

GEORGE BROWN THEATRE

A Stage of Endless Possibilities

Hats Off To Our Corporate Partners

As students struggle with the rising cost-of-living and tuition fees, the latest economic downturn has only made it more difficult for them to get the education they need before joining the workforce. George Brown College is acutely aware of these financial challenges and has worked diligently to assist students on many fronts.

The Student Affairs Department provides counseling, emergency bursaries, and an array of workshops on such topics as: money/time/stress management, study techniques and strategies, cover letter and resume preparation, and interview skills. The Financial Aid Office guides students through the sometimes bewildering process of accessing student loans, and administers the work/study program which provides for on campus, part-time work. The College has also invested in new education delivery technologies and developed flexible scheduling options so that students can access education while juggling the responsibilities of family and work.

On another front, the GBC Foundation works at establishing relationships with government, industry and the private sector to raise funds

for scholarships and bursaries, as well as capital improvements and innovative projects.

Despite all these resources students can still come up short, especially in the Theatre School. The training of an actor is unique and all consuming. The slow, steady, frustrating, maddening and exhilarating process is unique to each student and requires incredible dedication. There is no substitute for, or way around, the long hours in



Top: Debra Beland (right) of HSBC Bank Canada presents scholarships to Evan Smith, James Pettitt, Ewa Wolniczek and Norah Smith

Bottom: Watching a stage combat exhibition following the presentation of awards are (from left): Rob Mattacott (Scotiabank); William Quan (Deloitte & Touche); Debra Beland (HSBC Bank Canada); Maria Pappas (MDC Partners).



Nathan Carroll receives a scholarship from William Quan of Deloitte & Touche.



Maureen Loweth, Dean, Faculty of Business, Arts and Design, chats with: (from left) Debra Beland of HSBC Bank Canada; Maria Pappas from MDC Partners, and Marilyn McNeil-Morin, Chair, Schools of Fashion, Creative Technology and Performing Arts.

and out of the studio that students must spend on speech, voice, movement and other skills in developing a solid technique. With classes, rehearsals, one-on-one coaching and individual study, acting students are often busy six days a week, eight to ten hours a day, making it near impossible to work during the school year.

Fortunately, some corporations have taken a keen interest in arts education at George Brown College. Their generosity provides much needed scholarships and bursaries which, for some students, can often mean the difference between staying in school and having to leave. Last fall George Brown Theatre hosted an Awards Presentation with representatives from our corporate partners at Deloitte & Touche, HSBC Bank Canada, MDC Partners and Scotiabank. After the scholarships were handed out, donors were treated to a stage combat demonstration and a preview scene from *South of China* - the season's first showcase production. It was an opportunity for students to thank their benefactors and to illustrate to them in a tangible way the results of their investment in the artists of tomorrow.



Rob Mattacott presents Scotiabank scholarships to Alexandra Manea and Luke Marty.



Maria Pappas of MDC Partners (centre) presents Caitlin Driscoll and Amanda Cortes with scholarships

1 THEATRE BURSARY AWARDS 2008

1. James Pettitt (with Maureen Loweth)
The Timshel Challenge Bursary Award
2. Alex Dault (with Marilyn McNeil-Morin)
The Second City Encouragement Award
3. Evan Smith (with James Simon)
The Thomas White Memorial Bursary
4. Caitlin Driscoll
(with June Murdoch and Joan Tilt)
The George Brown Seniors' Association
Fellowship Bursary
5. Patrick Kwok-Choon
(with David Dunstan)
The Edna Khubyar Acting Award
6. Jamie McRoberts (with J. Rigzin Tute)
The David Walden Memorial Bursary
7. Luke Marty (with James Simon)
The John Bannerman Memorial Bursary



2 HELP US TAKE CENTRE STAGE

Yes, I want to support George Brown Theatre, School of Performing Arts and enclose a donation in the amount of \$ _____

"The reason students come to George Brown Theatre School is simple: we offer the best conservatory training available, providing the finest training and skills required by a working actor."
James Simon,
Artistic Director

THANK YOU!

