



Isle in the River Review Theatre Company

OUR SPRING
SHOW IS
UNDERWAY!



Casting for our spring 2015 production, *Nurse Jane Goes to Hawaii*, is now complete and rehearsals for this hilarious farce by Allan Stratton are underway. We are pleased to welcome Brian Kennedy as a first-time director for ITR and we know the

production is in great hands with Sheila Dubyk holding the reins as producer. The talented cast combines some familiar faces and some actors who are first-timers with ITR.

The show will run from April 24-25 and May 1-3 at the Osgoode Community Centre. We are once again planning to offer two delicious dinner theatre performances, on we did in fall 2014. Patrons will be able to buy their tickets as early as March 1st and sales will open to the general public on March 15th. Please keep checking our website, itrtheatre.com, for more information. Sheila is also posting regular updates on our Facebook page (ITR Theatre

Osgoode) and we are gearing up to tweet the latest news on Twitter (@ITRTheatre). There are easy links to both of those media on our website, itrtheatre.com. So many ways to stay in touch and know what we're up to!

OUR TWO FALL SHOWS WERE A HUGE SUCCESS

Steel Magnolias was a crowd-pleaser!

Our fall 2014 show, *Steel Magnolias*, set new attendance records and enjoyed tremendous audience acclaim. Under the stellar direction of Lorraine Hopkins, ably assisted by Regina Spearns, the talented cast and crew delivered superb performances to appreciative audiences at all six shows.

Here are just two of the many rave reviews we received:

"I knew that ITR put on great shows with great actors, but Steel Magnolias was outstanding. I felt privileged to have an insight into the private world of women."

"I loved the performance! I had a hard time imagining how an amateur theatre company could do justice to the film. The performance surpassed my expectations. The play was every bit as humorous and poignant as the film if not more. And so much more intimate. Superb acting and perfect set!"

Kudos and huge thanks to all involved!

As well as being an artistic and financial success, *Steel Magnolias* was also a successful fundraiser. In light of the story-line, we asked our generous audiences to support the Kidney Foundation of Canada and they did so to the tune of \$500. We also sold beautiful Thanksgiving centrepieces, made by multi-talented actor and florist Janice Blampied, at the Manotick Farmer's market in October and raised \$300 for the Canadian Diabetes Association.



Death Goes to the Dogs was dynamite!

In addition to our main production, ITR produced and performed an original murder mystery as a benefit for a wonderful local charity, Ottawa Therapy Dogs. We were fortunate to get Manotick-based renowned mystery author Mary Jane Maffini

(<http://www.maryjanemaffini.com/>) to write a brilliantly funny play called “Death Goes to the Dogs” and we recruited some talented ITR veterans, along with a couple of newbies, to put on the hilarious show at the Ottawa Therapy Dogs annual fund-raising dinner on November 5th. Thanks to co-directors Bill and Sue Steele and the rest of the wonderful cast, the audience had a blast. And the dinner raised \$9,000 for a very worthy cause (<http://www.ottawatherapydogs.ca/>)!



ITR NEEDS YOU!!

ITR Patrons get beautiful benefits!

Being a patron of ITR is a win-win situation. For ITR, the ongoing support from our patrons allows us to continue producing plays with a sense of stability and security. For our patrons, the satisfaction of supporting community theatre is bolstered by a tax-deductible receipt (ITR is a registered charity) and front-of-the-line reservation privileges.

ITR's patron levels and benefits are described on our website at itrtheatre.com - just follow the links to the Patrons page. Patron renewal date is coming up soon for many of our existing patrons, and this is a great time for new patrons to sign up and take advantage of the benefits for our spring show.

Volunteers get remarkable rewards!

ITR is blessed with many amazing volunteers, and each fall, ITR's President has the challenging job of choosing one of them to receive the President's Award. In 2014, she broke with tradition and also awarded two certificates of recognition. Deserving recipients were Kim Faith, for her unstinting work as ITR's Treasurer from 2011 to 2013, and John Barnard for his continued commitment to providing high-quality sound and light for ITR productions. The President's Award went to Wayne Hall for his achievements in updating and upgrading ITR's website and our ticketing system.

All our volunteers find it rewarding to know that they are helping choose plays for future consideration, painting sets that will bring oohs and aahs of amazement from the audience, making people welcome as they arrive to enjoy our shows, or supporting ITR in another of our many volunteer roles. If you would like to help out in any capacity, either for a specific show or on an ongoing basis with our Board of Directors or one of our Committees, please go to <http://itrtheatre.com/contactus.html> and let us know. We will be happy to welcome you to our ranks!

**BEST WISHES TO YOU AND YOURS FOR A VERY
HAPPY, HEALTHY AND ENTERTAINING 2015!**