

# Burlington! On Stage!

## News & Reviews

Spotlighting Burlington's Performing Arts Community



Winter 2005

## PAC passes major hurdle at city hall

The proposed Performing Arts Centre received strong endorsement from members of City Council in January.

Council's Community and Corporate Services Committee - and later Council itself - unanimously agreed to take the proposed development to the next step.

"It's a very big step forward," said PAB President Walter Mulkewich. "A lot of hard work remains, but Councillors are recognizing the need for it thanks to community support and the very hard work of dedicated staff and the volunteers of PAB."

About 20 PAB members, decked out in distinctive purple T-shirts, were on hand in person for the committee debate.

Council approved the vision, principles, functional re-design and operating forecast for the \$22-million centre which is planned to include a 718-seat main theatre and a rehearsal hall that can accommodate 250 seats.

The decision puts the theatre in the city's 2007 capital budget, with funding to come from the city, senior levels of government, and a capital fundraising campaign.

The approved vision for the centre says it "will become a new cultural icon and symbol of a dynamic and progressive community that takes pride in artistic expression and the creative energies and achievements of its own citizens."

### Among the key principles approved are:

- A centre that is affordable and accessible to local amateur groups.
- An auditorium that can provide comfortable settings for smaller and larger events and audience sizes.
- A focal point for the local performing arts community, and a centre that will stimulate local performers to new levels of achievement.
- A versatile facility to accommodate all forms of music, dance and drama performances by amateur and professional groups.
- A well-managed centre that is sustainable over the long term and affordable to taxpayers.
- A multi-functional facility to accommodate non-performance uses such as civic events, ceremonies, meetings, receptions, socials and fundraisers.
- An integral component of a thriving cultural, entertainment, tourist and business district in the downtown.
- A prominent architectural landmark providing a stronger Burlington identity.
- A magnet to attract and develop new industries, businesses, and creative class populations that place a strong value on the arts and culture and community lifestyle, and promote economic development.
- A dynamic centre that will enhance the cultural profile and quality of life in the City.

Council considered the potential location for the centre in a closed meeting as is usual in issues involving real estate.

All councillors expressed enthusiasm for the project. And Mayor Rob MacIsaac said he sees real momentum building.

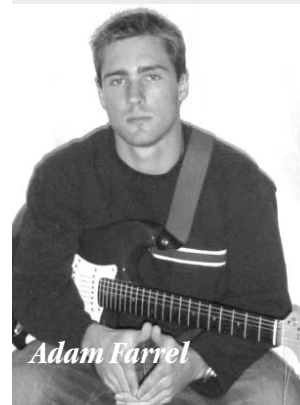
Mr. Mulkewich cited strong community support and the involvement of many PAB members in letting council know that Burlington backs the facility. He called it "an investment that will yield great dividends to our citizens for years to come."

Next step for the development is to convene a capital campaign steering committee, initiate funding talks with senior levels of government, and identify potential partners and lead donors. Mr. Mulkewich said PAB already has \$50,000 in a capital trust account for the project and he cited members such as Theatre Burlington which has been collecting a \$1 per ticket surcharge as part of its fundraising initiative.

He said PAB will support the city-led fundraising activities. Plus it has its own role in building the capacity of local performing groups to make the transition to the new facility. "PAB will work with local groups in areas such as strategic planning, long-term financial and business plans, marketing, audience building, resource collaboration, and professional and technical skills." For the complete staff report to city council, please visit: [www.burlington.ca](http://www.burlington.ca) click > City Meeting Calendar, January calendar, January 18 Community and Corporate Service Committee, Report PR9/05

## BeDazzled!

### Celebrate Burlington's Talent at BeDazzled!



Adam Farrel



Variante Duo

Performing Arts Burlington has a creative and diverse membership consisting of music, dance and theatre companies, artists and school boards. We are committed to the development of the performing arts talent of our members and, with this in mind, are proud to announce that we will host a performance showcase called **BeDazzled!** on Friday, March 4th. This second annual celebration will be held at Wellington Square United Church, 2121 Caroline Street (east of Brant Street), beginning at 7:30 pm. The performance will be followed by a reception sponsored by Paradiso Restaurant of Burlington.