Name (as it should appear for recognition) _____

Contact Name: _____

Address _____

City/Prov. _____

Postal Code _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Payment Options

- Cheque enclosed*
- Credit Card (please complete)
- Visa MasterCard American Express
- Card No. _____
- Expiry date _____
- Name on Card _____
- Signature _____
- Date _____
- Registered Charitable Organization
BN # 11923 4748 RR0001

You can also make a donation online at: www.georgebrown.ca/foundation • All donors will receive a tax receipt and be acknowledged in our programme.
*Please make cheques payable to: "George Brown College Foundation" George Brown College Foundation Room 536E – St. James Campus, 200 King Street East, Toronto, ON M5A 3W8

3

GEORGE BROWN THEATRE 2009/2010 SEASON OF PLAYS

BRAND

By Henrik Ibsen

Translated by Michael Meyer

Directed by Jennifer Tarver

Ibsen's passionate portrait of the struggle between faith and human will. Brand caused a huge stir when it was first published in Scandinavia in 1866 and was Ibsen's first commercial and critical success.
November 11 – 21, 2009

MUNSCH CRUNCH

Based on the stories of Robert Munsch

Directed by Stewart Arnott

George Brown's 23rd annual children's show returns to the delightful world of Robert Munsch!

December 2 – 12, 2009

*Suitable for children 3 years of age and up.

LOVE'S LABOUR'S LOST

By William Shakespeare

Directed by Christopher Newton

A joyful banquet of language, flirtation, and the blush of first love.

February 10 – 20, 2010

A Spring Repertory Season

April 13 – 24, 2010

COCK-A-DOODLE DANDY

By Sean O'Casey

Directed by Todd Hammond

Regarded by O'Casey as his best play, this comedy about Irish rural life at mid-century symbolizes the struggle between repression and liberty. A highly amusing play!

CLÉRAMBARD

By Marcel Aymé

Translated by Norman Denny

A delightful comedy, sure to entertain, with an array of charming and colourful characters.

TICKETS

Box Office 416.866.8666

Young Centre for the Performing Arts

55 Mill Street, Building 49

(at the corner of Mill and Cherry Streets)

www.youngcentre.ca

* Please note that prices include all taxes and service charges.

Adults: \$15.00

Seniors: \$10.00

Students: \$6.00

Rush tickets available for each performance – CASH ONLY

Groups of 10 or more please contact:

416.866.8666

Adults and Seniors save 20% with season passes.

Call the box office for more information.

Evening performances begin at 7:30 pm and Saturday matinees at 1:30 pm (with the exception of Munsch Crunch).

NEW THIS YEAR!

Exciting dinner/ theatre package with our acclaimed student-run The Chefs' House restaurant. Check the web for details: www.georgebrown.ca/theatre

MUNSCH CRUNCH

Public shows: Dec. 5 at 10:30 am; Dec. 12 at 1:00 pm

Tickets available from the Young Centre box office.

Weekday school group shows Dec. 2-4 and Dec. 7-11 at 10:30 am and 1:00 pm

Please book weekday school/group shows through

George Brown Theatre School

416.415.5000 ext. 2167

4

AREA MAP



DISTILLERY SITE MAP



5 GEORGE BROWN GRADS AT WORK



Julie Tepperman and Aaron Willis in *Yichud/Seclusion*.

I first saw Julie Tepperman and Aaron Willis performing in their final year at George Brown, in shows that ranged from the classical (*A Midsummer Night's Dream*) to the contemporary (*The Prime Of Miss Jean Brodie*). After graduating they also began writing and directing their own works, and I watched this duo's talent grow in several Fringe shows. Their company Convergence Theatre created *AutoShow* and *The Gladstone Variations*, outstanding productions that were on NOW's list of the year's top 10. Convergence has become one of the most exciting, innovative companies in town, and I can't wait to see next season's full staging of *Yichud*, part of the Theatre Passe Muraille season.

