



Senior Have a Moment Festival!

SEPT 25 - OCT 4

PAL STUDIO THEATRE
581 Cardero Street
Vancouver BC
and other venues as listed



FESTIVAL HEADLINER SEPT 25, 26, 27

ANNIVERSARY

BY CAROL SHIELDS AND DAVE WILLIAMSON
An OOF! (On Our Feet) Staged Reading
Directed by Anna Hagan

We gratefully acknowledge that we are on the traditional and unceded territories of the x^wməθkwəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Səlílwətaʔt (Tsleil-Waututh) First Nations. We deeply thank them for so generously allowing us to live, work, and play on their beautiful lands.

Spencer Chandra Herbert MLA
West End and
Coal Harbour

**Proud to work with you
for the arts, housing,
affordability and seniors
in our community!**



**If you need help with a
provincial matter,
our office is ready to assist**

923 Denman Street
604-660-7307
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ARTISTIC DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Welcome to the 4th Annual **HAVE A SENIOR MOMENT Festival!**

The idea for this festival came from a desire to turn the notion of “have a senior moment” on its head. Normally understood as a moment of forgetfulness, a foolish mistake, or a lack of understanding based on age, I wanted to change this perception and reclaim the term to mean a ‘senior moment’ of creativity, artistry, laughter and joy. I particularly wanted to encourage the creation of new

work by older artists as well as showcasing and celebrating different points of view.

Anchored by our OOF! (On Our Feet!) production of ANNIVERSARY by Carol Churchill and Dave Williams, we have 10 days, chock-a-block full of exciting events! Four new plays, a movie matinee, various workshops, salons, and of course a party or two! We are honoured to be joined by returning HASM! partners, Full Circle: First Nations Performance, Curious Cats Collective and Blind Tiger Comedy along with those collaborating with us for the first time, Visceral Visions, V’ni Dansi and the West End Seniors Network. It is also with great pride that we are working in association with United Players as they present PAL resident John Lazarus’s new play, Running Wilde. Forging partnerships and friendships is one of the best ways to keep the arts alive.

I am thrilled that HASM! is back for a 4th year celebrating the WGT tagline: Creativity has no Expiry Date! Please enjoy!

~ Tanja Dixon-Warren

NEXT UP AT WESTERN GOLD



SANDSPRITE

by Peter Zednik

November 12 - 29, 2026

Directed by Christopher Lam

PAL STUDIO THEATRE

Teenage lovers Brogan and Si meet again after 50 years. Ancient truths unfold, triggering high camp and low blows, love bites, and bitters tears. Can their vastly different lives intersect with a happy ending? A comedy about coming out of the closet at any age—and at any cost.

Starring: Allan Morgan, Adam Henderson and Alek Toledo-Cisak

SAVE THE DATE for our ONLINE AUCTION FUNDRAISER!

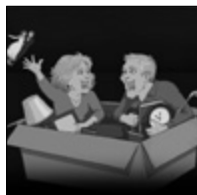
Starting November 11, 2026 at Midnight

Just in time for your seasonal shopping, you can get bidding on the many fabulous items in our 2026 online auction fundraiser! Proceeds from the auction will be used to support our Intergenerational Mentorship Program and Creative Access for Seniors Program along with production and artist costs for our 2027 season.

VISIT WESTERNGOLDTHEATRE.ORG IN NOVEMBER FOR THE LINK TO VIEW THE AUCTION!

Have A Senior Moment Festival Lineup!

THEATRE



FRIDAY, SEPT 25 - SUNDAY, SEPT 27

FESTIVAL HEADLINER: ANNIVERSARY

by Carol Shields and Dave Williamson

Directed by Anna Hagan

PAL STUDIO THEATRE

OOF! (On Our Feet) Staged Reading

Sept 25 - 7:30pm | Sept 26 - 2pm & 7:30pm | Sept 27 - 2pm

A comedy of love marriage and EVERYTHING that falls apart... A bit raunchy, a bit serious, and wonderfully hilarious!

Setting

The living room of Dianne Hart's house

Late afternoon on a Saturday in February

There will be one 15 minute intermission

CAST

Annabel Kershaw-----	Shirley
Denyse Wilson-----	Dianne
Tom McBeath-----	Ben
Sandy Winsby-----	Tom
Sean Sonier-----	Garth

CREATIVE & PRODUCTION TEAM

Anna Hagan-----	Director
Tianna Francis-----	Stage Manager
Glenn MacDonald-----	Production Manager/Set Designer
Vadym Gannothcka-----	Lighting Designer
Andrej Stanojlovic-----	Sound Designer
Colleen Bayati-----	Lighting Technician

Author's Agent: Great North Artists Ltd., 47 Main Street, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M4E 2V6

ANNIVERSARY was first produced by the Gas Station Theatre, Winnipeg, June 1996.

Western Gold Theatre engages under the terms of the INDIE 3.0, professional Artists who are members of Canadian Actors' Equity Association.

The making of electronic or other audio/visual recordings of this production is strictly prohibited and is actionable under international copyright law.

Western Gold Theatre would like to thank **Chartwell Retirement Residences**,
Sponsor of the opening and closing performances.



FRIDAY, SEPT - 4 - SUNDAY, SEPT 27

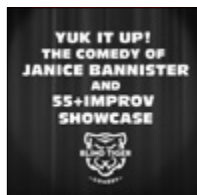
A United Players production in association with Western Gold Theatre

RUNNING WILDE

by John Lazarus | Directed by Roy Surette

JERICHO ARTS CENTRE

At 27, young Oscar Wilde embarked on a hugely successful one-man lecture tour of North America. The tour went like clockwork... except when he missed a connection in straight, stuffy Kingston, Ontario. Lazarus imagines what might have happened next – a tangled, farcical web of seductions, betrayals, blackmailings and happy endings. ***Tickets available at unitedplayers.com***



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 7:30 PM

YUK IT UP!

