



Dartmouth Players



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

Dartmouth Players
33 Crichton Avenue, Dartmouth
Mailing Address:
23 Wildwood Boulevard
Dartmouth, NS B2W 2L7

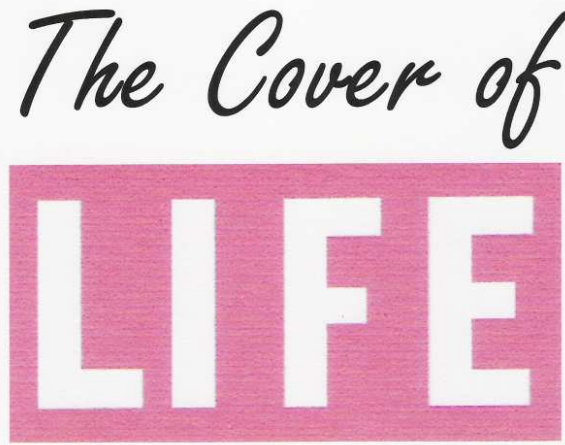
May 2010 Newsletter

Fax: (902) 435-7647
Hotline: (902) 465-PLAY (465-7529)
E-mail: info@dartmouthplayers.ns.ca
Website: www.dartmouthplayers.ns.ca

The Cover of LIFE

By R.T. Robinson
Director's Notes

Set in the midst of World War II, *The Cover of LIFE* tells the story of 3 soldiers' wives living with their mother-in-law in a small southern town while their husbands are off to war. LIFE magazine hears of the story and sends writer Kate Miller to interview the family and she learns more about



herself and life, both upper and lower case, than she bargained for. We are well into rehearsals and I could not ask for a better team. What an honour it is to work with these men and women; not only the actors on stage but all those behind the scenes. Thank you all for making my job so easy.

I have always had an interest in life during WW II, not so much the battle fronts, but the families at home. Today we can turn on a TV and see countries half a world away, but in the 40's it was LIFE magazine that gave those at home a chance to see places that they never dreamed of; the places where their loved ones were so bravely fighting.

Thank you all for giving me the opportunity to bring this wonderful show to our stage.

-Ian MacDermid

Dress Rehearsals for Charity

The dress rehearsal performance of *The Cover of LIFE* will take place **8pm Monday June 7**, with proceeds supporting the charities below. Please make reservations through:

- Circle of Care, operators of the Dartmouth Furniture Bank
Contact: Carol Anne Ando, 435-5984, ando@ns.sympatico.ca.
- Admiral Westphal Elementary School breakfast program.
The school's phone no. is 435-8305.

The Cover of LIFE

Wed. to Sat. 8pm,
June 9 - 26

Sunday Matinees
June 13 & 20 2pm

Reservations Open May 19

Adults \$15
Seniors/Students \$12

Reserve at

www.dartmouthplayers.ns.ca
or call 465-PLAY as of [May 19](#).

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.

Inside this issue of

Dartmouth Player

The Cover of LIFE, our summer offering

Shore Leave Audition Notice

The Importance of being Earnest:

Producer's comments

Scholarships

About our Ian MacDermid

DP's 2010-2011 Season!

Quiz Winners

Audience Comments

Dartmouth Players is a **not-for-profit** society and a federally registered **charity**. No one is paid; we are all volunteers with the objective of bringing the magic of live theatre to the residents of HRM.

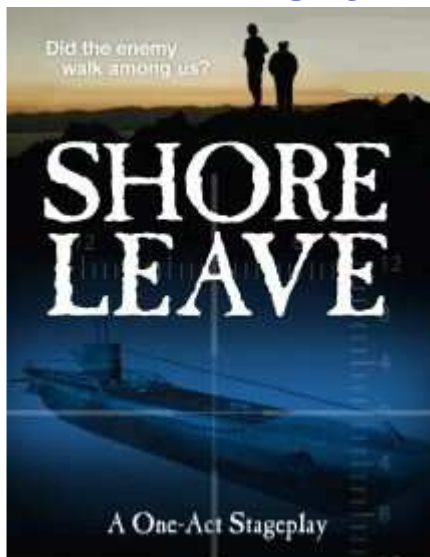
Dartmouth Players Tickets

Our reservations department will no longer be making confirmation phone calls to those people who reserve online. Instead, a confirmation email will be sent. Phone calls will still be made to those people who reserve seats by phone.