Jon Kaplan
Senior Theatre Writer
NOW Magazine

Members of the Stratford Festival acting company for 2009 included GBC grads: [Ben Carlson](#), [Sarah Dodd](#), [Karen Glave](#), [Geoff Pounsett](#), [Cliff Saunders](#) and [Andre Sills](#). Sarah and [Athena Lamarre](#) will be in [Daniel MacIvor's](#) *Communion* at the Tarragon Theatre this season. Daniel won the prestigious Siminovitch Prize in Theatre. It is awarded to professional playwrights, directors and designers who have "advanced Canadian Theatre through a body of work achieved in recent years, while influencing and inspiring younger theatre artists".

Over at the Shaw Festival, [Prince Amponsah](#), [Wade Bogert-O'Brien](#), [Evan Buliung](#) and [Craig Pike](#) were members of the acting ensemble. Before heading to Shaw, Prince was in *Binti's Journey* for Theatre Direct.

[Karl Ang](#) was in [Marjorie Chan's](#) new play *The Madness of the Square* – a study of the 1989 Tiananmen Square

protest – for Cahoot's Theatre. Karl also played Sebastian in *The Tempest*, CanStage's *Dream* in High Park, directed by Sue Miner. Also in the cast were [Ron Kennell](#) and recent grad [Patrick Kwok-Choon](#) who will be in CanStage's production of *Rock n Roll* with [Alex Paxton-Beesley](#) this fall. Marjorie was nominated for a Dora Award (Outstanding New Musical Opera) as librettist for *Sanctuary Song*. She was also part of CanStage's Actors' Fund Benefit reading of Tom Stoppard's *The Coast of Utopia* with fellow GBCers [Ben Clost](#), [Phillip Riccio](#), [Sarah Sherman](#), [Jamie Spilchuk](#) and [Sarah Wilson](#).

The remount of *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot* featured [Aviva Armour-Ostroff](#), [Adam Brazier](#), and [Janet Porter](#). Aviva also won rave reviews for her performance as Annie Sullivan in *The Miracle Worker* at the Chemainus Theatre Festival in Vancouver. Janet was breathtaking in *The Swearing Jar* at Summerworks 08 which was directed by [Geoff Pounsett](#).

After graduating [Roger Bainbridge](#) returned to work with his sketch comedy troupe *Better Than Shakespeare*. Recently he was in *Trees Die Standing Tall* directed by [Lezlie Wade](#) for Talk is Free Theatre. Lezlie also directed *Dog Sees God* this past year.

[Joel Benson](#) has had a long association with Theatre Guargantua. This past fall he performed in their production of *Fibber* and was joined by [Madeleine Donohue](#). Last summer Madeleine teamed up with former classmate [Ben Clost](#) for *The Faith Show*, (directed by another former classmate [Jonathan Geenen](#)) for The Fringe and appeared with [Kate Kudelka](#) and [Craig Pike](#) in *Flux* for Summerworks.

[Shanda Bezic](#), the George Brown TV host, appeared in episodes of *Forensic Factor* for Discovery Channel and *Degrassi*.

[Gordon Bolan](#) was in *A Miracle of Saint Anthony* for Atrium Theatre.

Recent grads [Ryan Bondy](#) and [Claire Burns](#) spent the summer in Blyth as part of the Acting Company of The Blyth Festival.

[Valerie Buhagiar](#) was in the Tarragon Theatre/ National Arts Centre co-production of *Scorched*.



CHUM FM's Richie Favaloro.

Brett Christopher directed *Twelfth Night* at Theatre-by-the-Bay in Barrie with GBC grads **Kristian Bruun**, **Ben Clost**, **Sarah Sherman**, **Mike Spasevski**, **Tim Walker** and current student **Alex Dault**.

Patrick Conner directed **Christopher Sawchyn** and **Geoff Pounsett** in *She Walks the Line* at Buddies' Rhubarb Festival.

Alison Deon played Martha in *The Secret Garden* for Resurgence Theatre, Mariane in *The Miser* at Sudbury Theatre Centre (with GBCers **Derek Moran** and **Geoff Pounsett**), Ophelia in *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead* for Touchmark Theatre, and shot the 20th Century Fox pilot *Sell*. Derek was also in *Wake* at Fringe 08 and *The Melville Boys* at the Red Barn Theatre this past summer.

