## NOTABLE

**24THANNUAL SUMMER** THEATRE FESTIVAL ACTS

JUL 24-AUG 3, 2025



FREDERICTON, NB



**FEATURING 16 NEW PLAYS BY NEW BRUNSWICK PLAY WRIGHTS** 



























#### TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We recognize and respectfully acknowledge that tonight's show is performed on the traditional unceded territory of the Wolastoqiyik, Mi'kmaq, and Peskotomuhkati peoples This territory is covered by the "Treaties of Peace and Friendship" which these nations first signed with the British Crown in 1726.

The treaties did not deal with the surrender of lands and resources, but in fact recognized Mi'kmaq and Wolastoqiyik title and established the rules for what was to be an ongoing relationship between nations.

In the spirit of supporting and engaging with local Indigenous communities and artists, here are some causes and organizations we're contributing to or recommend:

Wolastoqey Language Fund: A designated fund established by Ulnooweg Indigenous Communities Foundation to support the revitalization and preservation of the language.

ulnoowegfoundation.ca/wolastoqey-language-fund Indspire: Indspire is an Indigenous national charity that invests in the education of First Nations, Inuit and Métis people for the long-term benefit of these individuals, their families and communities, and Canada.

indspire.ca/programs/

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#### MAINSTAGE SHOWS! TILT

#### CREATED AND PERFORMED BY JEAN-MICHEL CLICHE & ALEX RIOUX

JULY 24-25 | 7:30PM | MEMORIAL HALL, UNB

**Director**Lisa Anne Ross **Stage Manager/Technical Improvisor** Georgia Priestly-Brown

#### CAST

Performer Performer Jean-Michel Cliche Alex Rioux

#### **WRITER'S NOTE:**

neally good art is easy to come by these days. Most of us Thave access to streaming services with fantastic shows and movies, or own a high-performance gaming console, or have a stack of award-winning books on our shelf. We're constantly surrounded by amazing works — All from the comfort of our home! As theatre artists, we could be cynical about this over-saturation of easily accessible masterworks. Instead, Solo Chicken has decided to take this as a challenge! How do we make work that is not only worth leaving the house for, but impossible to experience in any other format? How do we make every piece of theatre extraordinary? TILT is a hybrid performance – Part physical theatre and part improv comedy. The first half of the performance is always the same. Midway through the show, you, the audience, will provide the show's big twist. From that point on, every part of the show - story, movement, lights, sound - will be entirely improvised. Doing TILT is a tightrope walk, balancing the audience's suggestion with all that has been established up until that point in the story. We try to execute it with poise and grace. We mostly succeed! That chance of failure is what makes improv thrilling. Everyone, audience and performers alike, are asking "How the hell is this going to work out?" and no one knows... yet. That shared excitement is something you can only find when you come out as a community and take a chance on live art!

#### **DIRECTOR'S NOTE:**

It's hard to write a coherent director's note when you have 'directed' a play that is only 1/3 scripted! Jean-Michel, Alex and Georgia are a finely oiled improv machine that now run on skill, hilarious audience prompts, and gumption. However, it has been delightful to see what was once a figment of JM's imagination come to fruition. This show beautifully combines the incredible skills of the artists into one heartfelt, gut-achingly funny romp and I enjoy watching it every – single - time. I'm pretty sure you can sum up my directing contribution to, 'hey what about moving the furniture around more during the improv part', but I'm still super proud to be part of this!

#### **CRANE GIRL**

**BY Alexa Higgins** 

AUGUST 2, 7:30PM | AUGUST 3, 2:00PM & 7:30PM MEMORIAL HALL, UNB

DirectorAlexa HigginsStage ManagerEve GignacProduction DesignIan Ottis GoffSound DesignIan Ottis Goff

#### **CAST**

Jane Jon/Evan/Wide-Legged Guy Kira/Laura/Police Officer Alexa Higgins Ian Ottis Goff Katherine Cappellacci

#### **WRITER/DIRECTOR'S NOTE:**

rane Girl was written as a response to three intersecting election of Donald Trump in 2016, and a news story about a woman who free climbed a crane in the middle of Toronto. I can remember exactly where I was when it became clear that Trump was going to be elected. I can remember exactly how I felt, how the floor felt sucked out from beneath me. You probably remember how you felt, too. You probably remembered, again, this past November. I can remember several times in my own life where what I believed to be sadness hardened into something else, something women are repeatedly told to tamp down, to keep in check, to overcome: anger. And I can remember the wonder I felt when I read about a woman climbing a crane in a giant city in the middle of the night. *Crane Girl* is an exploration of all of this, and more. Though this piece was inspired by a news event, it is an entirely fictional story. And it's funny, and bizarre, just like life.