There are only 2 advance ticket sellers for the 2009 - 2010 season:

Fisher's Stationery and Smitty's Restaurant

AUDITION NOTICE – *SHORE LEAVE*



by Sean Kelly

Directed by Stacey Fownes

Audition Dates: 2-4pm on Saturday June 12th and 7-9 pm on Sunday June 13th

Location: Upstairs at Dartmouth Players Theatre

The young German submariner Joseph makes a visit in disguise to a Nova Scotian village for nothing more than fresh air and food and the adventure. But on meeting a village war widow and the village priest, he gets more than he bargained for.

Piercing, raw, uplifting and tragic, *Shore Leave* takes a Nova Scotian myth from World War II and goes straight to the heart of the matter.

To play the role of the German submariner, we are looking for a man in his 20's or early 30's. Should be plausible in looks as a German. Character speaks English without an accent. The play will run September 16 to 25, 2010.

Dartmouth Players

Announces 2010-2011 Season

Dartmouth Players proudly announces its line-up for the 2010-2011 season.

The season will open in September, with the presentation of **Shore Leave**, written by local playwright, Sean Kelly. Posing the question, "Did the enemy walk among us?", this play was inspired by a modern Maritime myth: namely that during World War II, German submarine crew members secretly visited our shores.

In November, the longest-running musical of all time, **The Fantasticks**, by Tom Jones and Harvey Schmidt, will charm audiences with wonderful music and a time-honoured story of young love.

In late January, we will feature **Boston Marriage**, a blisteringly witty comedic satire by David Mamet, which presents the lives of two women in Victorian-era America who eschew marriage, defiantly choosing to live with one another instead.

Funny Money by Ray Cooney opens in late March. For fans of the rip-roaring, high-speed, door-slamming British farce, this one's for you! What happens when Joe-Average-Englishman opens his briefcase and discovers 1.5 million pounds inside?

Finally in June, you will be treated to a gentler, warm-all-over kind of comedy, **Be My Baby** by Ken Ludwig. Take one irascible old man and one uptight mature woman, and add one adorable baby. Then watch the fun unfold!

We can't wait to see all these outstanding plays come to life on our stage. We know you will be eager to take part too!

Watch for more details in your August newsletter.

Upstage Studios Summer Camps 2010

If you have ever dreamed of starring in musicals like

Mamma Mia, *Grease* and *Hairspray* here is your opportunity.

A fun-filled week of Musical Theatre Camp. Each week the students will work as a group with a singing, dancing and drama coach to prepare a theatrical production on the stage, upon completion of each camp. No prior experience needed, just lots of enthusiasm.

Week long camps run through the summer holidays, 9 am till 4 pm Monday till Friday.

Cost \$150.00 for full week

Location: Dartmouth Players Theatre 33
Creighton Ave Dartmouth
Performance 4 pm Friday

July 5 - 9 - **HAIRSPRAY** - Ages 8 and up

July 12 - 16 - **NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS** -
Ages 8 and up

July 19 - 23 - **THRILLER** - Ages 8 and up

July 26 - 30 - **CAMP ROCK** -
Ages 8 and up

Aug 2 - 6 - **HEAVY ART DANCE CAMP** -
Ages 10+ advanced dance camp

Aug 9 - 13 - **WILD AT HEART** -
Ages 8 and up

Aug 16 - 20 - **GREASE** - Ages 8 and up

Aug 23 - 27 - **MAMMA MIA** - Ages 8 and up

To find out more and to register go to
www.upstagehalifax.ca,
or call Susie @ 462 6704

Producer's Comments

The Importance of Being Earnest

Oscar would have been extremely happy to attend Dartmouth Players to see these actors do justice to his masterpiece. Our director brought the script to life, designed and dressed the stage and proved that young people have a place in the theatre. The backstage crew did wonders in bringing the design to fruition, changing the stage between acts, and preparing the food for a



hungry Algernon under the direction of our competent stage manager. Our stage always presents problems for the lighting people, which were overcome by the innovative floor lighting designed for this set.

It was a pleasure to watch these actors present their characters to the audience. The haughty Lady Bracknell dominated the characters with her aristocratic charm. Miss Prism, so confident as a governess, became reticent when confronted by Lady B. The Reverend Chasuble from Scotland, lent an air of sophistication to the English aristocracy. Lane served his master with dreadful distinction, while Merriman had us all laughing with his *shaky* performance. Gwendolyn and Cecily became good friends, got into a cat fight and ended up as sisters. Algernon and Earnest fed off each other, and showed us what two friends in real life could do to characters on a stage.

