



**PLACE
DES
ARTS**



COQUITLAM YOUTH THEATRE YEAR-END PERFORMANCES

Saturday, June 20 • 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Place des Arts presents a recital featuring performances by our year-long theatre programs: Coquitlam Youth Musical Theatre, Junior Coquitlam Youth Theatre and Coquitlam Youth Theatre. Taught and directed by Hailey Fowler and Seamus Fera.



Performed by **Coquitlam Youth Musical Theatre**

WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY HAILEY FOWLER

For her tenth birthday, Elle is hosting a slumber party, inviting her school friends to share in their first night away from home. While her parents head out for the evening, they leave the group in the care of Elle's older sister, who soon waves away responsibility, sneaking off with her own friends to go to the movies. Left to their own devices, the sleepover crew open a pop-up book of *Alice in Wonderland*. The vivid pictures spark wonder, allowing their imaginations to grow as the story lifts from the page to play out around them.

CAST

(In order of appearance)

Elle.....Penelope Lacson
 Alice.....Sylvie Lerch
 Elise/Queen of Hearts.....Kaia Park Poradzisz
 Layla/Tweedle Dee.....Margot Stewart
 Lana/Tweedle Dum.....Hailey Wong
 Hazel/Cheshire Cat.....Belle Wang
 Rachel/Card Guard.....Jayden Norris
 Josie/Card Guard.....Zoey Hirtle
 Goldie/Card Guard.....Alice Li
 Emma/White Rabbit.....Kareen Sheydaei

SONGS (In show order)

OhMiGod You Guys from *Legally Blonde*, composed and written by Laurence O'Keefe and Nell Benjamin

In a World of My Own from Disney's *Alice in Wonderland*, composed by Sammy Fain and written by Bob Hilliard.

Don't Give In from *A New Brain*, composed and written by William Finn

A Lovely Night from *Cinderella*, composed and written by Rodgers and Hammerstein

Painting the Roses Red from Disney's *Alice in Wonderland*, composed by Sammy Fain and written by Bob Hilliard.

Lost in the Wilderness from *Children of Eden*, composed and written by Stephen Schwartz



Performed by **Junior Coquitlam Youth Theatre**

WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY SEAMUS FERA

Inspired by Britain’s original action hero, The Merry Men takes us to Merry Old England. King Richard the Lionheart is off on crusades, and his brother is ruling. Join our hero, the brave and just Robin Hood, who with his crew of bandits, foils the pernicious plans of Prince John and his lackey, the Sheriff of Nottingham. When Maid Marian, a ward of the court, encounters Robin Hood, she must decide between her home and her heart. However, even heroes have secrets...

CAST

The Court

- Prince John.....Kaylee Bowman
- Lady Laetitia.....Sage Worden
- Countess Cecily.....Vienna Hatton
- Maid Marian.....Clare Liu
- Nurse Nancy.....Jasmine Dolden

The Law

- Sheriff of Nottingham.....Alysia Sami
- Hank.....Audrey Xue
- Shank.....Emma Hainsworth

The Forest

- Robin Hood.....Manuella Pizzolatto
- Little John.....Lan Chen
- Friar Tuck.....Ryder Cao
- Will Scarlett.....Elliot Rayner
- Much, The Miller’s Son.....Hunter Harrington
- Alan A-Dale.....Oliver Rink
- A Stranger.....Savannah Calinao

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The Wind in the Willows

Performed by **Coquitlam Youth Theatre**

WRITTEN BY DIANE GRANT & DIRECTED BY SEAMUS FERA

Mole lives underground. His comfortable burrow is a good place for a creature who is small and has poor eyesight. But when he feels the stirrings of spring, is it time to take a chance? Is it time to go up there? Outside is a scary place. Would he survive? And what if he lost her glasses? But a little courage goes a long way, and a few brave steps introduce Mole to a world of characters he never knew existed: the mean Weasels, the loveable Ratty, the flamboyant Otter, the kindly Widow Badger, and the exuberant Mr. Toad of Toad Hall, whose hilarious antics get himself and everybody else in and out of trouble time and again in this adaptation of the classic novel.

Produced by special arrangement with YouthPLAYS (www.YouthPLAYS.com)

CAST

(In order of appearance)

Mr Mole.....	Jaylen Sami
Ms. Ratty.....	Juliet Tuccori
Master Ratty.....	Oscar Schelle
Ms. Otter.....	Makayla Honeybourn
Widow Badger.....	Maya Asumncion-Brown
Mr. Toad.....	Richard Mikkelsen
Willy Weasel.....	Charlie Balsler
Erik Weasel.....	Beck Wight
Harriet Weasel.....	Vivienne Le
Father Hedgehog/Flower seller/Juror 1/Guard....	Maxwell Pringle
Mother Hedgehog/ Egg Seller/Juror 2/ Washerwoman/ Jerry	Charlotte Manfield
Arthur/Dickie/ Toad's Lawyer/ Jimmy.....	Aoife Inkster
Dora/ Gertie/ Clerk/ Officer/Annie Hedgehog.....	Violet Tardif
Donald/Waiter/ Magistrate.....	Austin Elias
Servant/Wilber.....	Paxton Namshirin