**BeDazzled!** is an evening of dance, drama, music and song for audiences of all ages. Performers include experienced artists such as Variante Harp & Flute Duo as well as many talented youth. As an example, the audience will enjoy classical music from The Hamilton East Chamber Ensemble, cultural dance from The Ukrainian Dancers as

well as a theatrical performance from members of The Aldershot Players.

"We had such a positive response from the audience at last year's inaugural event," said committee chair, Ilene Elkaim, of Performing Arts Burlington. "We look forward to working with different performers this spring and promoting their work to our ever-growing audience."

"We are pleased that the show will provide a unique opportunity for young people to participate in the excitement of the theatrical process and develop confidence." This year, students from Charles R. Beaudoin Public School will present creative drama by the Performing Orff Ensemble. A second group of students from Pineland Public School will showcase a dramatic presentation.

### Admission is free.

Seating is general admission and no reservations are required. Performing Arts Burlington respectfully requests that children attending be old enough to remain in their seats for the hour and a half performance.

For more information, please call Pam Eddenden, Executive Director of PAB, at 905-631-6666.

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

If you are available to help at the **BeDazzled! Reception** at Wellington United Church on Friday March 4th in the afternoon and/or evening, please call Pam at the PAB office at 905-631-6666.

Performing Arts Burlington is a not-for-profit organization and welcomes high school students seeking to complete their Community Involvement Activities.

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# First Executive Director named

Pam Eddenden, an experienced not-for-profit arts administrator, was named the first Executive Director of Performing Arts Burlington at the organization's annual general meeting.

Eddenden, most recently the Artistic Producer of Festival of Classics, a classical summer theatre festival in Oakville, started as PAB's first full-time employee December 1.

"Pam has extensive experience in administration, fundraising, strategic planning and, most important, putting a young organization like the Festival of Classics on the map," said Rick Burgess, PAB Vice-President and chair of the Search Committee. "She has the marketing skills and the bridge-building ability to promote and strengthen the performing arts community in Burlington, in line with PAB's mandate."

"This is a tremendous opportunity for me," said Eddenden, who has produced numerous plays for the Festival in the last five years. "Burlington has a dynamic performing arts community with all sorts of untapped potential. I look forward to working together not only with the performing arts groups but with everyone in Burlington who has an interest in music, dance and drama."

The Executive Director position and the office space were made possible by a grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

Eddenden, a graduate of the University of Toronto who also studied at Ryerson University's Theatre School, has produced and directed productions at the Tarragon Theatre, the Helen Phelan Gardiner Playhouse, the Toronto Fringe Festival and the Shanghai Theatre Festival in China. She was also publicity and marketing manager for the Oakville segment of the Rick Hansen Wheels in Motion tour.

## Performing Arts Burlington now has an office in downtown Burlington

492 Locust Street, Unit 1  
Burlington, ON L7S 1V2

Phone: 905-631-6666  
Fax: 905-631-1307

Toll free: 1-800-217-5049

Email: [info@performingartsburlington.com](mailto:info@performingartsburlington.com)  
Web: [www.performingartsburlington.com](http://www.performingartsburlington.com)

Executive Director Pam Eddenden  
works from the office Mon-Fri 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

The office is closed if Pam is away at meetings.

Please call ahead 905-631-6666.

*sponsored by*



## Audition call

Be part of  
The Performing Arts Burlington Stage  
at the Sound of Music Festival

Here's a chance to strut your stuff  
on **PAB's Sound Of Music Stage** this June.

Auditions will be held between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Feb 26 and 27  
at Theatre Burlington in the Drama Centre at Central Park.

Auditions are open to PAB members who DID NOT perform last year.  
A piano is provided but performers must provide their own accompanists.

Each audition will be allotted 10 minutes.  
Call 905 631-6666 to book audition time.

