

# Lorraine Kimsa Theatre for Young People

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SEASON PARTNER  **Bank Financial Group**

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## LKTYP ANNOUNCES 2010-11 SEASON Celebrating 45 years of young people's theatre!

Lorraine Kimsa Theatre for Young People is proud to announce its line-up for the 2010-11 season. This year, LKTYP will celebrate its 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with nine outstanding productions, each designed to explore the central theme of *friendship, peer pressure and the need to belong*.

*"As soon as kids start engaging with people outside their immediate family, the issues of friendship and belonging emerge and a whole new kind of learning begins. How do we make friends? Can friends fight and still be friends? Good friendships are easy to identify but what about an unhealthy friendship? What is the difference between peer influence and peer pressure? And should belonging to a group of friends come at any price? At LKTYP, we are serious about entertainment. Our professional plays and educational programs are focused on the emotional, social and intellectual development of kids and teens. We are also committed to everyone having a great time while they develop into the unique people they are meant to be!"*

- Artistic Director, **Allen MacInnis**

The season begins with **Michele Riml's** engaging play *The Invisible Girl*, a fresh take on society's pre-occupation with fashion and popularity, as well as the devastation of adolescent peer ostracism. Then the Tony-nominated musical *A Year with Frog and Toad* by **Robert Reale** and **Willie Reale** takes over the Mainstage. This lively musical, based on the popular children's books by **Arnold Lobel**, explores friendship throughout the seasons and the attributes that make each of us special. While recommended for ages 3 to 8, this charming production, playing throughout the holiday season, is sure to delight audiences of all ages. The New Year brings *The Big League* by **James Durham** to LKTYP. Both funny and poignant, this award-winning hockey-themed play addresses family pressure to succeed – it's about trying your best and having fun while doing it. April marks the triumphant return of **Florence Gibson** and **Shawn Byfield's** Dora Award-winning production, *i think i can*. Premiered at LKTYP in 2007, this innovative, hi-octane show fuses red-hot urban tap with schoolyard politics, exploring the laws of motion, energy, conflict and cooperation. Following the LKTYP run, this production will tour to the **National Arts Centre** in Ottawa.

In addition to producing these thought-provoking plays, LKTYP will present works from some of Canada's top TYA companies. First up in the Studio will be *Routes* by **Collin Doyle** – a hard-hitting production for teens from Edmonton's **Concrete Theatre**. *Routes* provides an unflinching look at violence and social pressure through the eyes of a fifteen year-old boy as he rides a city bus to escape trouble at home and at school. In March, Québec's **Théâtre Tout à Trac** brings their award-winning show, *Alice in Wonderland*, to LKTYP. This fast-paced adaptation of the beloved classic by **Lewis Carroll** becomes a live-action pop-up book on the Mainstage that is sure to enchant ages 6 and up throughout March Break. The Studio welcomes **Hank's Toybox Theatre** of Toronto in April with their Fringe Festival hit, *As You Puppet*, adapted and performed by **Jane McClelland** and **Mike Petersen**. Stuffed animals spring to life in this clever adaptation of **William Shakespeare's** *As You Like It* – for kids! Rounding out the season will be **Green Thumb Theatre** of Vancouver and their production of *The Shape of a Girl* by **Joan MacLeod**. Loosely based on the tragic beating death of Victoria teenager Reena Virk in 1997 – an event that captured news headlines around the world – this award-winning play examines one girl's struggle to make the right choices.

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And, finally, LKTYP's senior Drama School students will once again be part of the 2010-11 season in the Studio with another series of cutting-edge public performances by **The Ensemble**.

## 2010-11 Season Playbill

### THE INVISIBLE GIRL

by Michele Riml

MAINSTAGE October 12-23, 2010 | Recommended for ages 7 to 13

Ali can't explain why she impulsively nominated the totally unpopular Dolores for the solo in the school choir concert. She barely knows her, never speaks to her, she just happens to know that Dolores has a killer voice. Now all of Ali's friends are giving her the cold shoulder and Ali is becoming almost as invisible as Dolores. One of Canada's foremost playwrights, Michele Riml was nominated for the 2008 Siminovitch Prize.

### ROUTES

By Collin Doyle | Produced by Concrete Theatre

STUDIO Nov. 9-18, 2010 | Recommended for ages 14 and up

Tom escapes a violent home life by riding his local bus until closing. As the bus weaves through his neighbourhood, Tom makes connections between the violence at home to acts of bullying among students at his school -- and the killing of a man by a group of teens on this very bus route.

### A YEAR WITH FROG AND TOAD

Music by Robert Reale Book and Lyrics by Willie Reale | Based on the books by Arnold Lobel

Originally presented on Broadway by Bob Boyett, Adrienne Lobel, Michael Gardner, Lawrence Horowitz and Roy Furman | World Premiere at The Children's Theatre Company, Minneapolis, Minnesota

MAINSTAGE Nov. 15-Dec. 30, 2010 | Recommended for ages 3 to 8

This delightful, Tony Award-nominated Broadway musical, based on the beloved children's stories, follows the cheerful and popular Frog and the rather grumpy Toad through four fun-filled seasons. Waking from hibernation in the spring, the two great friends enjoy planting gardens, swimming in the pond, raking leaves and sledding down the hill.

### THE BIG LEAGUE

By James Durham

MAINSTAGE Jan. 31-Feb. 24, 2011 | Recommended for ages 7 to 13

This award-winning play cleverly stick-handles Canada's national pastime from a child's point of view.