Our audience verbal comments at the end of the play were most heartening. Thank you to all for supporting community theatre. It was our pleasure to bring this play to you.

- Angus Duncan

Scholarship Opportunities for High School Students

Dartmouth Players supports performing arts education and has provided theatre arts training and scholarships to many promising young Nova Scotians. Through the Clare Authers Memorial Scholarship, DP awards two scholarships annually, one each to a graduate of Dartmouth High, and Prince Andrew High. Graduating students who will be pursuing post-secondary education in the performing arts are eligible to apply, and may do so through the Student Services Dept. at their school. The application form can be found on our website at: www.dartmouthplayers.ns.ca/scholarship.php

The application deadline this year is May 29. Please forward the completed form to he

Dartmouth Players

c/o 23 Wildwood Blvd

Dartmouth, NS B2W 2L7

Att'n: Scholarship Co-ordinator

Scholarship Opportunities for DP Members

Members of Dartmouth Players furthering their theatre interests through an educational opportunity are encouraged to apply for one of our members' scholarships. For more info, please call 465-PLAY

ABOUT OUR DIRECTOR FOR *The Cover of LIFE*

Our last director for the 2009 - 2010 season is Ian MacDermid. I recently sat down with Ian and asked him a few questions regarding his interest in community theatre and his choice to direct our next production, *The Cover of LIFE*.



DP: I know you have been with Dartmouth Players for over 20 years now; what was the allure that brought you through our doors?

Ian: I have loved the stage for as long as I can remember and when I came to Dartmouth Players and saw a play done by people who were just like me, not professionals, I just about burst, and was blown away by the fact that ordinary people got to do this and so I came back for the next auditions.

DP: What is it about community theatre that has kept you involved for so long?

Ian: Every production brings something that is new, whether it is a new show, new people, new sets. It is always different than the one before and therefore brings on a new challenge.

DP: You are also a member of our board of directors. How do you see your role on the board, influencing our theatre's future?

Ian: I like to think that I see things differently, so I always like to see us go in different and new directions - like using multi-media such as TV's and projectors on the set. I wasn't the first to use multi-media, but I have expanded on the idea in different projects I've been involved with.

DP: What was it about *The Cover of LIFE* that drew you to this particular play?

Ian: These people are very real people to me. They could be sisters or brothers of any one of us. It has heart. I can hear members of my own family, or any families, in the lines that are spoken.

DP: Do you see any similarities between what is happening with these women during the Second

World War and what is happening today to women who are left behind while their partners are in Afghanistan?

Ian: The separation is the same. The difference now is that there are now husbands with their wives over there. Communication is now easier and instant with the help of the internet. I think it would make it a little easier and make you feel a little less separated.

DP: Do you think the evolution of the women's movement has made it any easier for women to cope while their partners are away fighting?

Ian: Nothing can prepare us for living with that separation and anxiety. It all comes down to the same basic thing of being away from each other.

DP: What, if anything, do you hope our audience takes away from this production?

Ian: A little understanding of how hard it was for those left at home. The battle is not always fought on the battle fields and the victims of war are not always lost on the battle fields.

DP: What else would you like our patrons to know about Ian MacDermid?

Ian: I'm so grateful to have the opportunity to do this. I am so glad I get out to play with such a diverse group at Dartmouth Players.

DP: You are ending our season with a great production, and I want everyone to know that you will be directing our next season's opening main stage production with the musical, *The Fantasticks* - something for all of us to look forward to.

Ian: Yes! Come out and see all of our next season's productions!

Denise Monbourquette

Dartmouth Players 2009-2010 Season

<i>Anything Goes</i> by Cole Porter	November 2009 directed by the Tyner Team
<i>Woman in Mind</i> by Alan Ayckburn	February 2010 directed by Andrew Coll
<i>The Importance of Being Earnest</i> by Oscar Wilde	April 2010 dir. by Isabelle Theriault
<i>The Cover of Life</i> by R.T. Robinson	June 2010 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.