Rebecca Davey and **Marie-Claire Marcotte's** show *Xippie Says: LOL* was produced at Regina's Globe Theatre. Since then they have put together a coffeeshop series in which to further develop their characters from the show.

Deann DeGruijter was in Mark Brownell's *The Barbeque King* (directed by Sue Miner) at last year's Fringe Festival.

Sharmila Dey was in *Walking the Tightrope* for Theatre Direct.

Former student **Steffi Didomenicantonio** had a principal role in the North American touring company of *Spring Awakening*.

Caitlin Driscoll, **Marie Jones**, **Bridget Norris** and IPAC grad **Peter Pasyk** were members of the Acting Company for 4th Line Theatre's 2009 summer season in Millbrook. Bridget also did *The Wizard of Oz* with Fallen Rock Productions and performed Shakespeare for Theatre-By-The-Bay's school tours.

Patricia Fagan starred in *The Patient Hour* at Tarragon Theatre and will return to the Soulpepper Theatre Company for *Parfumerie* this fall.

After working as an actor for a number of years, **Richie Favaloro** returned to school to study broadcasting at Seneca College. He is now a popular DJ on CHUM FM.

Jonathan Geenen is the Artistic Director of East West Theater in Shanghai, China, a company he and fellow artists founded. Under his leadership they have mounted ten successful productions of classic plays in different locations around the city including *Our Town*, *The Dining Room*, *Awake and Sing* and *Waiting for Godot*. Former classmate **Philip Knight** has joined him in China to act in a number of shows.

TOP 20!

Congratulations to Artistic Director **James Simon** and Professor **Dorothy Ward** who were in the top twenty faculty members at the College based on the student feedback scores.



Rebecca Davey and Marie-Claire Marcotte in their show *Xippie Says: LOL* at Regina's Globe Theatre.



Lise Maher as Jette in the Toronto Operetta Theatre's production of *The Bird Seller*. Photo by Gilberto Prioste.

Now living in Vancouver, [Kyle Horton](#) returned to Toronto last year for *Molière* at the Tarragon Theatre. He recently shot an episode of the new series *Stargate: Universe*, and performed in *The Bone House* at the Edinburgh and Edmonton Fringe Festivals.

Lucky [Rick Jongejan](#) was in Australia filming the CBC mini-series *Darwin's Brave World*.

[Katie Lawson](#) was in *Out of Order* at the Upper Canada Playhouse last fall, *Candida* at the Toronto Fringe this summer, and will return to Upper Canada Playhouse for *Cash on Delivery* this fall.

[Lise Maher](#) has put her acting and singing training to good use in four productions with the Toronto Operetta Theatre (*Count of Luxembourg*, *The Mikado*, *The Birdseller* and *Knickerbocker Holiday*), and two productions with the Summer Opera Lyric Theatre (*Semele* and *Lakme*).

[Erin MacKinnon](#) was in *House of Many Tongues* at the Tarragon Theatre. She returns to Tarragon this season for *Courageous*.

Fresh out of school, [Leora Morris](#) and [Evan Smith](#) were in *The Fantastiks* (directed by Sue Miner) at the Red Barn Theatre this past summer. Summerworks 08 saw Evan and classmates [Luke Marty](#) and [Daniel Pagett](#) in the comedy *Domestic*, produced by Luke's Pug in a Tux Productions.

[Kaitlin Morrow](#) and [Seann Murray](#) will be on an extensive tour with Mermaid Theatre this fall.



Philip Knight (right) as Lucky in Shanghai's East West Theater's production of *Waiting for Godot*, directed by Jonathan Geenen.

[Brendan Murray](#) was in *Doubt* at Regina's Globe Theatre and *The Glass Menagerie* at the Red Barn Theatre.

[Lisa Norton](#) appeared in *And Up They Flew* (Theatre Columbus) and *Den of Thieves* (Surface Underground Theatre).