This play has been in development for several years. It took root in a playwright's course, had a staged reading in 2023, and won the Best New Play Award from the Hamilton Fringe, where it premiered just two weeks ago. It has been a cathartic pleasure developing this show. Actors Katherine Cappellacci and Ian Ottis Goff have elevated the work with boundless skill and enthusiasm. Ian's sound design and production design have brought this crane and her girl to soaring new heights. Though not on this leg of the tour, our Hamilton-leg stage manager Daniel Entz and our all-star swing Kira Chisholm were invaluable in the process. Thank you to all of these artists, and a huge thank you to Len Falkenstein, Trent Logan, Eve Gignac, and the NotaBle Acts Theatre Festival for inviting us back to share more of our weird work.

Most of all, thank you, our audience, for joining us for this production of *Crane Girl*. I sincerely hope you enjoy the climb.

Alexa

## **ACTING OUT!**

#### TWO ONE-ACT PLAYS

JULY 30 - AUGUST 1 | 7:30PM | MEMORIAL HALL, UNB

#### SINKING BY BRANDON HICKS

Director Rhett Ellis

**Stage Manager/Technical Direction/** 

**Production Design** Pluto Shaw

#### CAST

**Harry Auerbach** Dillon Matchet Vivian Auerbach Millie Everett **Abby Auerbach** Ella Coulombe **Daniel Kobel** Alex Fullerton

#### **WRITER'S NOTE:**

There are three things that worry everybody I know—climate change, the housing crisis, and generational strife. With Sinking, I threw all of these things into a blender, to see how they'd mix. The result is anxiety-inducing, frustrating and, hopfully, very funny. For my first one-act with NotaBle Acts. I wanted to do something that is distinct to this area, and I have no doubts that many Frederictonians can relate.

**Brandon** 

#### **DIRECTOR'S NOTE:**

Cinking has been an absolute pleasure to work on over this Dlast month. More and more our generation must stare down a future that seems undoubtedly worse than the past. Will we be able to own a home like our parents and their parents before them? Will we be able to give our children the same quality of life that we had? *Sinking* deals with these fears and puts them in the context of a multigenerational family in a flooding home. The playwright, Brandon Hicks, has crafted a truly phenomenal play and I am honored to be given the chance to bring it to life. This cast has been a pleasure to work with, filled with NBActs Veterans and Newcomers. They've made this Herculean task so much more manageable. And of course, I've got to thank our stage manager, Pluto, who has been incredible throughout this whole process, putting up with my outlandish nitpicks and requests.

Thank you for coming to our production of *Sinking* and

Rhett

supporting NBActs. I hope you enjoy!

## 32 SHORT PLAYS ABOUT FREDERICTON

**BY GILLSALMON** 

**Director**Stage Manager/Technical Direction/
Production Design
Naomi McGowan
Mimi Martin

#### CAST

Coleman Hatfield

Gondolier/Frederictonian/
Chad Woodstove/Sheila Lewis/
Sketch Artist/Stanton Friedman

Frankenstein (Puppeteered)/
Frederictonian/Churchgoer/
Donna Martin/Tinsel/Giant Hand
Frederictonian/Churchgoer/
Mae B/Alice/Steven Spielberg

Maddax Hughson

Maddax Hughson

Brennan Garnett

Brenna Gauthier

Shannon Munn

#### **WRITER'S NOTE:**

The idea for this play came to me when thinking about the Coleman Frog (as I often do) and the fact that I regularly mistake something for something else. What if the Coleman Frog was just a guy with a giant pompadour doing yoga on The Green? From there, I began collecting other Fredericton

lore, things that I've heard since moving here and things that may or may not be true. And what if these things all tied back to that same guy doing yoga? A play was born.

The play, while discussing a brief history of Fredericton, also gets pretty existential, when the questions arise of why the Narrator is the one who is addressing the audience, and who is the main character, and who/what actually exists (not unlike the tales discussed in the play). Who is pulling the strings? With a chaotic number of characters being played by 3 actors and one with big main character energy, I hope that I (as Narrator) can answer some questions that you may have about some of your favourite Fredericton tales.