The Comedy of Janice Bannister and 55+ Improv Showcase

In partnership with Blind Tiger Comedy

PAL STUDIO THEATRE

Brace yourself for some chuckles and belly laughs! Known as ‘comedy mama’, renowned and beloved comedian Janice Bannister brings her smart, cheeky and always hilarious observations of ‘senior’ life to the PAL stage. But, before she tickles your funny bone, cheer on the brave participants of the 55+ IM-PROV class, as the ‘opening act’ as they ‘throw it down’ with suggestions from you. It’s a night of hilarity, good vibes and an all-around joyous time!

Tickets - PAY-WHAT-YOU-CHOOSE (SUGGESTED \$15)

Available at the door or in advance

PLAY READINGS OF WORKS IN DEVELOPMENT

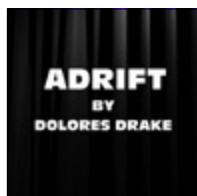


WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 7:30 PM

BLUE HEAVEN by Michael Armstrong | Directed by Johnna Wright

PAL STUDIO THEATRE

Helen and Robert are both successful artists late in their careers. Once, years ago, they were married. Inspired by the life and work of British sculptor, Barbara Hepworth, Blue Heaven explores how marriages may end but families never really do. ***Tickets - \$20 | Available at the door or in advance***



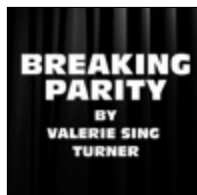
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 7:30 PM

ADRIFT by Dolores Drake | Directed by Johnna Wright

PAL STUDIO THEATRE

ADRIFT follows the story of three generations of Newfoundland women, A Grandmother, A Mother, and a Daughter, all who find themselves in similar circumstances: waiting for a man to come

home from the sea. It explores themes of Love, Loss, Tragedy, Conflict, Choices and Lack of Choice, and how things can repeat themselves in families. By telling the story in three separate monologues, Dolores Drake's hope is to highlight how alone they are with their individual problems. **Tickets - \$20 | Available at the door or in advance**



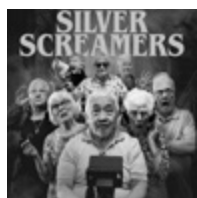
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 7:30 PM

BREAKING PARITY

by Valerie Sing Turner | *In partnership with Visceral Visions*
PAL STUDIO THEATRE

December 2002. In a nod to Dickens, a Scrooge-like Henry A. Kissinger encounters spirits from the past, present, and future: a Laotian man whose village was annihilated by American bombs; a female Chinese-American nuclear physicist who worked with Oppenheimer to build the first atomic bomb; and a silent Vietnamese girl. A political satire about power and geopolitics. **Tickets - \$20 | Available at the door or in advance**

POPCORN & A MOVIE



TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2 PM

SILVER SCREAMERS & THE RUG

A Film by Mythic Productions Inc.
PAL STUDIO THEATRE

Silver Screamer is a heartwarming and spine-tingling documentary that follows a spirited group of senior citizens who set out to make a horror film. Led by a local filmmaker, they navigate the challenges of low-budget movie-making with humour, heart, and resilience. Silver Screamer is a joyful celebration of second acts and fearless reinvention. THE RUG is the short horror film they made! It centres on Edna, a senior aged woman who discovers that a discarded throw rug she has found will, for lack of a better word, digest anything left under it. The more it digests, the more it wants! Based on the short story by Edo van Belkom.

Tickets - PAY-WHAT-YOU-CHOOSE (SUGGESTED \$10)

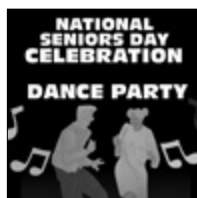
Available at the door or in advance

THREE BIG CHEERS FOR WGT'S AMAZING VOLUNTEERS!

HIP HIP HOORAY!
HIP HIP HOORAY!!
HIP HIP HOORAY!!!

**We thank you from the
bottom of our hearts**





FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 3 PM - 4:30 PM

NATIONAL SENIORS DAY CELEBRATION DANCE PARTY

In partnership with the West End Seniors Network

PAL STUDIO THEATRE

Discover your inner Donna Summer or John Travolta and hit the dance floor! Disco dancing is a fun way to boost your heart, brain, and mood while making new friends! Put on your dancing

shoes and let's get grooving! Featuring a cash bar and complimentary popcorn!

Tickets - PAY-WHAT-YOU-CHOOSE (SUGGESTED \$5)

Available at the door or in advance



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1 PM - 6 PM

MÉTIS KITCHEN PARTY & FEAST

in partnership with Full Circle: First Nations Performance, the Talking Stick Festival and V'ni Dansi

PAL STUDIO THEATRE

Close the festival with an uplifting celebration of Métis Culture.

Stop by for some bannock, learn how to dance a jig, or simply

kick back and take it all in. Featuring the internationally renowned **Louis Riel Métis Dancers**, beloved storyteller **Tom McCallum**, award winning songstress **Sandy Scofield**, this is guaranteed to be hand clapping, feet stomping full-on fiddling fun for the whole family! The afternoon culminates in a catered feast for all.

Tickets - PAY-WHAT-YOU-CHOOSE (SUGGESTED \$20)

Available at the door or in advance. Advance recommended.

TICKETS FOR
ALL FESTIVAL EVENTS
AVAILABLE AT:

WESTERNGOLDTHEATRE.ORG

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Pay-What-You-Choose for most events





TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 6 PM - 10 PM

SCRIPTS AND SIPS

In partnership with Curious Cats Theatre Collective

PAL STUDIO THEATRE

Back by popular demand! Playwrights, screenwriters, actors and audience come together to read and discuss the process of developing scripts. The uniqueness of the experience comes not

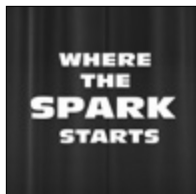
only from its casual salon atmosphere (cash bar and complimentary popcorn!) and feedback by industry pros, but the excitement of a script brought to life with a cold reading by actors in attendance - cast on the spot at the start of the event!

