

SEASON 1970-1971

Kanata Theatre Group

The first meeting of the 70-71 season will be held in the Community Centre on Sunday, Sept. 13th at 8 p.m. New members will be welcomed and plans for the coming season will be discussed.

The first public production will be Jean Anouilh's "Waltz of the Toreadors", directed by Ron Maslin. Local theatre-goers will remember Ron in the leading role in last May's production of "Present Laughter".

"Waltz of the Toreadors" will take place in Stephen Leacock School on Nov. 19-21. As time is getting short, Ron will start casting at the meeting on Sept. 13th. Rehearsals will begin the following week.

Those members not directly involved in this production might like to try a little acting, promoting, costuming or curtain-pulling, during the "worship" evening of three one-act plays, to be held on Oct. 24th.

There will be readings for these plays in the Community Centre on Sunday 20th at 8 p.m. The three directors, who have been selected from volunteers who have not directed for this club before, hope to cast their plays at this meeting.

All residents of March Township are eligible from Grade 10 and up. Previous experience is definitely not needed to enjoy and contribute to this club. If you are new to the area, it is a grand way to get to know some interesting and friendly people.

Other plans for the season are a play for children in January; a production of "Our Town" in February, in which director Laurence Thornton says there are lots of good roles for the teenage members of the group; and, if the members are still as enthusiastic as they were at the end of last season, another three-act play in April.

Kanata Theatre Group

1970-71 Executive

President.....Ron Maslin
Vice-Pres.....Jim Macintosh
Secretary.....Rafael Williams
Treasurer.....Rosemary Scott
Publicity.....Elsie Bryant
Play Reading Com. Rosemary
Hollands
Teen Rep.....Paula Cameron
Member-at-Large.....Laurence
Thornton
Past Pres.....Dewi Williams

Kanata Theatre

Residents of March Township, including students from Grade 10 up, are eligible to join the Kanata Theatre Group, which meets in the Kanata community centre on alternate Sunday evenings.

Three productions are planned for the new season. Tomorrow, Sept. 13, auditions will be held for Waltz of the Toreadors, by Jean Anouilh, under the direction of Ron Maslin. On Sept. 20 casting will take place for three one-act plays to form a workshop evening on Oct. 24; and in November auditions will be held for a February production of Our Town by Thornton Wilder, directed by Laurence Thornton.

Other plans include a play for children in January, and another three-act production in April. Productions will be presented at Stephen Leacock Public School until the Earl of March High School auditorium is ready.

THREE ONE-ACT PLAYS WORKSHOP PRODUCTION OCTOBER 24TH, 1970

Fumed Oak - Director - Elsie Bryant
A Marriage Proposal - Director - John de Salis
Everlasting Flowers - Director - Bob Hollands

Kanata Theatre Group

Plenty of new talent was discovered during the two evenings of play readings held by the theatre group in September. Almost every member is involved in one of the forthcoming productions.

Gwen Knight is producer for the three one-act plays directed by Elsie Bryant, Bob Hollands and John de Salis. This October workshop evening will provide valuable experience for directors, actors and backstage crew, while not submitting them to the critical eyes of the ticket-buying public.

However, we hope that the public will come out in force to see "The Waltz of the Toreadors", November 19-21 at Stephen Leacock School.

This light-hearted farce, by Jean Anouilh, is directed by Ron Maslin and the central role is played by Laurence Thornton. With a cast of eleven to dress, Wardrobe Mistress Doreen Boss and her helpers are hard

at work, designing and adapting. Dresses that look too small for the actresses and trousers that will drop easily to the floor are only two of their problems.

In the meantime, Val Macintosh, in charge of Set Decor, and Elsie Bryant, of Properties, are rummaging and scrounging for furniture and accessories to set the scene. Ron Maslin has designed an intricate and challenging set which involves a complete change for Act 2, a first attempt for this group.

Does anyone have any of the following articles, which they would be willing to lend us for this production? A Victorian chaise-loungue, oil lamp with shade, pince-nez, polo stick, equestrian pictures, round footstool, Roman helmet, washstand china basin and jug, desk-table in dark wood finish. If so, please telephone Helen Hunter, 636-1914.

done with more variation.

The third play was Everlasting Flowers by Philip Johnson, directed by Bob Hollands. The roles were played by Rosemary Scott, Carol Scharif, Eulron Williams, Barry Eckhart, Rosemary Hollands and Connell Steers. This group created an air of mystery well and even when we became aware that we were seeing an element of the Faust legend they kept us wondering what the twist would be at the end.

The two best performances of the evening were by Rosemary Scott as the old woman in Everlasting Flowers and Rosemary Lawless as the snivelling adolescent in Fumed Oak. Each created a believable character and at all times, even when silent for lengthy periods, remained essential parts of the play.

The evening was a success in meeting its objective of giving new experience to a number of people and the theatre group should continue to present workshop evenings from time to time. We must complain, however, of one aspect of quality in this production. Even though this was a workshop evening and they did not have too long a time to prepare for it, there seemed little excuse for so many of the performers being uncertain of their lines and cues. The discipline of learning these thoroughly is most basic to all acting. Too many amateurs rely on the repetition

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of their lines at rehearsals to grasp an approximation of their lines and never learn them exactly as written. This insults both the author (who may sometimes deserve it) and the members of the audience (who never do). This results in horrible memory black-outs at performance time. For part of this evening, the prompter seemed almost a member of the cast, something that has never happened at previous productions of the Kanata Theatre Group.

Teenagers
The Kanata Theatre Group wishes to sponsor an all teen production of the well known play Our Town by Thornton Wilder. There are over 30 parts to be cast, half of them males. Production will be in mid-

February. Casting readings will be held on Sunday, November 29th at 8:00 p.m. in the Community Centre and if necessary will continue on Wednesday, December 2nd at 8:30 p.m. in the gymnasium of Leacock Elementary School. Come out and try out for a part, males especially. This can be a lot of fun but it will be demanding too. For two and a half months it will take a lot of time. There will be one rehearsal mid-week Wednesday evenings plus 2 to 2½ hours on Saturdays and Sundays for the main characters. We shall need production crew too - lighting, sound effects, costumes, etc. If you are interested in production, let us know. The play will be directed by Laurence Thornton.

Theatre Workshop

By Tamarae

On October 24th, the Kanata Theatre Group presented a Workshop Production of three one-act plays to start their season. The object of the workshop was to put people into unfamiliar roles so that they might acquire new experience and learn new techniques. In this production each play had a novice director and several of the actors were new to the group. The audience was there by general invitation and no admission was charged. The costs of production were paid from the surplus earned in the last season's public performances.

Noel Coward's Fumed Oak

was directed by Elsie Bryant and featured John Bellamy, Anne Holland, Rosemary Lawless and Doreen Boss. The highlight here was the creation of the mood of the play. The audience felt the petty nagging atmosphere of this dull family that led to the revolt of the husband. The change in mood after this revolt was not quite as successfully captured.

Chekov's well known A Marriage Proposal was second on the bill. John de Salis directed and Dewi Williams, Jim Macintosh and Kathi Mellen were in the cast. They brought out the humor of the situation well but as in the first play the contrasts were not made well. The production was somewhat static and could have

KANATA THEATRE GROUP

PRESENTS

A WORKSHOP PRODUCTION OF

THREE ONE-ACT PLAYS

October 24, 1970

STEPHEN LEACOCK PUBLIC SCHOOL