

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Collaboration of Local Talent Hits Imperial Stage Next Week

The SJTC production of the beloved musical *The Sound of Music* runs November 12-16.

SAINT JOHN – The Saint John Theatre Company is gearing up to present the larger than life classic – *The Sound of Music* at Imperial Theatre November 12-16, 2014. Under the direction of local high school teacher, Jennifer Mabey, the cast of 25 are entering the final days of rehearsal before hitting the



The von Trapp children line-up during rehearsal

Imperial Stage next week. *“I’ve been in love with musicals since I was 10. Not a day goes by that I’m not humming some musical soundtrack,”* notes Jennifer Mabey, Director. *“Our goal is to create a fabulous family friendly show just in time for the holiday season.”*

The Sound of Music is the final musical collaboration between Richard Rogers & Oscar Hammerstein, first performed in 1959. The renowned musical tells the story of the young woman who falls in love with Captain von Trapp and his seven children, set against the backdrop of Nazi-occupied Austria. Some of the most famous songs ever written for stage are part of this production including *The Sound of Music*, *My Favourite Things*, *Do-Re-Mi*, *Sixteen Going on Seventeen* and *Climb Every Mountain*.

New to the acting scene but not a stranger to the stage is Saint John based singer/songwriter Hilary Branch who is tackling the role of Maria. Hilary is a classically trained vocalist, who also teaches at Interaction School of Performing Arts. *“I learn something new about Maria every day. It’s like making a dear friend. She has got a lot more going on than meets the eye!”* adds Hilary. *“The Sound of Music is a classic. It seems as though almost everyone I speak to about it has a really strong emotional attachment to the show. It particularly brings up memories of time spent with family. I hope that coming to the show will give people a chance to set aside some time to reminisce with their loved ones. And to hum along, too!”*

The Sound of Music is part of the SJTC Main Stage line-up and will be staged at Imperial Theatre November 12-16. For tickets please call Imperial box office 1-800-323-SHOW (7469). Support for the SJTC Main Stage season has been generously provided by BMO Financial, Canaport LNG, the Province of New Brunswick, the City of Saint John and TD Financial.

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