Members who performed last year will be contacted separately and  
WILL NOT be required to audition again. Show dates are June 17, 18, 19, 2005.

Mark your calendar now!  
Sound of Music. June 16-19



To perform at any of the other stages at The Sound Of Music Festival:  
Questions? Contact the Sound of Music Festival Hotline at 905-333-6364  
or visit their web-site at [www.soundofmusic.on.ca](http://www.soundofmusic.on.ca)

## Second City Comedy Troupe Brings Humour to Burlington

Members of The Second City - Toronto's legendary comedy theatre - will entertain at The Burlington Convention Centre on Friday, April 15th as part of Performing Arts Burlington's signature event "Second to None".

Second City's performance in Burlington will feature sketches, songs and improvisations, as well as on-the-spot topical comedy.

We're looking for 250 people to enjoy a cocktail reception, dinner and The Second City comedy performance. Funds raised will be directed to the development of Performing Arts Burlington's community and outreach programming, including a joint marketing program for local arts groups, mentorship opportunities for technicians and workshops for arts administrators.

Second City's performance promises to be funny, inventive and entertaining. Come and join us for a great night out.

### Reviews of Second City's Touring Company

Quotes "First-Rate Performance" - The Daily Gleaner, Fredricton, N.B. "a sold-out crowd clapped and crooned" - Gravenhurst Banner "cast members had the audience in stitches" - Bracebridge Examiner "masters of improv" - The Cornwall Standard-Freeholder

For more information about the "Second to None" signature event go to [www.performingartsburlington.com](http://www.performingartsburlington.com)

WHEN: 6:30 p.m. Friday, April 15th  
WHERE: Burlington Convention Centre, 1120 Burloak Drive, Burlington, Ontario  
TICKETS: \$95 per person

TO ORDER TICKETS CALL:  
Performing Arts Burlington at 905-631-6666 or send email request to [info@performingartsburlington.com](mailto:info@performingartsburlington.com).

*Burlington! On Stage!*

# What's going on

## Dance

SHAMROCK ACADEMY OF IRISH DANCE  
**Recital 2005 - "The Fairy Reel"**

Sunday, June 12th 2005  
2 pm at Hamilton Place  
Ticket prices are \$15.00 each

Tickets go on sale Monday, April 25th 2005 @ 905 527-7666,  
www.ticketmaster.ca or at the Copps Coliseum box office.

THE BURLINGTON FOOTNOTES AND COMPANY  
**"Gotta Sing Gotta Dance" Celebrate the Art of Staying Young!**

Monday, June 27th, 7pm  
and Tuesday, June 28th 2005  
2pm at The Oakville Centre for the Performing Arts

Tickets are \$17.50 / Groups of 20 or more \$15.00 each

Box Office 905 815-2021

### Spotlight on Tap!

International Tap Dance Day Activities for dancers of all ages and stages

Sunday May 29th at the Burlington Seniors Centre

Workshops from 10am-3pm  
\*\*Showtime 4pm

For more info please visit  
www.burlingtonfootnotes.org

### Dancing On A Dream Workshop

...focuses on creating opportunities for the adult dancer or dance enthusiast by delivering unique, high calibre workshops in a comfortable and friendly environment. Next workshop series is scheduled for

Sunday, April 17th and April 24th at the Burlington Seniors Centre

For details please visit  
www.burlingtonfootnotes.org

Or call 905 681-1517

## Music

HAMILTON PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA  
**Masterworks Concert, with Cellist Shauna Rolston**

Saturday, February 26, 2005  
8:00 pm at Hamilton Place, Great Hall

**Pops 4 – True North Strong & Free with Canadian Performers, True North Brass**

Saturday, March 4, 2005  
8:00 pm at Hamilton Place, Great Hall

Tickets range from \$26 to \$53 for Adults, and as low as \$5.00 for students under 18 years of age.