Our Corporate Sponsors:



“NO-SHOWS” ARE A CONCERN

The volunteers who work at Dartmouth Players to bring quality, affordable theatre to the community, have been concerned of late about the numbers of No-Shows at some of our performances. Each time someone reserves a seat and then does not attend the show, it means a loss of revenue, and an empty seat in the audience. If you find that you cannot attend a performance for which you have booked, PLEASE let us know by calling 465-PLAY as soon as possible. We would much prefer to resell that seat, rather than see it empty. Sometimes there is a waiting list of people hoping to purchase seats, who are disappointed when they cannot. Meanwhile there are empty seats in the theatre because the people who reserved them did not call to cancel. Please help us to remedy this situation. Also, we would ask patrons to only book as many seats as they know for certain they will need, to accommodate their party. Thank you for helping us to keep Dartmouth Players a valued and accessible place for as many people as possible.

DARTMOUTH PLAYERS NEWSLETTER SPECIAL - MAY ISSUE ONLY

Bring this ad with you, or mention it at Rocco's to take advantage of the following special offer.

ROCCOS
RISTORANTE ITALIANO
A Taste of Southern Italy in Dartmouth



www.roccosrestaurant.ca

902.461.0211

“Early Dinner” or “Pasto Pomreggio”
Choose any two courses from our regular menu for only \$25 per person.
Add a 1/2 litre of our house wine for only \$10.
*Taxes & gratuities not included.

TIOBE QUIZ WINNERS

Boston Pizza – Bev Rodgerson
Bonnie Fraser
Sarah Osborne
Dan Bray

Fan's Restaurant - Edith Young
Susan Sullivan
Florence Patterson

Grafton St. Dinner Theatre –
Patricia Power
Anne Harrop
Carol Reid
Donna Tipert
Robin Humphery
Milissa Dakcu

Health Basket - Anita Bishop
Frank Amirault
Judy Murray
Susan Walker

Ma Belle's Café - Jim Lamplugh
Avis Myers

Neighbours Pub - Minnie Hendsbee
Reg Crick
Mary Cooe

Rocco's Ristorante -Desiree Finhert
Hazel Whitman
Joseph MacDowall
Jennifer Bates

Smittys - Barb Dore
Dennis Hanuska
Sharon Moser

Trendsetter Salon - Haley Guest
Sharon Conrad
Mary MacPhee
Clare Burley

Violet Spa - Ann Porter
Janet Sketchley
Helen Cameron Gravid
Mary Lambros
Ann Grant

Audience Comments– *The Importance of Being Earnest*

We had numerous comments from the audience on the quiz sheets that were inserted in the programs. Most of the comments were very positive, indicating that you enjoyed the presentation. I also received a lot of positive verbal comments from you when I was collecting the programs at the end of the play. As promised, I made about eight phone calls to those audience members that I considered needed a personal response.

We are still getting comments about people being bothered by perfume and other scents. We ask that you heed the no-scent policy at the theatre.

There were favourable comments about the Front of House staff, and the delicious treats they serve at intermission. The new comfortable seats were mentioned. A lot of good comments about the quiz but one person did not enjoy this quiz. You mentioned you liked the set and the costumes; our volunteers put a lot of work and effort to bring this play to you. We had a lot of people who were first-timers here, and you said you will be back. Thank you for that. One gentleman said that the print was too small for senior's eyes. I think that was because we put in a large glossary for terms used in the play, and this took up a lot of space.

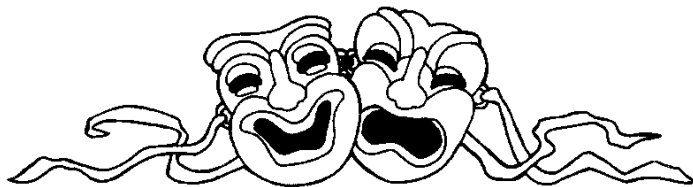
Reserved seats were mentioned. Our policy is to have people identify special needs when they make reservations, and we assign them seats in the front. The remainder of the seats are then taken on a first come basis.

We did receive some suggestions for future plays. These will be passed to our play-reading committee.

Direct quote from one of the comments; "Fantastic experience from the minute you walk in. You all put on a fabulous show".

Thank you all for your comments, and keep them coming...

Angus Duncan



Parking Notice

Patrons and volunteers are reminded that during performances, the parking lot in the upper courtyard is reserved for the vehicles of persons who have difficulty with mobility. Patrons and volunteers who do not have mobility difficulties are requested to use the church and school parking areas.