Gill

#### **DIRECTOR'S NOTE:**

bsolute chaos, a fondness for home and the importance Aof telling your own story. These feelings apply to both the NotaBle Acts Theatre Festival and this wonderful comedy. 32 Short Stories. This play showcases the lore of Fredericton and shows how everyday events can twist into epic myths far out of our control. I think it's easy to feel a lot of anxiety around what the future holds-to grip the wheel tight and try to force the car into a direction of your choice. In directing this play, I wanted to create comfort in the chaos. Even if we don't know where we're headed, a good story is unfolding; and sometimes, if we let go a little, we can enjoy it. The characters are vibrant and eccentric, standing out against a plainer backdrop. This is to show that it's the people who make the stories that shape the place. Fredericton is not special because of its buildings and streets but because of what we've shared here. It's the relationships, the time spent and the care given that makes something truly matter.

A comedy is impossible to direct without light-hearted people. Thank you to the team for leaning in, making bold choices and being so fun to be around. Special thank you to Mimi for handling the mile long props, costume and set list without even an eye twitch. And thanks to NotaBle & Gill for trusting me with the piece. Enjoy!

Naomi



**SCAN FOR MORE INFO** 

## TAKING IT TO THE STREETS! TEN MINUTE & SITE-SPECIFIC PLAYS

JULY 26-29 | 7:30PM | BEAVERBROOK ART GALLERY COURTYARD

Technical Director
Crew Assistant

Eve Gignac Ethan Stav

## FOLIE À DEUX BY DANI BRUN

**Director** Emily Bossé

#### CAST

JulesJordan ComeauMarieRachel DawsonPattyKarlie Curtis

#### **WRITER'S NOTE:**

**F**olie à Deux explores the lengths one might go to just to hang out with their favourite person. It was born as a silly sketch idea with my partner (art partner) and very best friend, and grew into a ridiculous little story about friendship, bad decisions, and a sprinkle of curses and conspiracies.

Dani

#### **BUS STOP BREAKUP**

**BY KYLA BREWER** 

**Director** 

**CAST** 

Alex Dawson

Alyssa Sadie Carol Ali Dejong Brenda Madill Kelsey Price

#### **WRITER'S NOTE:**

onnection is important, and as much as it may be a labour of love, motherhood can be a lonely slog. Gone are the days when neighbourhoods were teeming with stay-at-home parents ready to lend a hand, an ear, or a shoulder. These days, clicking with another parent can feel like a real win, but childhood is fleeting, and inflation is, unfortunately, very real. Bus Stop Breakup explores what happens as moms move through different life stages. Though I've never experienced such a "breakup" at a bus stop or elsewhere, as a mother of three, I have felt that loss of community (which isn't unique to motherhood). While "mom squads" may be trending, the truth is, sometimes relationships lapse - collateral damage of modern-day life. But take heart - all is not lost. Ultimately, the play is about how those critical connections change and how there may be hope after all. Kvla



BY BRANDON HICKS

Director

**CAST** 

Kat Hall

Mother Teenage Boy Player 1

Player 2

Kat Hall Felix Nocera Ryca McCullough Dino Andriani

#### **WRITER'S NOTE:**

Relating to your parents can be hard—almost as difficult as relating to your kids! *Don't Shoot Your Mother* is a short play about a parent doing her best to connect with her teenage son. This is my sixth ten-minute play with the festival. Even if you hated the other five, this could be the one to change your mind.

**Brandon** 

#### LAVENDER BREWS AND PATCHOULI

BY ERIN RUSSELL

**Director** 

Sophie Brander

#### **CAST**

Bree Jeanette Ella Murphy Diana Chávez

#### **WRITER'S NOTE:**

If you think all soap-makers and knitters are gentle souls, you've never worked a craft fair! I've spent plenty of time in these communities and am always surprised by how fierce the rivalries can be. There's something compelling in the mix of pride, pettiness, care, and competition that surfaces in artsy spaces and this play grew from that spark. Endless thanks to my 2021 playwriting class, where this piece first took shape, and to Beth for making the story stronger. I hope audiences leave thinking about the blurry lines between creation and ego, healing and performance, and how even the gentlest of offerings might be tangled up with spite.

Erin

## THE HAPPIEST DAY OF THEIR LIVES

BY ALEX MCALLISTER

**Director** Brie Sparks

**CAST** 

ClaireSophie BranderMikeIsaac Gilbert

#### **WRITER'S NOTE:**

There's so much more behind a photo than anyone can understand. When I look at my wedding photos, I see more than just the memory of that day. I see the chaos of planning the wedding, the buildup and excitement, the family drama, the last minute complications, and - most importantly - the ten-year journey that led up to that day. I became interested in the story behind these photos, and I wanted to write a play that explored that. Most of all, however, I wanted to write a play for the love of my life - Jessica. This play is for her, though I hope others enjoy it as well. To anybody who was at my wedding who is reading this now: this play's not about you; any similarity is only coincidental - ignore the fact this play is taking place where I took my wedding photos.