6:00 PM: Actor / Cold Read Registration. Actors (and those who wanna-be!) are invited and encouraged to support the writers in the role of 'cold cast' readers! Sign up at the casting table in the theatre lobby, grab a glass of wine and mingle. But don't go too far! We may want to hand you a script!

7:30 PM - Cold Readings - and the real excitement begins!

Tickets - PAY-WHAT-YOU-CHOOSE (SUGGESTED \$15)

Available at the door or in advance



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 12 PM - 2 PM

WHERE THE SPARK STARTS

Playwright Salon with John Lazarus, David Geary, Elaine Avila and Friends

PAL STUDIO THEATRE

Playwrights are the 'spark' and genesis of it all. So...where does the idea come from? How does it get from page to stage? Hang out and chat with those who are considered the foundational architects of theatre and who provide the blueprint for live performance. Hear about how they wrestle with story, expectations, actors, directors, deadlines, writer's block and battling to get their play to the stage. *Fun Fact: It is spelled playwright because the suffix comes from the old word "wright," which means a builder or craftsman, rather than the action of writing*

Includes tea and light snacks.

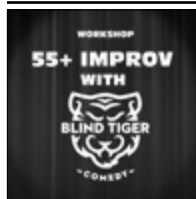
Tickets - PAY-WHAT-YOU-CHOOSE (SUGGESTED \$15)

Available at the door or in advance.

FOLLOW US ONLINE FOR ALL THE LATEST WESTERN GOLD NEWS!

@westerngoldtheatre





MONDAYS, SEPT 14, 21, 28, 7 PM - 8:30 PM

55+ Improv with Blind Tiger Comedy

PAL STUDIO THEATRE

SHOWCASE: OCT 2, 7:30 PM

It's a 4 session improv jam for folks 55+! 3 classes plus a showcase performance (for those who choose) for family and friends.

Led by a Blind Tiger faculty professional comedian, this improv workshop consists of fun games that will give you a taste of the joy, confidence, and discovery that improv can offer. No experience necessary! Whether you are comfortable performing or have never taken the stage, this series of workshops will make folks feel welcome, laugh, and learn a bit more about improvisation and collaborative storytelling.

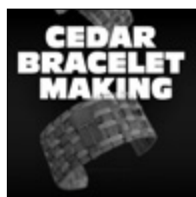
Workshop led by Syd Campbell

Tickets - PAY-WHAT-YOU-CHOOSE (SUGGESTED \$50 for 3 sessions & Showcase)

Please note, workshop participation is for people 55 and older.

Showcase attendance is open to all

Limited spots available



WEDNESDAY SEPT 23, 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM

CEDAR BRACELET MAKING

With Leonard "Tiger" Williams

In partnership with Full Circle: First Nations Performance, the Talking Stick Festival and the West End Seniors Network

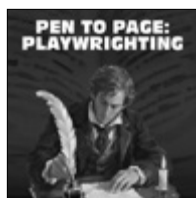
BARCLAY MANOR: PIANO ROOM

Join Leonard "Tiger" Williams, a master cedar weaver and member of the Quatsino First Nation, for a hands-on workshop designed to foster deeper understanding and appreciation of First Nations culture through the art of traditional cedar weaving. With over 20 years' experience, Leonard brings knowledge passed down through generations to guide participants in creating their own cedar pieces while learning about the cultural significance and ecological practices tied to this ancient art form. This workshop is open to all and encourages cultural appreciation and awareness.

SUPPLIES INCLUDED!

Tickets - PAY-WHAT-YOU-CHOOSE (SUGGESTED \$15)

Limited spots available. Advance registration recommended



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1 PM - 4 PM

PEN TO PAGE: PLAYWRITING

With John Lazarus

BARCLAY MANOR: MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM

Playwright and teacher John Lazarus contends that there are two sides to the process of writing a

play: constructing the plot from an "outside" point of view and improvising the dialogue from "inside" the characters' minds and hearts. In this workshop he will

introduce participants to each of those two sides, with enjoyable group games that replicate the process a playwright goes through. John's workshops customarily feature lots of laughs.

Bring a pen and a notebook.

Tickets - PAY-WHAT-YOU-CHOOSE (SUGGESTED \$15)

Limited spots available. Advance registration recommended



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 11 AM - 1 PM

FINGERWEAVING FOR SASH-MAKING

With Eloi Homier

in partnership with Full Circle: First Nations Performance, the Talking Stick Festival and V'ni Dansi

BARCLAY MANOR: MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM

Get ready for the Métis Kitchen Party & Feast on Oct 4 by making your own mini-sash. Eloi Homier keeps it simple, accessible and always beautiful. After exploring the rich history of the sash and its significance in Métis and French Canadian cultures, you'll learn the centuries-old technique and create your own miniature sash. Everyone welcome. **SUPPLIES INCLUDED!**

Tickets - PAY-WHAT-YOU-CHOOSE (SUGGESTED \$15)

Limited spots available. Advance registration recommended



Proudly Supporting
Indigenous Artists

in partnership with

**WESTERN GOLD
THEATRE**

*Exploring Indigenous Culture
through the Arts*

www.fullcircle.ca

Mortal Coll and Tsatsu Sealqayu (Coastal Wolf Pack)
Photo by Chris Randle

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

Tues Sept 29	Wed Sept 30	Thurs Oct 1	Fri Oct 2	Sat Oct 3	Sun Oct 4
			11:00AM FINGER WEAVING (Workshop) BARCLAY MANOR		
2:00PM SILVER SCREAMERS & THE RUG (Popcorn & Movie) PAL		1:00PM PEN TO PAGE: PLAYWRITING (Workshop) BARCLAY MANOR	12:00PM WHERE THE SPARK STARTS (Salon) PAL		1:00 -6:00PM MÉTIS KITCHEN PARTY & FEAST (Party) PAL
6:00PM Sign up and Registration SCRIPTS & SIPS (Play Reading) PAL			3:00PM National Seniors Day CELEBRATION DANCE PARTY! (Party) PAL		
7:30PM SCRIPTS & SIPS (Play Reading Salon) PAL	7:30PM BLUE HEAVEN (Play Reading & Talk With) PAL	7:30PM ADRIFF (Play Reading & Talk With) PAL	7:30 YUK IT UP! (Theatre/Workshop Showcase) PAL	7:30PM BREAKING PARITY (Play Reading & Talk With) PAL	



SCAN HERE
for more info and
to lock in your
dates!!

