

2024/25 Season At-A-Glance for Educators

Venue	Production	Dates	Student Mat.	Brief Synopsis	Topics	Content Overview	Age Recc.
John Hirsch Mainstage	<b>The Play That Goes Wrong</b> By Henry Lewis, Jonathan Sayer & Henry Shields Directed by Dennis Garnhum A co-production with Citadel Theatre & Theatre Calgary	Oct 17 - Nov 11 2023	Thu Oct 31 and Thu Nov 7, 11:30 am	Despite their spotty track record, the Cornley Drama Society has high hopes for their new production. "The Murder at Haversham Manor" should be a real crowd pleaser - who doesn't love a mystery set in a grand house? But if you believe this show will go off without a hitch, you'd be dead wrong. Thwarted by missing props, a malfunctioning set and some questionable acting choices, this ill-fated production unravels at an alarming rate. By the end of the show, solving a murder is the least of everyone's worries.	Comedy, theatre-making, mystery, play within a play	No strong language or explicit sexuality. Farcical violence, murder, infidelity, mild rude humour.  Unofficial run time estimate: 2 hours 10 minutes including intermission	Grade 6+
John Hirsch Mainstage	<b>Little Women</b> Based on the books <i>Little Women</i> & <i>Good Wives</i> by Louisa May Alcott Adapted for the stage by Jordi Mand Directed by Katie German	Nov 28 - Dec 23 2023	Thu Dec 5 and Thu Dec 12, 11:30 am	In 1860s Massachusetts, Jo March and her sisters struggle to make ends meet as their father serves in the Civil War. While Marmee bestows the virtue of self-sacrifice on her daughters, Jo, Meg, Beth and Amy must learn to navigate the complicated and exciting world of adulthood – discovering the path of who they each truly are. Filled with adventure, heartbreak and a deep sense of hope, the tale of these sisters has inspired generations of independent young women to trust their voice in a world trying to shape them. With buoyant and memorable characters, this is a new adaptation of a timeless classic.	Growth, hope, family, goals and dreams, gender roles, navigating socioeconomic class, classic literature adaptation	No strong language or sexuality; there may be kisses. Depending on director choices, there may be depiction of drinking alcohol onstage. As scripted, Meg gives birth onstage. The Civil War and hardships of a soldier's life are discussed; slavery is mentioned as war's cause. Death of a character may be distressing. Jo's relationship does not include marriage – different than the book – otherwise there are no significant departures from source material known at this time.  Unofficial run time estimate: 2 hours 35 minutes including intermission.	Grade 6+
John Hirsch Mainstage	<b>Waitress</b> Book by Jessie Nelson   Music & Lyrics by Sara Bareilles Based upon the motion picture written by Adrienne Shelly Directed by Ann Hodges	Jan 8 - Feb 1 2024	Thu Jan 30 11:30 am	Jenna is a small-town waitress who puts all her passion into incredible pie-baking. When she finds herself pregnant in a dead-end relationship with her no-good husband, and falling fast for her quirky new OB/GYN, she realizes she must address her life, and find her true self in a world that has been passing her by. A baking contest is announced in a nearby county could be the opportunity for a fresh start, but forging a path isn't as simple as mixing ingredients. With the support of her fellow waitresses, and one curmudgeonly regular, Jenna finds the strength to find herself in this Broadway hit musical.	Friendship, community, decisions, passion, chosen family, empowerment	Strong language, raunchy jokes, open talk about sex. Infidelity, spousal abuse, unwanted pregnancy; abortion is not fully explored but it is mentioned by a doctor as a possibility (and quickly dismissed).  Unofficial run time estimate: 2 hours 40 minutes including intermission.	Grade 10+
John Hirsch Mainstage	<b>Indecent</b> By Paula Vogel Directed by Kelly Thornton	Feb 12 - Mar 8 2025	Thu Mar 6 11:30 am	A play about real, dramatic history from a Pulitzer Prize winner featuring music, dance, and even comedy. In 1906, Polish-Jewish writer Sholem Asch pens <i>The God of Venegence</i> in Yiddish, about the love between a prostitute and the daughter of the brothel's owner. It's a hit in Europe, but in 1923 New York, the cast and producers are arrested for obscenity. Against the backdrop of Europe's descent into the Holocaust, stage manager Lemml takes the script back home to where it was once celebrated.	Based on historical events, immigration, artistic censorship, queer representation, antisemitism and intolerance, persecution, power of art, acceptance	No strong language. Lesbian relationships depicted, with some characters labelling them as "wrong," References to sex. <i>God of Vengeance</i> , a real play represented within <i>Indecent</i> , has a brothel and prostitutes. The scene performed from this shows a man preparing to throw a Torah to the ground. Antisemitism and intolerance are depicted, and reference to death and destruction of Jewish people.  Unofficial run time estimate: 1 hour 45 minutes, no intermission.	Grade 10+
John Hirsch Mainstage	<b>Casey and Diana</b> By Nick Green Directed by Andrew Kushnir A co-production with Theatre Aquarius	Mar 19 - April 12 2025	Thu April 10 11:30 am	Thomas wasn't planning to be at Casey House much longer but an upcoming visit from Princess Diana gives him reason to stick around and rally the other residents to hang on - for just seven more days. But in hospice, a week is a long time. Thomas entertains with gallows humour, his roommate frets about unfinished business and they both struggle with family relationships. Inspired by Princess Diana's historic visit to Toronto's Casey House in 1991, <i>Casey and Diana</i> is a moving and surprisingly funny portrait of the men at the heart of the AIDS crisis, their devoted caregivers, and the 'People's Princess' who had the compassion to hold their hands when no one else would.	Based on true events, compassion, community, LGBTQ+ life, dignity, stigma, AIDS, magical realism	Some strong language. Mature themes including AIDS, death and dying, and family rifts. Brief references to sex, but it is not a focus – the phrases "dirty magazines" and "cruising in the park" are used.  Unofficial run time estimate: 2 hours 40 minutes including intermission.	Grade 9+
John Hirsch Mainstage	<b>ELEVATE: Manaaji ' idiwin</b> World Premiere By David McLeod Directed by Herbie Barnes	April 23 - May 17 2025	N/A	What happens when your elevator gets stuck on the way to a high-profile meeting? That is just what Jonesie and Tallahassee are about to find out! As tempers rise, the space shrinks and becomes a pressure cooker as the men struggle to get it back up and running. Told with hilarious hijinks, the two attempt a series of adventurous escapes, and through these mishaps, a brutal and biting funny conversation about power emerges. As this is a world premiere, more information relevant to educators will be communicated as it's discovered!	Judgement, prejudice, bias, hard truths, Indigenous play, highjinks comedy	NOTE: script in progress; this reflects the January 2024 script. Strong language, racism. Run time unknown – world premiere.	Grade 10+