Alex

#### ON THE GROUNDS OF THE ASSEMBLY

BY BRENT WHITE

**Director** Len Falkenstein

CAST

Bert Landon Carnahan Ivy Scott Harris Joe Everett Katt Hall

#### **WRITER'S NOTE:**

Governments come and go, disappointing voters and themselves. As the Who sang, "meet the new boss, same as the old boss." Aspirational election platforms are quickly subsumed by the crisis of the day. Can we learn from history? In this play, two outsiders encounter a local MLA, teaching him important lessons from New Brunswick's past, including one time that New Brunswick really did have something resembling transformational change: Eddie Byrne's Commission reimagined government services and their funding model, while the public service was revamped and modernized under the concurrent advice of the Public Administration Service of Chicago, Illinois. Sixty years ago NB became a governance model. The Globe and Mail characterized the reforms as resounding "across the land," something for "other provinces to emulate." Unfortunately, in what Byrne called a double-cross, Premier Robichaud refused to go "all in," leaving us with problems that persist to this day.

**Brent** 

## FOR WHOM THE TROLL TOLLS

**BY ANDREW ALLEN** 

**Director** 

Alex McAllister

CAST

Spleen Crog Kit Dino Andriani Ryca McCullough Beatrix Culligan

#### **WRITER'S NOTE:**

For Whom the Troll Tolls is the first play I've written, and it has been an eye opening process. What started as a silly little play about trolls has morphed into this beautiful show about brotherhood and family loyalty. Yes, it is still a silly play about trolls, but with a lot of heart and charm added in. I hope everyone falls in love with Crog, Spleen and Kit while watching the play as much as I have while getting to know the characters through my writing.

#### PLAY OUT LOUD READINGS OF NEW PLAYS IN DEVELOPMENT

#### TRINITY GENERAL

**BY MERRIT JOHNSON** 

JULY 26 | 2PM | CHARLOTTE STREET ARTS CENTRE

Director Dramaturgy Neomi Iudit Anthony Bryan

#### **CAST**

Laney Jules Henry Circe Cain Raine O'Connor Grace Sappier

#### **WRITER'S NOTE:**

Trinity General began with a conversation I had with my cousin. She was in her third year of medical school and had encountered this case study about a teenaged boxer who got knocked out and could no longer form new memories. The patient had experienced severe depression prior to his brain injury. But since being admitted to a hospital, he seemed to be constantly happy. The question became whether or not to treat someone whose mental health could be impacted by their recovery. I've always had an interest in medical ethics. When I started my second year at STU's BlackBox Labs playwriting collective back in September, this seemed like the obvious story to write about.

Merrit

#### **HOLLOW PEACE**

#### **BY AADITYA VERMA**

#### JULY 26 | 2PM | CHARLOTTE STREET ARTS CENTRE

Director Dramaturgy Neomi Iudit Anthony Bryan

CAST

Elena Isaac Jonah Circe Cain Grace Sappier Raine O'Connor

#### **WRITER'S NOTE:**

Hollow Peace began as a meditation on isolation, guilt, and the slow erosion of certainty. I was fascinated by how paranoia feeds on silence, and how memory can twist into something dangerous when there's no one left to challenge it. This play isn't about a monster in the woods. It's about the monsters we create when we're left alone with what we've done. I wanted to write something where dread builds not from what is seen, but what is suspected, imagined, or feared. In the end, the most terrifying thing is not what's outside the door, but what's inside the mind.

**Aaditya** 



BY STACEY RICHARDS

JULY 27 | 2PM | CHARLOTTE STREET ARTS CENTRE

**Director** 

Merrit Johnson

CAST

Grace Joseph Guard Judge/Priest Alex Dawson Cole Dunphy Brenda Madill Scott Harris

#### **WRITER'S NOTE:**

Afew years back, I travelled to Ireland and while there toured Kilmainham Gaol, an old prison turned tourist attraction in Dublin. To me, the prison was so vile that imagining being there, trapped, was terrorizing. Deep inside the prison is a simple chapel where I learned the true story of two young lovers married exactly here, just hours before the groom's execution. What!? I thought deeply of her, the bride. What?! What woman, in her right mind, would agree to marry a man with no future in this hell of a place? I just had to imagine how it all went down. So, I wrote this play and called it *The Two-Hour Bride* to capture the dynamic unimaginable story of a woman that should not be forgotten.

