

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

YOUNG PEOPLE'S THEATRE ANNOUNCES EYE-POPPIN' NEW SEASON
8 Great Shows including *Mary Poppins – The Broadway Musical* and the return of *Sharon & Bram!*

TORONTO, ON (April 25, 2018) – Artistic Director **Allen MacInnis** and Executive Director **Nancy J. Webster** are delighted to reveal the **2018/19 playbill** at **Young People's Theatre (YPT)**. The new season will feature eight outstanding shows on two stages, including two world premieres, a Broadway musical and a timely adaptation of a Greek classic. This year YPT is exploring the notion of kids fixing things for themselves, and ultimately making change in their world.

YPT is thrilled to open the season with a celebration of a very special anniversary with two performers who are near and dear to the company: **Sharon Hampson** and **Bram Morrison!** 2018 marks 40 years since **Sharon, Lois & Bram** launched their career on YPT's Mainstage.

SHARON, BRAM & FRIENDS – A 40th Anniversary Sing-Along Celebration
MAINSTAGE | Sept. 28-Oct. 3, 2018 | Recommended for All Ages

Skinnamarink your way to Front Street for a concert that's sure to delight fans young and old!

WHAT IF ROMEO & JULIET...

Created & Directed by Jackie Gosselin

Produced by DynamO Théâtre

MAINSTAGE | Oct. 10-19, 2018 | Recommended for Ages 9 & up | French Performances available!

YPT welcomes back the exuberantly physical DynamO Théâtre to explore how *Romeo and Juliet* might have ended differently. Would different choices have altered the worst outcomes of rivalry and prejudice?

The YPT Production of
Disney and Cameron Mackintosh's

MARY POPPINS

A Musical based on the stories of P.L. Travers and the Walt Disney Film

Original Music and Lyrics by Richard M. Sherman and Robert B. Sherman

Book by Julian Fellowes

New Songs and Additional Music and Lyrics by George Stiles and Anthony Drewe

Co-Created by Cameron Mackintosh

Directed by Thom Allison

Choreographed by Kerry Gage

MAINSTAGE | Nov. 5, 2018-Jan. 6, 2019 | Recommended for Ages 5 & up | **Holiday Musical!**

Jane and Michael's father insists upon precision and order in their household. That's no fun! So when the children write their own advertisement for a nanny – we get Mary Poppins! The beloved movie arrives as a fun-filled musical just in time for the holidays!

Mary Poppins is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.MTIShows.com

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THE CODE

By Rachel Aberle

Directed by Patrick McDonald

Produced by Green Thumb Theatre

STUDIO | Nov. 27-Dec. 14, 2018 | Recommended for Ages 13 & up

A student-instigated protest leads to unexpected fallout. **The Code** examines complex questions about loyalty, accountability and taking power.

WE ARE ALL TREATY PEOPLE

Created by the Artists of Making Treaty 7

A Co-production between Quest Theatre & the Making Treaty 7 Cultural Society

MAINSTAGE | Feb. 11-22, 2019 | Recommended for Ages 6 & up

Two children – one Indigenous, one white – are told by the Trickster they cannot be friends. But his words inspire them to prove him wrong. Using history, song, story, dance and puppetry, this inspiring production embraces Truth and Reconciliation, forging understanding across cultures.

THE 26 LETTER DANCE

Created, directed and co-choreographed by H el ene Langevin

Co-choreographed by Jean-Fran ois L egar e

Produced by Bouge de l a

MAINSTAGE | Feb. 26-Mar. 16, 2019 | Recommended for Ages 4-8 | **French Performances available!**

This inventive, interactive show inspires kids to dance to the beat of their own drum – based on the alphabet! Bouge de l a takes us on a journey through the world of letters and words in a unique experience that’s contemporary and poetic – and just great fun!

UNDER THE STAIRS

Written by Kevin Dyer

Music by Reza Jacobs

Directed by Micheline Chevrier

MAINSTAGE | Apr. 1-17, 2019 | Recommended for Ages 8 & up | **World Premiere!**

In this beautiful semi-musical, the cupboard under the stairs is a magical place, providing young Tim with refuge from Mom & Dad’s bickering. But there are other kids in there too ... and together they discover secrets that will repair the turmoil in Tim’s house.

ANTIGONE: 方

Written by Jeff Ho

Directed by Stephen Colella & Karen Gilodo

MAINSTAGE | Apr. 29-May 16, 2019 | Recommended for Ages 12 & up | **World Premiere!**

A fresh and timely adaptation of the classic Greek story, inspired by the 2014 student umbrella protest in Hong Kong and the 1989 uprising in Tiananmen Square. In this riveting play, “re-education” awaits anyone who questions the state’s traditional doctrine. But in the courage of a young woman, there is hope for the future...

SAVE WITH SHOW COMBOS & GROUP TICKETS FOR A LIMITED TIME – ON SALE APRIL 25

Families: Save up to 50% with Show Combos – on sale now. Single tickets on sale Monday, June 4th.

Educators: Book now and save with the Season Launch Special! Tickets just \$13 each incl. HST (reg. \$16)

One FREE teacher/supervisor ticket with every 20 student tickets purchased.

For details, please visit YOUNGPEOPLESTHEATRE.CA or call 416.862.2222 x2.

Media Contact:

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YOUNG PEOPLE'S THEATRE is the oldest professional theatre company in Toronto and is a national producer and presenter of theatre for young audiences – the first and largest of its kind in Canada. Over the past 52 years YPT has staged many of the most important plays that form the canon of work for youth in our country. The enriched learning experiences of YPT's Education & Participation Department also provide young people with opportunities to develop their whole being. At Young People's Theatre we strive for a positive and lasting impact on the emotional, social, and intellectual development of young people – giving them the chance to grow into the unique and wonderful people they were born to be.

Young People's Theatre is embarking upon *Room for Imagination* – a \$42 million comprehensive campaign to build a new home. YPT has been operating for the last four decades in a re-purposed Heritage building owned by the City of Toronto. Today, the Company is bursting at the seams. It is time to create a child-friendly, state of the art facility to ensure long-term sustainability for an already financially-successful children's charity. The province of Ontario has recently committed **\$13.8 million** to this project.