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Tom Hendry Warehouse	<b>The Recipe</b> By Armin Wiebe Directed by Ardith Boxall A co-production with Theatre Projects Manitoba	Nov 6 - 23, 2024	N/A	After a whirlwind romance, Oata sets her sights – and her heart – on life with Yasch, until he reveals his obsession with skinny Sadie Nickel. Tired of being overlooked and busy running her family's farm, Oata wants nothing to do with either of them. But when Sadie arrives at her door, distraught and in desperate need of help, Oata must wrestle with the power of choice. As she reluctantly agrees to assist Sadie with the help of a special family recipe, Oata discovers the power of female friendship and reassesses her own abundant assets. Does Oata need pants with a man in them to run a farm?	Prairie Gothic, independence, choice, 1960s, Women supporting women, confronting insecurities and biases	Mature themes including abortion (though the word is not said), sexism, and a relationship involving an underage girl and young man Oata “lives in a larger body” which affects how people see her/her status.  Unofficial run time estimate: Unknown at this time.	Grade 11+
Tom Hendry Warehouse	<b>Mix Tapes from my Mom</b> Written & performed by Cory Wojcik Featuring a live band Directed by Trish Cooper	Jan 29 - Feb 15, 2025	N/A	It was the best, worst day of his life. Winnipeg theatre veteran Cory Wojcik, backed by a band of incredible musicians, shares a deeply personal story of the day he travelled back and forth between two hospitals, for two very different reasons. A rocking soundtrack paired with a story so unbelievable it could only be true, <i>Mix Tapes From My Mom</i> is a testament to the love of family, and the ways we are able to share it. It's a concert. It's a show. It's real.	Storytelling, memory, family, loss, music	Some strong language; mature content including Death and dying/losing a parent (not depicted onstage), cancer and chemo, mention of teen pregnancy, mention of alcohol as “liquid courage”, difficult birth/baby in distress (also not depicted onstage) – spoiler, that turns out okay.  Unofficial run time estimate: 1 hour 50 minutes, OR 90 minutes with no intermission; discussion is underway.	Grade 10+ Younger may not find it as engaging.
Tom Hendry Warehouse	<b>King James</b> By Rajiv Joseph Directed by Ray Strachan	Mar 5 – 22, 2025	N/A	Matt's been going to Cleveland Cavaliers games since he was six, so having to sell his season tickets to someone he's never met to make some cash is like giving a piece of his heart away. To add insult to injury, the Cavs are showing promise with LeBron 'King' James now holding court. But Matt and Shawn become fast friends. As the team's fortunes rise and fall, they go through their own highs and lows. At the end of the day, they'll never agree on Jordan vs. LeBron but they're diehard fans and tight as brothers. If one of them goes out of bounds with something they say, they'll always bounce back – right? An exploration of a deep friendship told in four quarters over 12 years.	(Male) friendship, bonding, basketball, life lessons, self-discovery	Strong language. Mention of death of an animal. Content likely appropriate for slightly younger viewers but they may not find it as engaging or relatable  Unofficial run time estimate: 2 hours.	Grade 10+
Tom Hendry Warehouse	<b>Murder for Two</b> Book & Music by Joe Kinosian   Book & Lyrics by Kellen Blair Directed by Chase Winnicky	April 2 - 19, 2025	Wed April 16 11:30 am	A high-energy musical whodunit, <i>Murder for Two</i> is a blend of classical musical comedy and a murder mystery with a twist, where two actors play a dozen different characters - and a piano. Marcus Moscovicz is small town police officer and an aspiring detective. Moments before the surprise birthday party for renowned author Arthur Whitney, shots are fired, and the writer is killed! Marcus seizes the opportunity to showcase his sleuthing, with the assistance of his silent partner Lou. Now, the question remains: with a collection of wildly unhelpful (and just plain wild) suspects, who could be the culprit?	Mystery, music, vaudeville, theatricality, comedy	Minimal strong language, some crass humour. Mature content including innuendo/references to sex, infidelity, disparaging remarks about being fat, murder.  Unofficial run time estimate: 1 hour 40 minutes, no intermission.	Grade 9+