cliff Tyner at 434-1078 or [ctyner@eastlink.ca](mailto:ctyner@eastlink.ca)

## Dartmouth Players 2007-2008 Season

FALL - November 7 - 24, 2007



**JITTERS**, by David French  
Directed by Bryn Rowlands  
SYNOPSIS: *Jitters* is the hilarious "backstage" comedy about a series of disasters that befall a theater company trying to open a new play. A hysterical playwright, a diva-ish leading lady, a leading man with an easily bruised ego, insecure supporting actors, a sarcastic stage manager, a sexy seamstress, a faulty bathroom door, and a director trying to hold it all together, add to the mayhem in this funny and sophisticated comedy about opening night *jitters*.

SPRING - Apr. 9 – 26, 2008



**A CLEAN HOUSE**, by Sarah Ruhl  
Directed by Geoff Ball  
SYNOPSIS: *A Clean House* is a warm hearted edgy drama, with quirky comedy and flights of fantasy, this exciting work will intrigue you from start to finish, and even beyond!

WINTER - January 23 – Feb 9, 2008

*Good Things*  
Liz Lochhead



directed by Cliff Tyner

**GOOD THINGS**, by Liz Lochhead  
Directed by Cliff Tyner  
SYNOPSIS: *Good Things* is a romantic comedy: Susan, suddenly single and with the dreaded big Five O glaring her in the face, has an Old Dad in his second childhood, a daughter in the throes of aggravated adolescence and an ex who, unfortunately, still has the power to wound... Should she try again? And HOW? Or give up on love all together and get a cat?

SUMMER - June 11 – 28, 2008

The  
**Spitfire**  
Grill

**SPITFIRE GRILL**, Music and Book by James Valcq.  
Lyrics and Book by Fred Alley. Based on the film by Lee David Zlotoff.  
Directed by: Ian MacDermid  
SYNOPSIS: A feisty parolee follows her dreams, based on a page from an old travel book, to a small town with a big heart. Add a crotchety old woman, her boss and owner of the *Spitfire Grill*, a romantic sheriff, a bitter ex-quarry foreman and his mousy wife, a nosey post mistress, throw in some amazing melodies and lyrics and you have a great evening of entertainment.



# Board Chairman's Report

It is a real pleasure to work with the incoming Dartmouth Players Board of Management. We have an exciting new season of theatre prepared for you in 2007/08. First of all, our August production of a re-run of the hilarious comedy "NUNSENSE" brought back by popular demand. Following shortly after, in mid September, the play, "PATCHES" brought to us by Saint Mathew's Players for a three day run including an opening night gala with a complimentary glass of wine and munchies. Our main subscription season begins in November with the hilarious "back stage" comedy "JITTERS" directed by Bryn Rowlands. This is followed by our January blues breaker "GOOD THINGS", a romantic comedy directed by me. Our spring selection is a warm hearted edgy drama "A CLEAN HOUSE" directed by Geoff Ball followed by our June production, "SPITFIRE GRILL" a musical, directed by Ian MacDermid. I'm looking forward to seeing all of them.

The Dartmouth Players are a registered charity and support other charities through their "Dress Rehearsal for Charities Program". We essentially donate our final dress rehearsal to the registered charity and they sell tickets for the show and keep the proceeds. For example, our dress rehearsal for charities for the Reprise of "Nunsense" made the sponsoring charity over \$1,400. We, by paying the performance rights for that performance, also are donating to the charity. We benefit also in giving our cast and crew a live audience for their final rehearsal. If you are interested in this program please contact us.

Cliff Tyner, Board Chairman.

Our new board for fiscal 07/08 is as follows:

Chairman: Cliff Tyner

Vice Chair: Judy Baroni

Past Chair: Ruth Flemming

Secretary: Gordon McLean

Treasurer: Open (currently being filled by Cliff Tyner)

Executive Director: Jane Rogerson

Members-at-large: Brent Boudreau, Andrew Coll, Eric Jordan, Theresa Keefe,  
Ian MacDermid, Sandi Montgomery, Kathleen Robson, Richard Sircom,  
Jackie White

## Our Corporate Sponsors:



## Intermission Quiz for *Jasper Station*

### Advertisers

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Smittys  
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Roccas  
Smittys  
Queen of Cups  
Smittys  
Boston Pizza  
Queen of Cups  
Violet Spa  
Smittys  
Trend Setters  
Boston Pizza  
Roccas  
Smittys

### Winners

Kerry Burns  
Madeline Endres  
Pauline Coward  
Kerry Miller  
Minn Chute  
John Baxter  
Steve Rafuse  
Eleanor Nordlund  
Gordon Heffler  
Doris Drysdale  
Eric Mills  
Cathy McAuley  
Bob Daniels  
Obee Benjamin  
Rita Reynolds  
Shirley Murtha  
Kurt Brothers  
Angie Harris  
Marsha Meldrum  
Raymond Dowling  
Debbie Chiasson  
Linda MacDonald  
Bill Stone  
Liz Corkery  
Keith Brumwell  
Debby Rudolph  
Arnold Bonang  
Sandra Low  
Manene Young  
Taylor MacPherson  
Mary S. McDonald

## *We salute the great Dartmouth Players 2006-2007 Season*

<b>Nunsense</b> by Dan Goggin	November 2006, August 2007 directed by Geoff Ball
<b>Tribute</b> by Bernard Slade	January 2007 directed by J. Frederick Brown
<b>Bus Stop</b> by William Inge	April 2007 directed by Ian MacDermid
<b>Jasper Station</b> by Norm Foster	June 2007 directed by Gisela O'Brien

## Our Audience Speaks

Patrons to our theatre are well aware of the sponsors quiz and door prizes available each night during our main productions. Each quiz has a space for audience comments. We appreciate your comments, we read them and try to distribute them to all of the cast, crew and board members.

Here is a recap of some of your comments:

- A lot of favourable comments concerning the play, the acting/singing and the set; we thank you for your kind words.
- A number of people stated this was their first time here, and they would be back.
- Some comments concerned scents and perfume worn by other patrons. We advertise a scent-free area, and have included a request for scent-free in our program, newsletter and pre-show announcements.
- We asked the audience to suggest plays to be presented in the future. Your remarks were passed on and considered by our play-reading committee (who are responsible for selecting the next year's plays)
- Several people expressed desire for more spacious seating, or for improved visibility. Although we sympathize with these two concerns, we cannot move the seats further apart without sacrificing the number of patrons we can accommodate in our limited space. We have, however, added cushions to many of the chairs in an attempt to make them more comfortable.
- There were comments about reserved seating. We phoned the people that asked the question to try to explain our policy. Patrons with special needs are asked to identify special needs requirements when they make reservations, and we attempt to accommodate them as best we can. Special needs include visual, hearing and mobility impairments. Wheelchairs are positioned by the exit doors in the front row.
- The lower doors are reserved for those with advanced tickets. We attempt to open these doors forty minutes before curtain so that the advance ticket holders have an advanced pick of seating. The stage manager has the final say as to when the doors open and will try to have the theatre ready for opening at the advertised time.

These are responses to some of your comments. Keep the comments coming; we will evaluate and address wherever possible.

