

ANNIVERSARY
1993 - 2023
DIWC
GALA

HONOURING THREE DECADES OF INCLUSIVE THEATRE
PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH

- *7 pm, December 29th, 2023*
- *Darke Hall - 2255 College Avenue*

Featuring DIWC alumni, current DIWC members,
and DIWC Artistic Director, Robert Ursan.



CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF DIWC MAGIC

WELCOME

to our 30th year celebration!



ROBERT URSAN
Artistic Director

Years ago, I was reading a book by Canadian philosopher Malcolm McLuhan. In this book was a sentence that struck me as something I was already living in everything I did in music and theatre:

"Anyone who makes a differentiation between education and entertainment doesn't know the first thing about either."

Any of the things I had learned to do well in my life had come from teachers with whom I laughed and verbally sparred and found endlessly fascinating. I was lucky, and not a little spoiled by them. But they left me with this one ringing thought: joy creates art and one can become addicted to that joy. Of course, there are endless hours of hard work and a host of trials that need to be overcome. Ultimately, though, it's the laughter and heartbreaking delight that have held me in thrall to this work, this company.

Do It With Class is my happy place. I know I will be challenged, and maddened, and thrilled, and moved in equal measure by every rehearsal, every performance and, most especially, every performer. The young people who throw themselves headlong into this company, this island of misfit toys, always seem to come out the other end with friendships and a fond, found family that can stand the heavily clichéd test of time. Now, to my ever-ageing chagrin, some of the children I taught years ago have their own children who are now on the island. I have become, in a theatrical way, a grandfather.

I wasn't there at the very beginning. I must thank Andorlie Hillstrom for setting this madness in motion and then handing over the reins to me. But for 28 of the 30 years, this has been my home, my heart.

I can't thank all of you alumni enough for the joy you have given me. I can't thank the parents enough for trusting me with your talented children. I can't thank everyone who has ever had moments of madness and given so freely of your time and efforts to help this company thrive from exceptional board members to the moms feeding cranky, tired ten-year-olds.

I am so thankful that I found my life inextricably entangled with Do It With Class.

THE PRODUCTION TEAM

Artistic Director – Robert Ursan
Stage Manager – Jacey Fahlman
Poster Design – Julio Salazar
Program – Edward Willett
Marketing/Communications – Martha Neovard



THE DIWC BOARD

Chair – Jennelle Hubick
Vice-Chair – Jennifer Calnek
Volunteer Coordinator – Cari van der Merwe
Marketing/Communications – Martha Neovard
School Matinee Coordinator – Krystal Safinuk
Ticket Manager – Cheryl Perron
Secretary – Stefanie Young
Treasurer – Jan-Paul Venter
Sponsorship/Fundraising Coordinator – Mike Smith
Member at Large/Treasurer Elect – Nick Schenher
Member at Large – Janessa Probe
Member at Large – Valentina May

30th Anniversary Gala Committee

Gayle Dodds, Kathy Hillman-Weir,
Shaylene Salazar, Jamie Shaheen,
Virginia Wilkinson

THE PERFORMERS

Alumni and current members of DIWC

DIWC ALUMNI (Live)

Rachel Drews
Ali Dederick
Sydney Ell
Aliah Elliott
Veronica Exner
Julia Funke
Wayne Gwillim
Declan Hewitt
Kieran Kennedy
Seanna Knudsen
Benjamin Korol
Joel Kuntz
Ryland Lukiwski
Daniel Luzar
Anneka McLaren
Natasha Mueller
Deanna Patterson
Ryan Ramsay
Emily Ready
Victor Salazar
Zach Sauer
Nathan Sgrazutti
Jamie Shaheen
Matthew Schermann
Meika Sonntag



PLEASE JOIN US
*for a very special
complimentary reception
and presentation
following the show.*

Haley Tonita
Kayden Tonita
Juan Marcos Tonita
Ilana van der Merwe
Jahrus Weir
Kayla Weir
Logan Weir
Alice Willett
Braeden Woods
Garrett Woods
Chelsea Woodard
Claire Wright
Amy Zarzeczny

DIWC ALUMNI (Video)

Ceiligh Dodds
Kyle Golemba
Griffin Hewitt
Tatiana Maslany
Tatiana Maslany, Amy Matysio, Sabryn Rock
Paul Nolan
Zach Smadu
Orlando Salazar
Mayson Sonntag
Tahirih Vejdani

CURRENT DIWC MEMBERS

Jessica Adelman, Shawn Alberts, Camdyn Agopsowicz, Jill Cotter Badger, Bailey Book, Roisin Brennan, lylah Brown, Halle Calnek, Simon Calnek, Norah Campbell, Stella Campbell, Matea Currie, Sloan Hallet, Chloe Brûlé-Head, Sydney Hershmillier, Camden Husband, Chloe Kosek, Alyse Kucher, Kinsley Lukiwski, Olivia Martuo McDonnell, Abbeygail May, Eden McDonald, Smith Myers, Ari Neovard, Isabel (Izzy) Neovard, Annelise Ottenbreit-Born, Owen Parkin, Alexander (Alex) Perron, Lilah Pirost, Isla Probe, Myalle Roffey, Alerah Ross, Kason Roysum, Dylan Safinuk, Leo Sawatzky, Lucy Schenher, Toren Senyonga, Grace Smith, Scarlett Suttill, Aminah Tayapad, Heidi van der Merwe, Nania van der Merwe, Lily Whitequill, Kendal Wilford, Desmond Young



COME SEE OUR NEXT SHOW!

The world premiere of the new musical

THE HOUSE AT POOH CORNER

by Robert Ursan

MARCH 20-24, 2024

University Theatre, Dr. William Ridell Centre, University of Regina

Watch our website and Facebook page for the opening of ticket sales!

OUR SPONSORS

who make all this possible

PERFORMANCE SPONSOR



GALA SPONSORS

