

For immediate release
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Maritime Playwright's Scripts Transformed

A celebration of local plays & local talent showcased in SJTC annual playwriting competition

SAINT JOHN – SJTC is getting ready to present some uniquely Maritime works written and performed by local talent through its annual Script Happens playwriting competition. Script Happens provides a first look at new theatre works from Maritime playwrights. A development wing of the Saint John Theatre Company, Script Happens is designed to provide an avenue to foster the growth of emerging playwrights, directors and actors.



Dramaturge Workshop with Stephen Massicotte

The annual event began with a Maritime wide script search in which aspiring playwrights submitted their one-act original works. Seventeen submissions were made this year; six were selected to enter the second phase of the process which involved mentoring and training in the craft of playwriting from a professional dramaturge, New York based award-winning playwright Stephen Massicotte.

“The workshop organized by SJTC was invaluable to my development as a writer. I can’t think any way for writers from this region to get that level of professional insight and critique on their work without spending a lot of money and travelling outside of the region, so I felt very blessed to have this opportunity so near to home,” adds Dan Culberson, playwright (*The Pigeon Play*).

This year’s Script Happens will commence with a **public reading of the three runner up scripts on January 18 from 2-4pm at BMO Studio Theatre**. Admission is free however donations will be accepted. Scripts include: ***War Bride***, by Erin Keating (Fredericton), a sweet WW1 story reminding us of the precious many sides to love. ***The Wingrove Girls***, by Jeff Lloyd (Moncton), an exploration into the relationship between three sisters, and how their dreams collide. ***One Night at the Waldorf***, by Billy Curtis (Fredericton), keeps you guessing as to the motives behind 3 interesting characters who meet in a backwoods cabin, each with their own secret!

The top three scripts will then be showcased in a Script Happens production which will be staged January 22-24 at the BMO Studio Theatre at 7:30pm. Each evening will include three one act plays, including: ***The Pigeon Play***, by Dan Culberson (Saint John), a wacky but moving dive into the world of pigeons and humans. ***Bernie and Nick***, by Ken Bolton (Saint John), takes you through many twists and turns down a devil’s quest for souls. ***Sprite Fight***, by Andrew Wetmore (Clementsport, NS), reveals the comic headaches and heart throbs behind the scenes of a theatre production.

Tickets are \$17.50 adult ~ \$12.50 student – to purchase visit www.ticketpro.ca or call 1-888-311-9090.
January 22-24, 2015 –BMO Studio Theatre, 112 Princess St.

Funding for the Script Happens development program has been provided by the Province of New Brunswick.

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