HPO Box Office: 905-526-7756  
HPO Office: 905-526-1677

www.hpo.org for all concerts in the 2004-2005 season

BURLINGTON CONCERT BAND  
**VE Day 60th Anniversary Concert and Dance**

Sunday, May 1st, 2005, 7:30 pm  
Burlington Convention Centre, 1120 Burloak Drive  
Ticket Price: \$25 per person  
Contact number: 905-639-1722

BURLINGTON ROADSHOW

Men of all ages are welcome to come out and find out why thousands of men of all ages enjoy singing **barbershop style music**. Burlington Roadshow welcomes you to any of their **Tuesday night sessions**, starting at 7:30pm in the Central Park Arena auditorium. Come on out and get hooked on four part a capella harmony.

MICHAEL KEYS

Performs piano with **The Ronnie Russell Showband**

Rockabilly/Rock 'n Roll/Blues/R'nB at Milner's, 484 Plains Road East, Burlington every Sunday afternoon  
No Cover Charge

Milner's: 905-632-8361  
www.michaelkeys.com

## Theatre

THE ALDERSHOT PLAYERS

**Self Help by Norm Foster**

Dinner and show: Apr 8,9; Apr 15,16; Apr 22,23. Show only: Apr 14  
Dinner at 6:30pm and Show at 8pm

West Plains Anglican Church  
Ticket Price: dinner and show \$30 per person/ show only \$15 per person

Contact: 905-381-1441

BURLINGTON STUDENT THEATRE

**Jane Eyre - the musical**

Friday, May 27th and Saturday, May 28th  
\$12 per person

Senior Mainstage, Nelson High School, New Street, Burlington  
Reservations call: 905-637-6000

DRURY LANE THEATRICAL PRODUCTIONS

**The 25th annual**

**Old Tyme Music Hall**

Feb 3 thru Mar 12

**The Boyfriend**

May 6 thru 28.

at "The Loft", 2269 New St, Burlington.

For information, call the box office at 905 637-3979.

THEATRE BURLINGTON

**Vigil by Morris Panych**

(festival entry)

Feb. 4-5,10-11-12-(13\*2 pm mat.)  
17-18-19 2005

**Ethan Claymore by Norm Foster**

April 22-23, 28-29-30 May 5-6-7 2005

Curtain 8.00 pm  
Drama Centre, next to the library, Central Park

\$17 Over 60's and Students \$15  
P: 905-637-1728

## Workshops and Classes

BURLINGTON STUDENT THEATRE  
**Registration for Burlington Student Theatre Summer Performing Arts Camp**

Little Performers 6 – 8 years  
Artscamp 9 – 15 years

Camp runs

July 4-15 – *Les Miserables*

July 18-29 – *Jekyll and Hyde*

For more information, see the City of Burlington Recreation and Leisure Guide (available April)

Or call 905-637-6000

CANADIAN ACTORS SYMPOSIUM  
**Canadian Actors Symposium for Adults & Kids!**

April 23, 2005 (ADULTS)

April 24, 2005 (KIDS)

10:00 am to 7:00 pm  
Marcello's Banquet and Conference Centre

Admission charge: Call for details  
Contact: (905) 681-9886 or  
Toll Free 1-888-681-1990  
www.actorsymposium.com

Film and Television Casting & Audition event for aspiring and professional Actors to meet and audition for Top Toronto Casting Director's and Talent Agents.

Actors audition for current roles and receive valuable feedback and critique from the professionals on their auditions. We are looking for talent committed to a career in the Film & Television Arts.

Talent with theatre credits and training in the performing arts such as Theatre/Drama, Music/Voice, are preferred however experience is not required.

Representation by the Talent Agency is based on the final audition and feedback from Casting Directors. Adults and Kids from all cultural backgrounds are welcome!

## Make-up date for snowed-out concert

Drury Lane's January 23 concert, cancelled due to the snow storm, has been re-scheduled for March 25, and 26.

Current ticket holders have a choice of dates and should call 905 637-3979 immediately to re-schedule.

Since the cancelled show was sold out, the upside is that another complete performance has been added and anyone who would like to attend should also call.