Stacey

#### AMBER HOPE PORTER

**BY BETH GRAHAM** 

JULY 27 | 2PM | CHARLOTTE STREET ARTS CENTRE

**Director** Beth Graham

**CAST** 

Shelly Amber Fred Rebekah Chassé Mary Walker Len Falkenstein

#### **WRITER'S NOTE:**

I write plays to understand the world in which I live. My plays are personal, but I hide behind the characters as I reveal myself. This is a hard admission to make because I'm mostly a shy and private person and I don't really want people to know how much of myself is hidden in or between the lines of a play. This is why I often avoid

playwright's notes and yet here I am writing them...At the time of writing Amber Hope Porter there was a man I had known and worked with who had had an inappropriate relationship with a much younger woman. Charges were laid against him, and the case went to trial. The details disturbed me, but it also felt like an all too familiar story. Oof. I was feeling a bit jaded and tired of it all. I didn't want to see relationships in terms of predator and prey. I thought of my own interactions with older men when I was younger and there had been a number of wonderful friendships that weren't in the least bit inappropriate. I tried to concentrate on those friendships as I wrote this play. In searching for goodness, I didn't want to ignore or dismiss the fact that very bad things can happen; I only wanted to explore the possibility of someone striving to do the right thing in a situation that could easily end in life-changing trauma.

**Beth** 

## THE DAY THE UNIVERSE FELT A LITTLE SMALLER

**BY JOSH BURKE** 

JULY 27 | 2PM | CHARLOTTE STREET ARTS CENTRE

**Director** Mary Walker

**CAST** 

Maisy Riley Allie Connor Jack Archie Jordan Comeau Brie Sparks Sara Hughes Devin Rockwell Raine O'Connor Scott Harris

#### **WRITER'S NOTE:**

Over a year ago now, I sat down to watch the 2024 solar eclipse with my best friend. It was awesome-but what really fascinated me was how everyone had their own story for what they were doing on the eclipse. It sparked a few scene ideas: What would a first date to the eclipse look like? What about someone who had seen it before? What if it rained? The eclipse also came shortly before graduation, signaling the end of a chapter for me and many of my close friends as we all started to look towards what was next. These two ideas together are what led to *The Day the Universe Felt a Little Smaller*. It is a love letter to everyone who has been a part of my life for the last 7 years. Whether you're still a part of it or not, this script is for you, and a thank you. I am better for having known you all. I hope you enjoy the script as much as I've enjoyed having you all in my life.

Josh



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#### MEET THE CAST AND CREW

**Andrew Allen** (he/him) is a Fredericton-based actor, writer and musician. He is extremely excited for people to see the first play he's written, and so thankful to the director and cast for bringing his imagination to life. He also wants to send his appreciation to the crew that make this festival possible! He hopes everyone will enjoy *For Whom the Troll Tolls* and all the other amazing plays in NotaBle Acts this season!

**Dino Andriani** is a Saint John native, known for his international Fringe show *Psychedelics for Dummies* and various other creative exploits. He happy to be involved in two productions for his first time doing Notable Acts!

**Emily Bossé** is glad to be back with NotaBle Acts this year after designing costumes for the main stage last year. It's been a pleasure directing the cast of *Folie à Deux*, and working with such a smart snappy script!

**Sophie Brander** (she/they) is an artist and performer from Moncton, New Brunswick. Her recent directorial work includes last Summer's NotaBle Acts, *Like Talking to a Very Thin Wall* by Brandon McDougall, as well as *The Way Some People Love* by Jordan Comeau for Braver Stages Theatre Festival in 2023, and her first two-act play: *A Voice in the Dark: A Salem Story* by Elizabeth Downing in March 2025.

**Kyla Brewer** (she/her) is a New Brunswick poet, writer and one-time performer. Originally from the Miramichi area, she began acting in junior high and went on to perform with various companies over the years, including Theatre St. Thomas, Daigle Theatre and Characters Incorporated. She is thrilled that *Bus Stop Breakup*, her first play, has been selected for the 2025 NotaBle Acts Theatre Festival.

**Dani Brun** In her second year of 'retirement' from theatre, Dani Brun took a wrong turn and ended up writing a play. Usually found acting or stage managing, she's frankly just as surprised as you are to be here.