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*** SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE
WITHOUT NOTICE ***

PRE-FEST FESTIVAL!	Fri Sept 25	Sat Sept 26	Sun Sept 27
CEDAR BRACELET MAKING (Workshop) Wed Sept 23 10:30AM BARCLAY MANOR	RUNNING WILDE (Theatre) JAC 7:30PM	2:00PM & 7:30PM RUNNING WILDE (Theatre) JAC	2:00PM RUNNING WILDE (Theatre) JAC
IMPROV for 55 + (Weekly Workshop) Mondays Sept 14, 21, 28 PAL			
RUNNING WILDE (Theatre) Sept 4 - 27 Various Times JAC	7:30PM ANNIVERSARY (Theatre) PAL	2:00PM ANNIVERSARY (Theatre) PAL	2:00PM ANNIVERSARY (Theatre) PAL
		7:30PM ANNIVERSARY (Theatre) PAL THEATRE	

BIOGRAPHIES (LISTED IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)



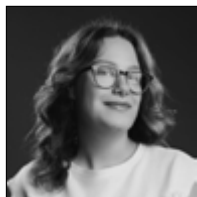
MICHAEL ARMSTRONG (Playwright, Blue Heaven): Michael Armstrong is a playwright, an actor and director. He holds an MFA in Playwriting and Poetry (UVic 2013) and has taught theatre based workshops across the province over the past 25 years. He has been a juror for Theatre BC's Canadian Playwriting Competition on numerous occasions. Michael is the author of a number of plays, some of which are available through the Playwrights Guild of Canada,

of which he is a member. He has worked extensively with community and professional theatre in BC and is currently engaged in directing THE LAST FRONTIER, an original musical he wrote with his late partner, composer and lyricist Beth DeVolder, for ECHO Players in Qualicum Beach.



JANICE BANNISTER (Yuk it Up!): Janice Bannister has been the lead instructor at Laughter Zone 101 since 2003 and developed stand-up comedy programs for Douglas College, Capilano University, and SFU's 50+ Continuing Studies program. She has taught for Stand Up for Mental Health and Comedy Courage, and offers private coaching for comics and speakers. Janice has a background in Psychiatric Nursing and she combines her experiences as an RPN and a stand-up comic

to entertain corporate clients and comedy club fans. As a keynote speaker, she shares insights on LAUGHTER: A WELLNESS TOOL and THE WRINKLE REVOLUTION, and has been featured on CBC, The Vancouver Sun, and other media outlets. In 2023, she was a featured TEDxSFU presenter. A two time winner of BC's Funniest Female (2003) and multiple other comedy awards, Janice has performed at the Vancouver International Comedy Festival, JFL, The Women's Network, I Am Woman Hear Me Laff, and at five sold out shows of BAD MOMS 2026. www.laughterzone101.com



SYDNEY CAMPBELL (55+ Improv!, Workshop Leader): Syd Campbell (they/she) is a queer comedian based in Vancouver, where they perform with various improv ensembles including Tightrope Improv Theatre and Treatshow Comedy. She's also an alum of Rapid Fire Theatre and one half of the sketch comedy troupe Gender? I Hardly Know Them, a live show and web series with a suspiciously large fake mustache budget. Syd started teaching with Blind Tiger in 2021

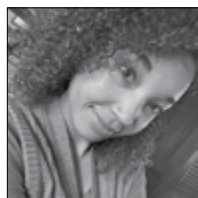
over Zoom, before being lured out to the West Coast to join the full-time faculty, a move that both changed their life and dramatically improved her access to ocean views and seasonal berries.



DOLORES DRAKE (Playwright, Adrift): Actor/Writer Dolores Drake is a graduate of Studio 58, and has worked in theatre, TV and film for 39 years. Most recent theatre, SALT-WATER MOON for Western Gold. She has also worked for the Arts Club, Citadel, Belfry, Western Canada Theatre, Theatre North West, and Richmond Gateway, to name a few. Favourite roles include Mary in SALT-WATER MOON, Shirley in SHIRLEY VALENTINE, Truvy in STEEL

MAGNOLIAS, Mary in OF THE FIELDS LATELY, and Aunt Rachel in 1949. Dolores has

written and performed in three solo plays, **RANDELL'S WAKE**, **FROM AWAY**, and **THE DISTANCE BETWEEN NEWFOUNDLAND AND TORONTO**. Extensive film credits include principal and supporting lead roles in numerous TV movies and features. Most recently, **A WINGDAUGHTERS CHRISTMAS**, **THE YACHT CLUB**, **KEEPER WILD CARDS**, and **BADDOGS**. She also teaches at In Focus Film School.



TIANNA FRANCIS (Festival Stage Manager): Tianna is a recent graduate of Douglas College in the Stagecraft and Event Technology Program. There, she was an Assistant Stage Manager for **TO PLEASE THE AUDIENCE** and Stage Manager for **JANE AUSTEN**, **ACTION FIGURE**. She has contributed work in **THE WOLVES**, **FURTHER THAN THE FURTHEST THING** and **THE WHOLE SHABANG** for props and costumes, also while studying at Douglas College. Tianna found her passion in production management and has worked on **THE DA VINCI CODE** (Theatre in the Country) and **IN ARABIA WE'D ALL BE KINGS** (BlueiRadio) since then.