DIRECTOR'S NOTES: Hailey Fowler



In Musical Theatre, our job as actors is to lead with curiosity while we share the story. Curiosity allows us to make choices, continuing to make discoveries within the world, which creates theatre magic. The same is true as we grow up: when we remain curious about the world around us, the more we can learn about human nature, our surroundings, and even learn about ourselves. For my first year with CYMT, my goal was to work with the strengths of students to allow them to make discoveries in character as well as within themselves. When we feel comfortable, we tend to risk more, which leads to growth - truly the perfect equation. I took inspiration from Alice in Wonderland, not only because it was a familiar source but also because of its themes of wonder and bravery. Alice bravely explores a new world, facing every obstacle without ever giving up. The idea of adding the framework of a sleepover came from fond memories in my childhood, creating a bond amongst friends: the games, the play, the secrets shared, as well as all the laughs throughout the night. Throughout the year, our cast grew into a close ensemble, celebrating one another, sharing laughter and playfulness onstage, and offering constant encouragement. Together, they supported each other through challenges with lines, steps and entrances while learning and growing as a team. Musical theatre brings people together in a very unique way, working in unison to achieve the greater goal, hence creating the magic you will see onstage. This is a revue-style show, which means songs are pulled from other musicals and we shape the songs to fit the story. The goal of a musical is that each song moves the narrative forward. Every song you hear in our show has been selected to spark an emotion: joy, curiosity, strength, play, but most importantly WONDER. As you watch today's performance, I invite you, as the audience, to be curious alongside Elle, Rachel, Goldie, Josie, Emma and Alice on their journey. After all, we are all mad here....

Behind the Scenes...



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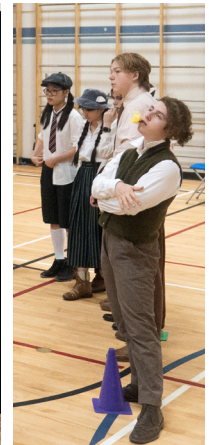
DIRECTOR'S NOTES: Seamus Fera



It is always a pleasure to work with the thirty young people who pour their heart and soul into the Coquitlam Youth Theatre programs. Each year, I aim to inspire the ensembles to approach the craft from a place of curiosity and playfulness, and this year the cohorts truly took the note and ran with it. With the Jr. CYT students, my focus is on building foundational skills that they can apply directly to the rehearsal process. As they deepen their own individual understanding and creative process, the aim is that they begin to understand the necessity of teamwork, specificity and dependability within all elements of their life. With the older teens of CYT, I am now challenging students to deepen their own sense of artistry through rigorously investigating text and physicality. They begin to discover their own creative process and to build the toolbelt of skills and techniques that they will apply in this production, as well as other future processes. Both *The Merry Men* and *The Wind in the Willows* present the audience with an idealized representation of a period in British History. We are not aiming to represent reality onstage, we are exploring huge characters, wacky stories and nostalgia for classic stories. This should be escapism at its silliest. As always a huge thank you to the PdA team, Makayla Leonard (Our talented Support Worker), the amazing volunteers, and the parents/caregivers who make this program happen!



Behind the Scenes...



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Production Manager: Jessie Au, *Place des Arts Director, Programs and Events*

Production Coordinator: Marley Jordan, *Place des Arts Program Manager, Dance, Theatre & Literary Arts*

Host: Joan McCauley, *Place des Arts Executive Director*

Costume Designer: Eve Partridge

Props & Costume Designer: Scott Zechner

Musical Director (CYMT): James Ross

Production Assistant: JJ Hu, *Place des Arts Events and Volunteer Coordinator*

THANK YOU

Thank you to Scott Zechner and Eve Partridge for their production designs for today's performances. We also appreciate James Ross for generously sharing his time and talent with our students. Thank you to Maya Kobiliansky and Josh Shayo (CYT Alumni) for returning this season as volunteers and providing valuable experience and support to the junior students. Special appreciation goes to Makayla Leonard, Student Learning Support Worker, for their commitment and care throughout the season, ensuring all students have a successful experience in our theatre programs.

We are also grateful to all our students and their families for their dedication and commitment this past season.

Finally, we extend our sincere thanks to Seamus and Hailey for your unwavering commitment to your students. We are fortunate to have such outstanding teachers as part of our Place des Arts team.

Scan to learn about our
Theatre Programs



*Place des Arts is supported by
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1120 Brunette Ave., Coquitlam
www.placedesarts.ca • 604 664 1636