**Josh Burke** (he/him) is a Fredericton-based theatre artist. *The Day The Universe Felt a Little Smaller* is his second NotaBle reading, after *Dishes*. He's happy to be involved in NotaBle and can't wait to see all the shows!

**Katherine Cappellacci** (she/her) is an actor and theatre maker from Toronto whose work spans musical theatre, large-scale historical epics, TYA, devised and collaborative creation, physical theatre, and everything in between. Recent acting credits include *A Night at the Grand Ghoul Opry* (Tweed & Company Theatre); *Pop! Pop!* (Young People's Theatre/Carousel Players); *The Tilco Strike* (4th Line Theatre); *Screwball Comedy* (Globus Theatre); *Pretty Hard Cases* (CBC Gem); and *I Woke Up A Vampire* (Netflix). Currently, she's a writing, producing, and directing mentee for a Bell Fibe TV show called *Bagged* (Firecracker Department/C'Mon Mort Productions). She has a BFA in acting from Toronto Metropolitan University and is so proud to be part of new Canadian plays like *Crane Girl*.

# 

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**Rebekah Chassé** Fresh off her turn as Lady Macbeth in Bard In The Barracks' 2025 production of *Macbeth*, Rebekah is excited to lend her voice to the reading of Beth Graham's new play *Amber Hope Porter*. She'll next appear in Len Falkenstein's new play *Orphan Well* in the Edmonton Fringe in August 2025. She hopes everyone enjoys the fresh and exciting new works at this year's NB Acts Festival!

**Diana Chávez** (she/her) is excited to return for her fourth season with NotaBle Acts. Originally from Ecuador, she has called New Brunswick home for the past eight years and is thrilled to play a New Brunswicker in *Lavender Brew and Patchouli*. Diana has previously acted and written for Black Box Productions, including *Mi Casa* (2024) and sketches in *The Other Dean's List* (2022).

**Jean-Michel Cliche** (he/him) is a theatre artist of Lebanese and French-settler descent living on the banks of the Wolastoq (Fredericton, NB). He is the Associate Artistic Director of Solo Chicken Productions, a theatre company with a focus on professional works of physical theatre, collaborative community projects, and accessible performance training. He has also trained with Fight Directors Canada and is New Brunswick's most active Fight Director and Violence Designer.

**Jordan Comeau** (she/her) is a Fredericton-based theatre artist who has recently returned to the city after studying in Ontario. She has most recently been involved with Solo Chicken Productions performance of *Magic Beans: the Musical*. She is looking forward to returning to the stage with NotaBle Acts this year.

**Ella Coulombe** (she/her) is a theatre performer from Fredericton, New Brunswick. Her most recent shows include *Spade Siblings' Detective Agency* by Merrit Johnson and Fredericton High School's production of *The Music Man*. She is thrilled to be involved with NotaBle Acts for a second year. She will be studying Drama at Mount Allison University starting in the fall.

**Beatrix Culligan** (she/her) is a student at St. Thomas University who loves taking part in the Fredericton theatre community! Previous acting experience includes *Mr. Information* (2023) and *Pareidolia* (2024). She is so excited to be working with NotaBle Acts!

**Karlie Curtis** (she/her) recently graduated from STU with a major in Fine Arts and is now pursuing her Bachelor's of Education. After playing Tom in Gargoyles last year, she is excited to be performing with the festival again. She hopes you all enjoy the shows and would like to thank everyone for taking the time to come and support local theatre!

**Alex Dawson** (she/they) is a theatre artist focused on exploring queer, feminist, and human rights issues. She is currently pursuing a degree in Fine Arts and English at St. Thomas University. They hope you enjoy the festival and have a chance to catch all the amazing shows.

**Ali Dejong** (she/her) is a long time audience member and first time actor (unless you count her high school performance in *Oklahoma!*). She is excited to be making her (re)debut at NotaBle Acts! A special thanks to her mom for driving her to Unicorn Theatre summer camps her entire childhood.

**Cole Dunphy** (he/him) is excited (if a bit intimidated) to be making his acting debut in *The Two Hour Bride*. Cole was born and raised in Fredericton and in 2024 graduated from UNB with an MSc in Mathematics, but upon completing his degree came to the unfortunate realization that he didn't have any connections that continued past graduation. Since then he's been trying to pay more attention to things that are happening around Fredericton and was quite happy to discover a thriving theatre community in the city, and even happier to join the NotaBle Acts cast this year.