DAVID GEARY (Salon Panelist): David Geary (Taranaki Māori) grew up immersed in the Polynesian Trickster tales of Māui in Aotearoa New Zealand, and is now honoured to live in the lands of Coyote and Raven Tricksters. He is a playwright, screenwriter, director, fiction writer, and haikuist. David teaches in the Indigenous Digital Filmmaking program at Capilano University and six other departments. He's also on six boards. He loves meetings. He also teaches playwriting for PTC Playwrights Theatre Centre. He's written and collaborated on 40+ theatre works, produced in New Zealand, Canada, and around the world. The most recent are **REQUIEM IN D(ELETE) MINOR**, **QEIII - BLACK BETTY** (a lost Shakespeare play), and three short plays for Climate Change Theatre Action. David's recent fiction can be found in **PŪRĀKAU: MĀORI MYTHS RETOLD BY MĀORI WRITERS** and **BAWAAJIGAN: STORIES OF POWER FROM EXILE**. A member of LMDA Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas, David provides script consultation for theatre, TV, and film. He lives by the yogic mantra: Life is short, stretch it.



ANNA HAGAN (Director, Anniversary): Anna's long and accomplished career has been honoured with a Jessie Richardson Theatre Award for Outstanding Career Achievement and a 2014 Woman of the Year by UBCP/ACTRA. She served as assistant director of the Stratford Festival's Young Company and was mentored by the renowned Robin Phillips. She also participated in the International Directors Seminar in London, England. Her extensive acting credits include

THE MUSIC MAN, **OUR TOWN**, **A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS**, - the acclaimed World Theatre 2000 production of **THE MILL ON THE FLOSS** (Soulpepper Theatre, Toronto). Vancouver audiences will have seen her in **A DELICATE BALANCE**, **OLD GORIOT**, **HALF LIFE**, **HOME CHILD**, **THREE TALL WOMEN**, **THE DINING ROOM**, **HOMEWARD BOUND**, **RED BIRDS & ESCAPED ALONE**. Anna was the Artistic Director of Western Gold Theatre, for 12 years. She now serves on the Board of Directors.

ELOI HOMIER (Finger Weaving for Sash-Making, Workshop Leader): Eloi's path to fingerweaving for sash-making was seemingly inevitable. It connects deeply to his identity and cultural practice. Having spent the last two decades digging into a colourful range of disciplines that connect him with his ancestors – from voyageur canoe guiding to Métis jiggling among other things – the “ceinture fléchée” (arrowhead sash) became a big part

of his life, in equal parts from its origins in Québec and the coureurs de bois, as from its important symbolism in Métis culture. Most sashes are made on a mechanical loom, but Eloi had started to get interested in the traditionally made fingerwoven sashes when he met an artisan and asked them if he could commission a sash. Their answer? “You can’t afford it.” This was the perfect catalyst to push Eloi to learn the technique so he could make his own. He never looked back, and has since been commissioned a number of pieces, and taught individuals and groups, from Vancouver all the way to Saskatchewan.



ANNABEL KERSHAW (Actor, Anniversary): Annabel is always delighted to be back in the Western Gold Family having appeared in over 14 shows including SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER, COMFORT COTTAGES, LEARNED LADIES, SPLITTING HEIRS and THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST. She was last seen playing the ever young centenarian Hildy in The Western Gold production of SUPER SENIORS. Apart from performing with Western Gold,

Annabel has had a long and varied career performing in many theatres across Canada. Locally she has been seen with the Arts Club, Vancouver Playhouse, Richmond Gateway, Firehall Theatre and Carousel Theatre for Young People. She is the recipient of two Jessie Awards for AUNT DAN AND LEMON and THE ELEPHANT MAN. Film and TV appearance are many including YELLOWJACKETS, IZOMBIE, GET SHORTY, ARROW, the original JUMANJI and a number of Hallmark films. When not performing Annabel spends a fair bit of time turning upside down as a Yoga instructor and practising her downward facing dog with her Sheepadoodle Padma.

JOHN LAZARUS (Playwright, Running Wilde, Salon Panelist, Pen to Page Workshop Leader): John Lazarus taught playwriting at Studio 58 for 10 years, and at Queen’s University for 21 years, with briefer stints at Vancouver Film School, the National Theatre School, and other institutions. He has frequently served as a festival adjudicator and script dramaturge, and is the author of the book *Two Ways About It: The Inside and Outside of Playwriting* (J. Gordon Shillingford, Winnipeg, 2023). John wrote his first produced play in 1973, and his most recent play, *RUNNING WILDE*, will close its premiere run – at the Jericho Arts Centre, produced by United Players in association with Western Gold – a few days before this workshop. In between, he has written over 40 produced plays, many of which have been produced across Canada and around the world, published in book form, adapted for film, video and radio, translated into other languages, and/or honoured with awards. He is a graduate of the Acting program of the National Theatre School. He and his wife Lin live at PAL.



JOY-ANNA LEGGASEE (Head Hog of Fundraising): Joy-Anna has retired from her long career teaching fiscal management and the importance of saving to children so they can achieve their financial goals—be they Beanie Baby acquisitions or saving for post-secondary. She has created investment portfolios from paper routes, babysitting, and Christmas cheques from the grand folks. She steps away from her usual perch atop a chest and you will now find Joy-Anna in the

lobby at every show. A foodie at heart, her favourite meal is loose change and cheques. She’s very hungry, so please feed her!



TOM MCBEATH (Actor, Anniversary): Tom's 50-year career may suggest high mileage, but he's a well serviced and maintained entity and operates as a reliable and enjoyable older model, albeit with the usual dents and scratches, eligible for collector status. He's been a Vancouver-based actor since 1975 working across much of Canada with over 130 stage credits. He also works in the TV and film industry, appearing in productions ranging from THE BEACHCOMBERS 45 years

ago, JUMP STREET, STARGATE SG1 to recent productions such as RIVERDALE. Tom was last seen on stage with Western Gold's fabulous production of A DOLL'S HOUSE PART 2 and is glad to be back with them at the festival. Thank you to Karin . . . my biggest supporter.