## Local performer gets dream(coat) gig

Burlington's Dave Stempin - a mainstay at Drury Lane Theatre and other venues around town - has landed the part of Jacob the Patriarch in Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat.

The rousing musical runs February 24 thru April 24 at Stage West in Mississauga.

For more information and tickets, visit [stagewest.com](http://stagewest.com) or call (905) 238-0042 or 800-263-0684.

## Busy Times at the Drama Centre

Director Tom Mackan and cast, Vincenzo Guerriero and Patricia Howlett, hope you'll all come to see Morris Panych's dark comedy, *Vigil*, during February.

It's the latest production of Theatre Burlington at the Drama Centre in Central Park.



Patricia Howlett plays Grace and Vincenzo Guerriero is Kemp in the production of VIGIL by Morris Panych.

Dying is not a laughing matter, to be sure, but enduring life to the death can be pretty hilarious when written well by a comic master. Temper that with a touch of regret in just the right places, and your black comedy can be a few dollars well-spent. We hope to see you there.

You risk missing a very good show. Yet another Dani Podetz set to inspire, along with Toms' genius as director and two very fine actors. Remember opening night is half price to members of all the local theatre groups.

Check it out; you won't be sorry you came.

Feb. 4-5, 10-11-12-13\*(2.00 pm mat.) then 17-18-19.

Box Office 905 637-1728 \$17.00 over 60's \$15.00

On Thursday, February 17, Brian Van Norman, the travelling adjudicator for the Western Ontario Drama League, will be judging the show. Brian knows his business, so why not pit your opinion against his. There will be a brief public adjudication then private in depth for cast and crew.

The Spring production is Norm Foster's *Ethan Claymore*, directed by Al French another successful director in the area. It is another hilarious fun show from this well-known author and a great way to celebrate the season. Maybe this year we can get to use the air conditioning! Nice warm thought in the midst of winter.

The show runs April 22-23,28-29-30, May 5-6-7 at 8 p.m. Tickets are on sale now. Please join us. 905 637-1728

visit us at [www.performingartsburlington.com](http://www.performingartsburlington.com)

## Busy year past, Busier year to come for Student Theatre

Communities can and must grow their own creative and innovative citizens. The arts and culture provide opportunities for personal and creative skill development, particularly by children and youth. Public recreation is one of the primary vehicles to ensure equity of access. Programs and projects created in partnership with artists and cultural organizations can be particularly powerful and effective.

At Student Theatre we cultivate our own creative and innovative citizens by getting them involved in their own community.

Our outreach for the 2004-2005 seasons has included: \* The Cycle for Autism \* Bronte Creek Halloween Capers \* New Years Eve at Central Park \* MasterCard Holiday Helpers \* Inclusive Cities, Velocity, Downtown Waterfront Focus Groups \* Federation of Canadian Municipalities Conference

Our Upcoming Events include: \* The Central Park Labyrinth Grand Opening Celebrations \* The Carpenter Hospice Gala \* The Kiwanis Festival \* The Senior Mainstage Musical - "Jane Eyre" May 27 & 28 \* Registration for Performing Artscamp Featuring - "Les Miserables" & "Jekyll & Hyde"

Through arts and culture, our students continue to make a difference every day.

## Concert Band has many uses for grant from Ontario Trillium Foundation

The Burlington Concert Band is delighted to announce that it is the recipient of a \$57,000 grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

The grant will go to purchase new percussion and specialty instruments for enhanced performances, to create additional storage facilities, to stimulate further corporate support and to provide increased promotional and marketing capacity.

The new instruments will make their debut at The Band's concert to honour the 60th anniversary of VE Day. The concert is on Sunday, May 1 at 7:30 p.m. at the Burlington Convention Centre. The event will feature displays of WW II memorabilia and model vintage aircraft and will welcome the return of The Big Brant Swing Band for everyone's dancing pleasure to the Big Band hits of the '40s.

For ticket information, contact Bob Brown at 905-639-1722 or by email at [bobbrown@cogeco.ca](mailto:bobbrown@cogeco.ca).