**Rhett Ellis** (he/they) is going into their fourth year at STU. This is his second year directing for NB Acts after last year's *Soda Noir*. Rhett is jazzed to get back in the director's chair and very grateful for the opportunity!

**Millie Everett**, who recently retired to the Fredericton area, is delighted to be participating in this year's festival. Millie holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Theatre and completed a two-year internship at the Alliance Theatre in Atlanta, Georgia Her favorite roles over the years include: Katherine in 33 Variations; Doris in The Cemetery Club; Ethel in On Golden Pond and Queen Aggravain in Once Upon A Mattress.

**Joe Everett**, who recently retired to the Fredericton area, is thrilled to be participating in this year's festival. In his youth, Joe earned a BFA in Acting & Directing. Upon university graduation, he completed a two-year internship at the Alliance Theatre in Atlanta, Georgia. Favorite roles include: George Melvin in *The Actor's Nightmare*; Tony Lumpkin in *She Stoops to Conquer*; He in The *Loveliest Afternoon of the Year*; Paul in *Loose Ends*; and Gaston in *The Waltz of the Toreadors*.

**Len Falkenstein** is co-founder and Artistic Director of NotaBle Acts Theatre Company. He is also the Director of Drama at the University of New Brunswick and Artistic Director of Bard in the Barracks Theatre Company, for whom he recently directed *Macbeth* and *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. His most recent play, *Wood Buffalo*, debuted at Theatre New Brunswick in 2023, and his new play, *Orphan Well*, will premiere at the Edmonton Fringe Festival in August.

**Brennan Garnett** is thrilled to be in this year's NotaBle Acts Theatre Festival. His recent credits include Rogue Productions' *Rock of Ages* and *Broadway by the Sea*. He would like to thank everyone involved in the festival for the work they put into this year!

**Brenna Gauthier** This is Brenna's seventh time performing with NotaBle Acts, and she is still just as ecstatic as year one. Originally from Riverview NB, Brenna has been living and performing in Fredericton since 2017. A few of her previous credits include *Rhinoceros* (Smuggler's Theatre Co.), *Romeo and Juliet* (Bard in the Barracks), *A Perfect Arrangement* (Theatre UNB), and *Murder Mondays* (NotaBle Acts). She loves the thrill (and chaos) of creating new shows with an extremely tight deadline, and suggests you don't miss a single NB Acts performance!

**Eve Gignac** (she/her) is a technical theatre professional who's worked in live theatre for over a decade. She's done technical work on dozens of shows over the years and is working her second year with NotaBle Acts this year! She had so much fun creating the beautiful pieces for these shows, and hopes to do ever more technical design in the future. Thank you and enjoy the show!

**lan Ottis Goff** lives in Toronto, ON, with his wife, where he makes theatre, film, and music. Before that he lived in Fredericton NB, before that he lived in Wickham NB, before that he lived in Hatsfield Point, NB, before that he lived in Newton, NH, before that- He hopes you enjoy *Crane Girl*.

**Beth Graham** is an Edmonton-based playwright, dramaturg, and actor. Her plays and collaborations have been produced nationally and internationally. Beth's latest play, *Mermaid Legs*, will be published this fall by Playwrights Canada Press.

**Kat Hall** (she/they) is a Fredericton-based theater artist, software developer by day. She was last on stage as Ross in Bard in the Barrack's *Macbeth*, and as Jean in Smuggler Theater's *Rhinoceros*. After many years of participating in NotaBle Acts, she never gets tired of seeing the unyielding creativity and spirit this little province has stuffed inside it. When not working the stage, she can be found in the garden, picking up a new craft, or roaming the city with the world's cutest dog (she'll prove it).

**Scott Harris** Last seen in Bard in the Barracks' *Macbeth*, Scott Harris was raised in Miramichi, trained in New York City and Toronto, has appeared in over 100 productions across Canada, created an award-winning theatre company, Word of Mouth in British Columbia, and is a painter and an Iyengar yoga teacher.

**Emery Hatchard** (she/they) is a Fredericton-based theatre artist. Most recently, she directed her first play with Theatre UNB's *Kayak* (2025). She is happy to be back working with NotaBle Acts this summer!

**Brandon Hicks** (he/him) is a writer, cartoonist and filmmaker based in St. Stephen. His work has appeared in numerous publications and festivals, and he is the author of several books, most recently *On The Border* from Conundrum Press. He is thrilled to return to NotaBle Acts with two plays this year.