TOM MCCALLUM (Métis Kitchen Party): *Cree / One Arrow First Nation*

Tom McCallum was born and raised in Ile à la Crosse, Saskatchewan. He is a Sundance lodge keeper, a respected Métis Elder, a storyteller, a language keeper, and an eloquent speaker. He is Acuhk Askatum, which means Spirit Worker, and can be translated into English as White Standing Buffalo. Tom is fluent in Nêhiawuk and Michif and is a passionate advocate for the Michif language. He has been featured in several documentaries dedicated to preserving the Michif language, including Weesahkoteeweenowuk and Our Elders' Stories. Tom grew up on the land and uses traditional teachings to work with inmates, youth, men's healing circles, and in cross-cultural workshops.



SANDY SCOFIELD (Métis Kitchen Party): Sandy Scofield is a Vancouver-based Métis composer, songwriter, performer, educator, musical director and actor whose family hails from St. Laurent Manitoba. She comes from four generations of professional musicians - singers, players, dancers. She has released six award-winning albums and her music has taken her to all the major Canadian music festivals and Indigenous festivals, as well as many international destinations.

She was honoured to perform in Cape Town at WOMAD South Africa 2024 with her Cree women's trio, Iskew Singers and she has graced the stage in Mexico City, Albury Australia, Seoul Korea, Vienna Austria, Berlin Germany, Sarawak Borneo, to name a few. All have been humbling experiences that she has been honoured to perform at. Sandy has worked throughout the province's education system in both mainstream and Indigenous schools teaching either Métis history, culture and material production or presenting an Indigenous music workshop that included Métis music (lower mainland, Nisga'a territory, Kootenays, Haida Gwaii, Tahltan territory, Okanagan, Gulf Islands). The last couple of months in 2026 have her doing the sound design on a documentary for a German filmmaker across the pond.

VALERIE SING TURNER (Playwright, Breaking Parity): Valerie Sing Turner is a writer, performer, director, and dramaturg. A recipient of the Enbridge playRites Award for Emerging Canadian Playwright and BC Lieutenant Governor's Platinum Jubilee Arts & Music Award, Valerie's first play, the interdisciplinary CONFESSIONS OF THE OTHER WOMAN, premiered in 2012 (Urban Ink Productions, Vancouver Playhouse Theatre Company, Visceral Visions), and her 10-actor dramedy, IN THE SHADOW OF THE MOUNTAINS, about three generations of an Indigenous/Chinese/Japanese family, was workshopped in residence at the Norman Rothstein Theatre in 2024. A former artist-in-residence with National Arts Centre and Shadbolt Centre for the Arts, she is a member

of Canadian Actors' Equity, UBCP/ACTRA, and Playwrights Guild of Canada. The founder and co-artistic producer of Visceral Visions, Valerie is currently directing an animated film adaptation of a 20-minute comic opera, "DID I JUST SAY THAT?", for which she also wrote the libretto.



SEAN SONIER (Actor, Anniversary): Sean Sonier is a Vancouver-based actor and graduate of Studio 58, originally from New Brunswick. Highlights of his portfolio include work with Arts Club Theatre, Théâtre la Seizième, Tsatsu Stalqayu, and Coldplay. He has an extensive catalogue of voice work and audiobooks and is proud to have been part of the Leo-nominated film LES FILLES DU ROI. Sean is excited to return for his third iteration of OOF!



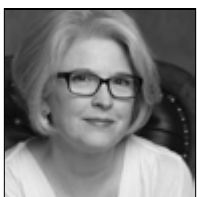
DENYSE WILSON (Actor, Anniversary): Denyse would like to thank Anna Hagan and Western Gold for inviting her to play again! OOF! audiences may remember Denyse as Cecily in THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST, Kate in SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER, Mrs. Juno in OVERRULED, and Natalya in THE MARRIAGE PROPOSAL. Vancouver theatre patrons with long memories may remember Denyse in many-a-role at Bard on the Beach, from Rosalind to Cleopatra. Further

back she played Stella in A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE for The Vancouver Playhouse and Raina in ARMS AND THE MAN for The Arts Club Theatre.



SANDY WINSBY (Actor, Anniversary) Sandy has spent 50 years in "The Biz," working coast to coast in Canada, touring the USA, and performing (briefly) in Hamburg Germany in German. Originally from Vancouver, Sandy recently moved back from Stratford Ontario and is now a resident of PAL New Westminster. He is very pleased to be working with Western Gold Theatre! Credits include, most recently in Vancouver: WEST SIDE STORY with CTORA Theatre; Broadway and

US tours: JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR and RAGTIME; original Canadian productions: CATS, LES MISERABLES, BEAUTY AND THE BEAST, KINKY BOOTS, MUSIC OF ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER, HELLO MUDDER HELLO FADDER; plus, seasons with the Stratford, Shaw, and Charlottetown Theatre Festivals; Arts Club Productions: BEAUTY AND THE BEAST, CLOSER THAN EVER, WHEN THE RAINS COME. Sandy also performed in many productions with Drayton Entertainment (Ontario), and in 20 productions with Vancouver Opera as a singer, writer, and director. Sandy is a proud father and grandfather!



JOHNNA WRIGHT (Director, Blue Heaven, Adrift): Johnna is happy to be back with Western Gold working on new plays. She has collaborated in various parts of Canada as a director, actor, producer, dramaturg, and playwright, and has supported the development of dozens of new Canadian plays. With writing partner Patty Jamieson, she wrote an adaptation of Patrick Hamilton's GASLIGHT which premiered at the Shaw Festival and has been produced

internationally, including a six-month tour in Australia. Johnna believes more than ever in the power of theatre to change the way we see the world, and in the need for audiences to have that experience together.

