

Passing the Wind Windmill Theatre Players Monthly Newsletter



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November 2024

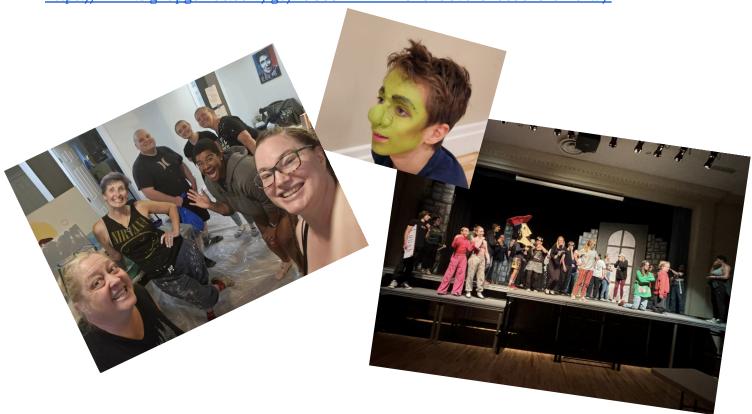
Windmill Theatre Player's 100th Show is "Shrek"!

We sure hope that you have purchased your tickets for what is going to be an incredible show! From the stunning sets, creative choreography, memorable musical-numbers, consistent characterization, wonderful wardrobes, and so much hard work, this isn't a show to be missed! Tickets are available for purchase on our website:

https://www.windmilltheatreplayers.com/tickets.php

Thank you to everyone who has signed up to volunteer for a production date. We still have **8 Volunteer Vacancies** for anyone interested in helping out and seeing the show for free! The sign up page is also on our website and outlines dates and jobs

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094AAAAD29A5F8C70-52089845-shrek#/



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Passing the Wind

Western Wheel, Wednesday, November 13, 2024 - A23

Windmill Theatre Players Monthly Newsletter

Scene

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WINDMILL THEATRE PLAYERS

The Windmill Theatre Players are bringing 'Shrek the Musical' to the Highwood Centre in High River. From left: Brooklyn Stevenson, Miranda Scott, Cliff Cameron and Celia Pennan

Shrek the Musical bringing swamp to High River

By Western Wheel Staff

An iconic character is making his way from the swamp to the stage.

Shrek the Musical, coming to High River later in November, marks two special milestones for the Windmill Theatre Players.

"Windmill Theatre Players is celebrating our 50th anniversary this year, and Shrek is the 100th major production that we've performed over those years," said co-director Cliff Cameron.

The group started in 1974, and has since brought many iconic productions such as *The Sound of Music, Fiddler on the Roof* and *Hello Dolly* to High River. To mark the two anniversaries, the Windmill Theatre Players are bringing another beloved production to town.

"We've decided we wanted to do something very spectacular, and of course everybody knows Shrek and what kind of a creature he is," he continued. "Windmill is a very, very family oriented group and you can't beat a cartoon character as a family friendly basis for a show."

It's billed as "the story of a hulking green ogre who, after being mocked and feared his entire life by anything that crosses his path, retreats to an ugly green swamp to exist in happy isolation."

According to Cameron, the musical's plot is similar to that of the first *Shrek* film, with elements of the franchise's other films as well.

"Anybody who comes to see the show, if they've seen the first *Shrek* movie, they're already a long ways along to knowing the storyline," he said.

While the Shrek films are known for their timeless soundtracks, the play's musical status distinguishes it from the

"The musical component of it is, of course, not really based upon the movies other than at the ends of the movies," said Cameron.

"The primary characters all end up singing songs, and you've got your ensemble, like the fairy tale creatures,

who have songs throughout that just explain the plot as well," he continued, adding that musicals offer more lively storytelling than straight plays.

The production will bring over 40 cast members to the stage, with the cast ranging from iconic characters such as Shrek, Fiona and Donkey to the villainous Lord Farquaad.

"I think we have a pretty good reputation in the area for putting on a great show, and our expectation is that Shrek is going to be one of our more impressive shows," said Cameron.

Shrek the Musical will be performed at the Highwood Centre, located at 128 5th Ave. SW in High River. Showtimes are as follows:

Dinner theatre — Nov. 21, 22 and 23 (buffet served 5:30 to 7 p.m., curtain at 7:30 p.m.)