[Phillip Riccio](#) was nominated for a Gemini Award for his work in *Rent-A-Goalie* and Dora Awards for Outstanding Production of a Play and Outstanding Performance by a Male in a Principal Role for *Festen*, which his theatre company (Company Theatre) produced. *Festen* also featured [Alex Paxton-Beesley](#).

[Phil Rickaby](#) was in *Out of the Character* for the Toronto Fringe and this fall will be working on *The Belle of Winnipeg* with [Richard Beaune](#) and [Dana Fradkin](#).

[Michael Ripley](#) penned a new play entitled *To Distraction*. The public reading included GBCers [Ben Carlson](#), [Joel Rinzler](#) and [Laura Schutt](#).

[Tara Samuel](#) took part in the L.A. Women's Theatre Project's 20@ New Works Festival.

[Julie Tepperman](#) and [Aaron Willis'](#) company Convergence Theatre received a number of Dora Award nominations for their production of *The*

Gladstone Variations including: Outstanding New Play/Musical (Brendan Gall and Julie Tepperman); Outstanding Production (Julie Tepperman and Aaron Willis); and Outstanding Direction (Rebecca Benson and Aaron Willis).

Jeff White appeared as a guest lead on CBC's *Little Mosque on the Prairie*. He was such a hit he'll be a regular character this season.

Sarah Wilson was a member of the acting company at Soulpepper Theatre with roles in *Travesties* and *Awake and Sing*.



GIVING BACK

Over the years many grads have returned to the theatre school to share their knowledge and experience. Having gone through the rigorous program and then worked as actors in the business, they bring a unique perspective to the classroom as teachers, coaches, guest speakers and advisors (some have even been parachuted into showcase productions). Our love and thanks go to all of them for giving back to the next generation of actors:

Victoria Adilman	Pragna Desai	Derek Moran
Ann Baggley	Sarah Dodd	Perrie Olthuis
Keith Barker	Jennifer Doyle	Geoff Pounsett
Rebecca Benson	Jacklyn Francis	Phillip Riccio
Sharon Bernbaum	Tim Gentle	Tara Samuel
Adam Brazier	Karen Glave	Cliff Saunders
Evan Buliung	Eli Ham	Sarah Sherman
Shawn Campbell	Matthew Handy	Glenn Marc Silot
Ben Carlson	D. Garnet Harding	Kurt Smeaton
Marjorie Chan	Maureen Kirkpatrick	Jeffrey R. Smith
Brett Christopher	Katie Lawson	Lezlie Wade
Rob Clarke	Michael Mahonen	Jeff White
Ben Clost	Pasha McKenley	Julie Tepperman
Patrick Conner	Alan Moon	Aaron Willis
Alison Deon	Melissa Moore	Sarah Wilson

Left: Sudbury Theatre Centre's production of *The Miser* with: (from left) Ian Deakin and GBC grads Geoff Pounsett, Derek Moran and Alison Deon. Photo by Rob Provencher.

6

INTERESTED IN ACTOR TRAINING?

George Brown College offers a three-year professional actor training program and a one-year program called Introduction to Performing Arts Careers.

Theatre Arts Diploma (3 years)

A career-oriented, actor-training program in the heart of English Canada's performing arts industry. We provide our students with the skills they need to work as professional actors in theatre, television and film. Admission each September is by audition. Auditions are held in the spring

Introduction to Performing Arts Careers (IPAC)

(One-year certificate with an option to do an additional year in General Arts and Science and receive a diploma)

A dynamic program where students learn from industry professionals, take both theory and practical classes, and develop confidence, creativity and fundamental skills.

School of Performing Arts – George Brown Theatre is part of the Faculty of Business, Arts and Design at George Brown College. Maureen Loweth (Dean), Helene Vukovic (Associate Dean), Luigi Ferrara (Director), Marilyn McNeil-Morin (Chair), James Simon (Artistic Director), Anne Sardo (Operations Manager).



George Brown Theatre
Tel 416.415.5000 ext. 2167 Fax 416.415.2537
Email: llaforet@georgebrown.ca
Web: georgebrown.ca/theatre