VENUE INFORMATION

The Have A Senior Moment Festival takes place across multiple venues. Please double check your ticket regarding location/venue for the specific event(s) you will be attending. *For public transportation information head to TRANSLINK.CA*

PAL STUDIO THEATRE

8th floor, 581 Cardero Street Vancouver, BC V6G 3L3

The map shows the location of PAL Studio Theatre on the 8th floor of 581 Cardero Street. It is situated between Denman St. to the west and Cardero St. to the east. West Georgia St. runs horizontally below Cardero St. Bayshore Drive runs horizontally above Cardero St. and turns south to meet Denman St. The Westin Bayshore hotel is located on Bayshore Drive, and Carderos is on Cardero St. A large 'PARKING' area is indicated between Denman St. and Cardero St., with two specific zones labeled 'P1' and 'P2'. 'The Lift' is marked near the Westin Bayshore. The PAL Studio Theatre is marked in a box within the P1 parking zone.

PAL STUDIO THEATRE 581 Cardero Street Coal Harbour Vancouver	P1	\$16.00 for five hours use event code 8802620
	P2	\$2.00 per half hour
Street parking	Afternoons \$3.00 to \$4.00/hr. 3 hrs. max. Evenings \$1.00/hr. 4 hrs. max.	

BARCLAY MANOR

1447 Barclay St, Vancouver, BC V6G 1J6

Paid street parking available in surrounding neighborhood.

JERICO ARTS CENTRE - (RUNNING WILDE)

1675 Discovery St, Vancouver, BC V6R 4K5

EasyPark Lot 69 directly beside the theatre and extending north toward the beach. \$3.745/h

ABOUT WESTERN GOLD THEATRE

Western Gold Theatre was founded in 1994 by Joy Coghill O.C. It is one of only two professional theatre companies in Canada solely devoted to centering the voices and providing work for senior (55+) artists across cultures and communities. We also take great pride in the opportunities we offer to emerging theatre artists.

We have commissioned, developed, and staged nine new Canadian plays as well as produced a further 14 mainstage presentations from major playwrights. In 2012, we launched the highly popular ON OUR FEET (OOF!) series: fully staged readings with all the hallmarks of a full production.

In 2020, in response to COVID-19, we initiated VIRTUAL GOLD: online theatrical offerings, creative workshops, and cultural conversations. In 2021 we began a Creative Accessibility Program specifically designed for senior artists, and, in 2023, we launched our inaugural HAVE A SENIOR MOMENT! FESTIVAL, a curated, multi-discipline series celebrating the performing arts for old folx and/or by old folx!

Western Gold has been helmed for the majority of its time by a number of Canada's leading theatre artists including Founder Joy Coghill O.C., Artistic Directors Pamela Hawthorne, Colleen Winton, Anna Hagan, and General Manager Glenn MacDonald—trailblazers all. Tanja Dixon-Warren was appointed Artistic Director in 2019.

OUR TEAM

WESTERN GOLD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President-----Donnie MacDonald
Vice President-----Kathryn Aberle
Treasurer-----Nancy Ebert
Secretary-----Diana Sandberg
Directors-----Anna Hagan, Morteza Moshtaghi, Kellie Robinson, Donna Webb

PRODUCTION STAFF

Artistic Director-----Tanja Dixon-Warren
General & Production Manager-----Glenn MacDonald
Literary Manager/Artistic Associate-----Seamus Fera
Casting Director-----Stephanie Hargreaves
Creative Marketing Coordinator-----Robert Bockman-Cobban
Publicist-----Gwen Kallio
Social Media Coordinator-----Tyquira Dixon-Traer

PAL STUDIO THEATRE STAFF

Theatre Manager-----Matthew Bissett
Executive Director-----Lynn Ross

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Western Gold Theatre would like to thank

Zeinab Ahmadizadeh, Vinicius Costa, Lynne (Carrissa) Doolan, Margo Kane,
Claudine Matlo, Misty Paul, Tory Ross & Ludovic Sallin

SO WHERE DO YOUR TICKET DOLLARS GO?

As a small, ambitious company, we depend largely on you, the audience, to support us. Our government funding is very limited thus box office revenues, donations, concession and fundraising events are approximately 70% of our operating budget. Your attendance supports all our artistic productions and ancillary events, as well as our hardworking team throughout the year. We have much to thank you for.

PAL's intimate theatre has a house capacity of less than 100 and even if we sold to full capacity, we would not meet our costs – especially as all HASM! Festival events are offered at as low a ticket price as possible with many being PAY-WHAT-YOU-CHOOSE.

If you enjoy our work, consider buying your ticket at market value (based on ticket prices you see at other theatres in town) - or pay it forward and purchase a ticket for someone else who may lack the resources.

Working in the theatre is an extremely rewarding life; and vicarious one. For older artists, this is further compounded because work is limited. Few roles are written for characters over 55, and they are frequently stereotypical characters that amplify preconceived notions of old people. Statistics cite the median age for a working actor is: Women Age 37 / Men Age 46. OUCH! We are trying to change this.

We invite you to be WGT's marketing team! If you enjoy our work - tell anyone and everyone! Share on social media. Write us a review on Google. If you are really feeling passionate, contact your local MP and encourage ongoing funding for the arts.

If you are even MORE passionate, connect with Joy-Anna Leggasee, our Head Hog of Fundraising! Yes, she's a piggy bank, and she can be found in the theatre lobby. Following is a breakdown of where your ticket dollars go (calculated on an 88% house at an average ticket price of \$15.00*)

**Average ticket price is calculated by totaling all ticket prices (incl. full price; Pay-What-You-Choose suggested minimums; concession prices for students, PAL residents, and members of the community with financial restrictions; comps for volunteers; and promotional comps which offset our marketing budget) and dividing it by the number of ticket prices offered.*

- Venue (including rehearsal space) -----10%
- Production (props / costumes / set / lights) -----7%
- Advertising / Promotions -----7%
- Administration -----4%
- Royalties -----3%
- Artist / Production / Cultural Fees -----59%
- Accessibility Initiatives -----4%
- Staff & Contractors -----6%

Our heartfelt thanks for your collaboration, support, patronage! We applaud you!