## Aldershot Players provide a little "Self Help"

Self-Help, a farce by Canada's most-produced playwright, Norm Foster, will be brought to life by The Aldershot Players for three weekends, April 8th to April 23rd.

The show centres around Hal and Cindy Savage, a down-on-their-luck acting couple who discover there are riches to be made in the motivational speaker circuit.

To reserve seats please call the TAP line at: (905) 381-1441. For dinner and show nights, tickets are \$30 per person. For the April 14th show-only night, tickets are \$15.

## PAB member is part of Sunday fun days

Michael Keys, a member of PAB's Communications Committee, is helping liven up the dinner hour every Sunday as part of the Legendary Ronnie Russell Show Band.

Keys, formerly of Robbie Lane & the Disciples and The Cat, is on keyboards and vocals for the band that delivers rockabilly, rock and roll, the blues and some R&B for your dining and dancing pleasure at Milner's Eatery and Entertainment Emporium at 484 Plains Road East, a mile west of Brant Street.

Dine and dance from 4:30 till 8 p.m. every Sunday. For more information on this and other Michael Keys appearances, please visit [www.michaelkeys.com](http://www.michaelkeys.com).

## Widespread public support For new performance centre *Burlington residents want a performing arts theatre. Big time.*

That was the message from an extensive survey conducted for the city by G.L. Pothier Enterprises Inc.

### **Among the highlights:**

- 78% of respondents thought the theatre an excellent or good idea. 39% said it was excellent
- 83% support the funding plan
- 78% said an additional property tax charge of \$5 (on a house assessed at \$250,000) is reasonable to finance the centre's construction
- 83% said they are generally supportive of the arts
- 79% said someone in their household had attended a live indoor performance in the last 12 months. 13% had attended 10 or more performances
- of those 71% went to Toronto, 44% to Hamilton, 24% Burlington, 19% Oakville
- more than a quarter of respondents said someone in their household was involved in a performing arts group
- 84% of respondents indicated that they would likely attend a performance at the proposed PAC, with 49% saying they are very likely to attend
- 82% of respondents believe that a new PAC will strengthen Burlington's identity as a creative, vibrant and progressive community

## Members speak up

*A big thank you to PAB members who wrote to the city in support of the Performing Arts Centre project.*

Here is the list of members whose letters were reported by the city at the time committee considered the project:

- Brott Musical Festivals and National Academy Orchestra of Canada
- Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra
- Drury Lane Theatrical Productions Inc.
- Theatre Burlington
- The Aldershot Players
- Burlington Concert Band
- Burlington Teen Tour Band Boosters
- Burlington Roadshow
- Shamrock Academy of Dance Inc.
- Aspects of Dance
- Burlington Civic Chorale
- Burlington Junior Redcoats and Tradition and Technology Band
- The MacLeod of Lewis Arts Centre and the MacLeod of Lewis Celtic Dancers
- McCarthy School of Dance
- Burlington Ballet Company
- Hamilton Catholic District School Board
- Mrs. Nel Bolton, member of PAB
- Mr. Fred Sweeney
- Thelma Skalinsky of the Burlington Footnotes and Company
- Penny Furgal of the Burlington Footnotes and Company
- Alan Stewart-Soden of the Burlington Footnotes and Company
- Shirley and Doug McConnell of the Burlington Footnotes and Company
- Pia Foss-Pederson of the Burlington Footnotes and Company
- Barb Mantle of the Burlington Footnotes and Company
- Margaret Eggertson of the Burlington Footnotes and Company
- Sundance Studios
- Tartan Terrors
- A Different Drummer Book Store

## Watch for the next newsletter... our spring issue!

**Deadline is May 2nd for submissions**

Have a story to tell or an event to publicize,  
please send an e-mail to [anthony.carlson@bell.ca](mailto:anthony.carlson@bell.ca).

**Join PAB Today!**

Call 905-631-6666

[www.performingartsburlington.com](http://www.performingartsburlington.com)



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