Matinees — Nov. 24 and 30 (curtain at 2 p.m.)

Evening shows — Nov. 29 and 30 (curtain at 7:30 p.m.)

Tickets are available at windmilltheatreplayers.com.

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WTP Trivia Time!

We did a play about which cat (way before he showed up in "Shrek 2")?

WTP Casino - February 22-23, 2025

Our next Casino is happening in the New Year on February 22-24, 2025 at ACE Blackfoot Casino! This is an opportunity for us to bring in a lot of money to support our group but we need to fill all volunteer positions in order to be accepted to work the festival. If you are available that weekend, please visit our website to sign up for available slots!

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094AAAAD29A5F8C70-51446090-windmill#/



Singers for "Santa Claus Parade"



We welcome all singers to join us for the Santa Claus Parade - no previous experience necessary, no fancy dress required - just a love of Christmas carols and a desire to be on stage in the cold. We will have song sheets for everyone. If lots of people show up, you may have to share, but that's what Christmas is all about! We will meet at the corner across from the entrance to George Lane Park at 4:45 to get organized, and we will sing from 5:00 - 6:00. You can park across the tracks and walk over. Hope to see you there!

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The Venue Christmas Tree Decorating!



Windmill Theatre Players have decided to support our across-the-street neighbour, "The Venue" with their <u>6th Annual Festival of Trees</u> and have made a \$100 donation to decorate a tree within their space for this holiday season! Our support helps bring joy to downtown High River as well as financial assistance to The Venue's 2025 Summer Programming! Thank you to Celia and Karalee for taking charge of decorating the tree with our 50th Anniversary as the theme! Please email <u>windmilltheaterplayers@gmail.com</u> if you would like to help!

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Party Like it's 1974!



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2025/2026 - Accepting Show Submissions!

Our Executive Board is currently accepting submissions of Show Proposals for the 2025/2025 Season - our 51st SEASON!!

If you are interested in submitting a proposal, please read through the "Main Stage Submission Process" on our website (under the "Contact Us" tab).

https://www.windmilltheatreplayers.com/submission.php

All submissions should be sent to Karalee Fox, WTP President (kscheiris@gmail.com), by February 7 so they can be discussed at the February Executive meeting.

2025/26 season shows will be announced in the March 2024 newsletter.

Deathtrap Teaser!

Coming soon! Our spring production - the comedy/thriller "Deathtrap" by Ira Levin (the same person who wrote Rosemary's Baby, The Stepford Wives, and The Boys From Brazil)

THE STORY: Comfortably ensconced in his charming Connecticut home, Sidney Bruhl, a successful writer of Broadway thrillers, is struggling to overcome a dry spell which has resulted in a string of failures and a shortage of funds. A possible break in his fortunes occurs when he receives a script from a student in the seminar he has been conducting at a nearby college—a thriller that Sidney recognizes immediately as a potential Broadway smash. Sidney's plan, devised with his wife's help, is to offer collaboration to the student for co-credit. Or is it? DEATHTRAP provides twists and turns of devilish cleverness, and offers hilariously sudden shocks in such abundance that audiences will be spellbound until the very last moment.

This play involves five actors - 2 men, 2 women and one lawyer

Keep your eyes peeled for more information regarding auditions and how you can join the crew in our upcoming newsletters!

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Upcoming Dates!

Shrek Show Dates: November 21, 22, 23, 24 and November 29, 30

Friday December 6 - High River Santa Claus Parade

Saturday December 28 - 50th Anniversary Family Dance - Party Like it's 1974!

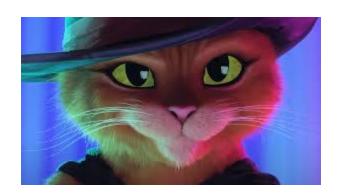
February 2 - 3, 2025 - "Deathtrap" Auditions

February 7, 2025 - 2025/26 Show Submissions Due

February 22 - 23, 2025 - WTP Casino (an awesome volunteering opportunity!)

March 28 - 29, 2025 - Foothills Regional One Act Play Festival hosted by WTP





WTP Trivia Time - ANSWER!

"Puss in Boots"

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