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS (AS OF APRIL 2025)

Thank you to our donors, sponsors, community partners, volunteers, PAL Vancouver residents, and you, the audience. Without your support there would be no theatre!

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STARRING ROLE! (\$1,000 – \$1,999)

Coreen Douglas, Johanna Hickey, Nasreen & Salim Rahemtulla, Timothy and Hilary Temple, Audrey Zaharichuk

GO AHEAD – HAVE A SENIOR MOMENT! (\$500 – \$999) | Kathryn Aberle, Myra Andrews, Harry Cussen, Rob Haynes, Deanne Henry, J.M. Hurst, John H. Kennedy, Gerry Kowalenko, Donnie MacDonald, Anne Matheson, Tory Ross and Keith Martin Gordey, Kathie Schwaia, Kathryn Shaw

ENJOYING BOLD AGE! (\$200 – \$499) Julia Blockberger, Louis Chirillo, Kate Dahlstrom, Mary Doherty, Elizabeth Dropko, Evelyn Harden, Stephen Heatley, Arlene Howard, Mary Jansen, Linda Johnston, Sandy Keane, Kate Lancaster, John Lazarus, Margot McKenzie, Pam McPhail, Bill Millerd, Nora D. Randall, Anita L. Romaniuk, Charlotte Rozsa, Diana Sandberg, Perry Schneiderman, Jane Srivastava, Carole Tarlington, Malcolm Toms, Peter Zednik

YOUNG AT HEART! (\$100 – \$199) | Neal Boucher, Val Brandt, Ruth Brock, Leo Bruneau, Donna Celle, Valentina Cesaratto, Bernard Cuffling, Nattana Dixon-Warren, Alen Dominguez, Richard Dopson, Dolores Drake, Linda King, Ian Farthing, Monika Forberger, Pamela Hawthorn, Theodore Jevne, Anna Hagan and Terence Kelly, Phil Knaiger, Cher Lewis, Helen Low, Jane Heyman, Judith MacPerson, Catherine & Jim Miller, Diana Mitchell, Marjorie Munkley, Jayeson Nicols, Deborah Pound, Georgia Roxborough, Elizabeth Snow, Elizabeth Stewart, Magda Theriault, Delia Visscher, Jerry Wasserman, Johnna Wright, Alan York

ON THE BOARDS! (\$50 – \$99) | Chris Adams, Ivan Antoniuk, Alan Brandle, Liz Carney, Jane Clayton, William B. Davis, Leslie Goodbrand, Nina Ferretti, Robert D. Hamilton, Wendy Holtan, Susan Hughes, Angie Ip, Linda Alice King, Paddy Laidley, John A. Lakes, Lisa Lee, Michael Louie, Shawn Macdonald, Donna Mihm, Ellie O'Day, Philip Spedding, Sally Petitpierre, Linda Stender, Roy Surette, Nancy Sweedler, Greg Unsworth, Helen Volkow, Beatrice Zeilinger

APPRENTICE! (UP TO \$50) | Marilyn Patricia Allan, Melody Anderson, Rhonda Arab, Herbert Auerbach, Monika Bergler, Linda Ruth Berndt, Isabel Bleim, David Booth, Margo Boyer, Barbara L. Brolly, Jim Brown, Wendy Brundige, Frances Burnside, Douglas Clempson, Paula Cline, Sue Culver, Dharendra, D. Michael Dobbin, Verna Faughnan, Julia Gibson, John Holland, Elizabeth A. Jones, Kim Jordheim, Nora D. Kelly, Anna King, Kenneth Ian Kinnear, Gerda Krause, Raynard LeBlond, Rudi Leibik, Maureen Leyland, Rhona Lichtenwald, Stephen Craig March, Jordy Matheson, Catherine Miceli, Jennifer Morabito, Robin Mossley, Sean Nakatani, Trudy Nickel, George Plawski, Vanessa Richards, Kirsten Robek, Russell Roberts, E. Kate Robbins, Oliver Schulte, Cathryn Schultz, Penelope Sinclair, Gordon Stahl, Lesley Stark, Geri Stephen, Jennifer Strutt, Alice Sundberg, Ellie Swann, Michelle Thorne-Speir, Johanne Thorpe, Rebecca Toolan, Tara Torme, Jeffrey Turner, Sharon van Viersen, Rhiannon Williams, Denyse Wilson, Stephen Wurz

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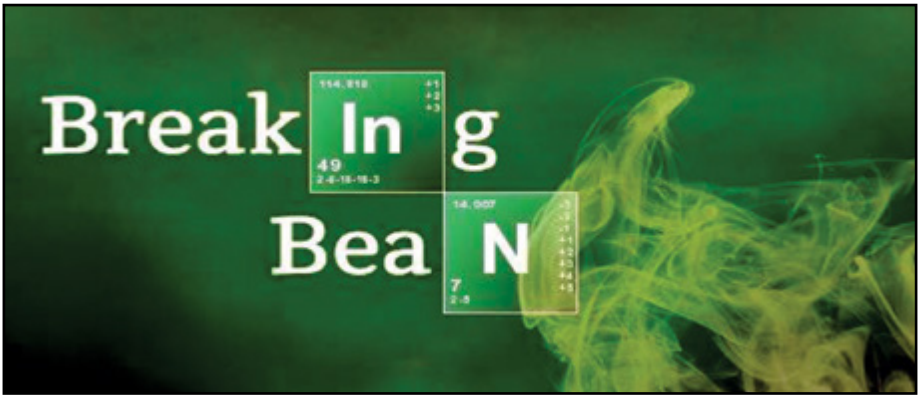


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