Tommy loves playing hockey with his friends but his Dad is pressuring him to up his game in the pursuit of a spot on a better team. Does friendship get benched when the competition heats up? While his Dad is yelling and his friends are skating bigger circles around him, Tommy gets conflicting advice from Don Berry and Ron McKleen.

### ALICE IN WONDERLAND

Based on the novel by Lewis Carroll | Adaptation and Direction by Hugo Bélanger | Translated by Maureen Labonté | Produced by Théâtre Tout à Trac

MAINSTAGE March 1-19, 2011 | Recommended for ages 6 and up

Alice prefers daydreaming to doing homework. One day, while hiding in her father's study, a book-devouring rabbit appears out of nowhere and Alice chases him down his rabbit hole, finding herself in Wonderland – a nonsensical universe populated by the Queen of Hearts, Humpty Dumpty, the Cheshire Cat, the Mad Hatter, and a host of peculiar residents.

### I THINK I CAN

Co-created by Florence Gibson and Shawn Byfield

MAINSTAGE April 4-May 5, 2011 | Recommended for ages 8 and up

Told entirely through high-energy, red-hot urban tap, ***i think i can*** is set in the often turbulent world of classroom cliques and schoolyard politics. Tip, a boy with a disability, and his friends struggle to cope with the class bully and the ambitions of their science-crazed teacher. With the grand prize at the science fair hanging in the balance, friends, enemies and classmates vie for dominance, making the most of their abilities – and disabilities.

## AS YOU PUPPET

By William Shakespeare

Adapted and performed by Jane McClelland and Mike Petersen

Produced by Hank's Toybox Theatre

STUDIO April 10–21, 2011 | Recommended for ages 5 and up

When a clever bear named Rosalind is banished by her evil uncle Frederick the crocodile, she and her best plush kitten friend Celia run away to the forest of Arden. There, they meet a dizzy duck, a haughty hippo, a bragging bunny and the heartsick teddy bear, Orlando, who's fallen head-over-paws for Rosalind.

## THE SHAPE OF A GIRL

By Joan MacLeod | Produced by Green Thumb Theatre

MAINSTAGE May 11-19, 2011 | Recommended for ages 12 and up

*Advisory: Strong language*

Braidie wonders if the teen accused of a shocking act of violence is so very different from her and her friends. This "monster in the shape of a girl" propels Braidie to examine her own past and confront the truth of her often-terrifying teenage world. Is she courageous enough to intervene when her friends' bullying of a classmate goes too far?

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Lorraine Kimsa Theatre for Young People extends heartfelt thanks to **TD Bank Financial Group** for their generous support as Season Partner for our 45th season. Our sincere thanks also go to our lead Education Partners **BMO Financial Group** and **RBC Foundation**.

It is with great gratitude that we recognize the incredible support of **Ada Slaight**, providing access to our Education and Participation programs through scholarships and other initiatives. As well, we are very thankful to the **Slaight Family** for supporting LKTYP's New Play Development fund.

**LKTYP's renowned Drama School turns 41 this year** and registration is currently underway for the Summer Session with a variety of classes available at the downtown location for ages 4 to 18. LKTYP also offers a limited number of scholarships to qualifying applicants, with information available online at [lktyp.ca](http://lktyp.ca) or by calling 416.862.2222.

Single ticket prices for weekend family shows are just \$20 for adults and \$15 for children (under 18) and grandparents (age 65+). With LKTYP's **Show Combos**, subscribers **SAVE up to 25%** on already low ticket prices. And this year, LKTYP introduces **First Saturday Savings** – \$10 tickets for the first Saturday in the run of most Mainstage shows. Call 416.862.2222 for details.

Weekday performances for school groups are \$15 for students and teachers, with one **FREE teacher/chaperone ticket** provided for every 20 student tickets purchased. **EARLY BIRD SAVINGS of 20%** are available to teachers booking by June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2010 (all tickets just \$12).

With the generous assistance of **Sun Life Financial**, LKTYP is once again offering Pay-What-You-Can (PWYC) performances for ALL productions this season. PWYC tickets are available at the Box Office for weekend family shows on the day of performance only, with a suggested minimum contribution of \$5 per ticket.

**Show Combos ON SALE NOW. Subscribers can avoid paying Ontario's new HST by purchasing Show Combos by April 30, 2010. Group tickets ON SALE NOW to schools.** Single tickets on sale July 2nd. For more information please call the Box Office at 416.862.2222 or visit [lktyp.ca](http://lktyp.ca).

Join LKTYP for their 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary season of active, meaningful, engaging young people's theatre.

**LORRAINE KIMSА THEATRE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE (formerly Young Peoples Theatre)** is the largest Theatre for Young Audiences (TYA) company in Canada and a significant institution in the Canadian professional theatre community. Over our 45-year history LKTYP has produced many of the most important works that now form the canon of plays for young audiences in this country. Learning is at the centre of everything we do and LKTYP is renowned as the showplace for presenting important TYA work developed elsewhere. In addition to being a producer and presenter of theatre, LKTYP has also been home to a year-round Drama School for youth since 1969. At the centre of LKTYP's artistic policy is a desire to have a positive and lasting impact on the emotional, social, and intellectual development of young people in order for them to grow into the unique and wonderful people they were born to be. At LKTYP, we also believe that the more challenging, the more hostile, the more 'isolated within-the-crowd' our world becomes, the more we need art to help us interpret the universe, connect with each other, and imagine a better future. If adults need this, kids need it more.