**Alexa Higgins** (she/her) is a multidisciplinary artist and co-Artistic Director of Falling Iguana Theatre, whose acclaimed productions *81 Minutes* and *DIANA* have been performed across Canada. Previous NotaBle Acts performances include *81 Minutes* (FIT), *A Record of Us* (Solo Chicken Productions), and *Angel's River* (Dir. Andrea Boyd). Now based in Toronto, Alexa jumps at any chance to bring her work home to New Brunswick, and she is grateful for this opportunity to bring *Crane Girl* to an East Coast audience!

**Sara Hughes** (she/her) is a second-year Psychology student at UNB. She is a member of the Theatre Team at Kings Landing and is grateful to have been cast in *The Day the Universe Felt a Little Smaller* as her first NotaBle production.

**Maddax Hughson** (he/him) is a New Brunswick performer. His most recent production was *Clue* with Theatre New Brunswick. This is his second year performing at NotaBle Acts and he couldn't be more excited!

**Neomi Iudit** is a multidisciplinary artist working primarily in theatre and poetry, creating works that feel intimate and unexpected. This summer, she will be facilitating all-ages blackout poetry workshops, and developing a series of monologues and poems as one of the City of Fredericton's Summer Artists in Residence at the Botanic Gardens. Neomi is excited to be back at NotaBle to direct two beautiful new works with an incredible cast!

**Merrit Johnson** (she/her) is a queer student and theatre artist. Recent credits include *Spade Siblings' Detective Agency* (FHS Dramafest Club) and *Clue* (TNB Theatre School). In her free time, Merrit enjoys walking her very loud dog, cuddling her long-suffering cat, and taking pictures of frogs.

**Trent Logan** is a New Brunswick-based theatre technician, designer, manager, and educator. He has filled several production roles for theatres across New Brunswick and into Nova Scotia and Ontario. He currently works as the technical director and resident designer for the University of New Brunswick (Fredericton). Past credits include: *Rock of Ages* (Rogue Productions; Lighting Design), *Mustard* (Theatre UNB Fredericton; Set & Lighting Design), and *SpongeBob SquarePants, the Musical* (TNB Theatre School; Lighting Design).

**Brenda Madill** (she/they) has been involved in theatre sporadically during her busy life, always finding joy in the art. Since moving to Fredericton 4 years ago, she's had the pleasure of working with TUNB and BOP here in Fredericton. She is playing Sadie in *Bus Stop Break Up* and the guard in *Two Hour Bride* and is excited to be part of NotaBle Acts for the first time.

**Mimi Martin** (she/her) is a student at St.Thomas going into her third year of studying Fine Arts and English. Mimi loves to partake in the world of theatre in any form, from backstage work, playwriting, acting, and, now, stage managing, most recently TUNB's production of *An Ideal Husband*. She is super excited to be working on her first One Act with NotaBle and hops everyone enjoys the magic of the shows.

**Dillon Matchet** (any/all) is excited to be back for another year with NotaBle Acts and hopes everyone enjoys *Sinking*.

**Alex McAllister** is a theatre artist based out of Fredericton, New Brunswick. They are co-founder of Smugglers Theatre. Previous directing credits include: *Predormital* (NotaBle Acts 2024), *The Baltimore Waltz* (Smugglers Theatre 2023), *Rhinoceros* (Smugglers Theatre 2024).

**Ryca McCullough** is an autistic nonbinary actor who works in disability activism. Recently, they were featured in *Magic Beans the Musical* and have history doing theatre such as *Anne and Gilbert* and *Addams Family the Musical*. They will begin playwriting again someday, but they fail to specify when they will follow up on that.

**Naomi McGowan** (she/her) is a performer, director & theatre educator originally from Miramichi, NB. Recently, she directed *10 Tom Thomsons* in collaboration with Theatre New Brunswick, Beaverbrook Art Gallery and Non-Stop Theatrics. NST is a theatre company that she created alongside theatre artist Caroline Coon. She is so thrilled to join NotaBle for this fast-paced and exciting process!

**Shannon Munn** is a Fredericton-based performer who recently wrapped The *Merry Wives of Windsor*, where she did a fair bit of pouting, plotting, and trying not to break onstage. She's excited to join NotaBle Acts for the very first time!



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## IN THE FACULTY OF ARTS UNB FREDERICTON

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**Ella Murphy** (she/her) is a fourth year student at STU studying Political Science and History, with a passion for theatre. Most recently, she played Mabel Chiltern in Theatre UNB's *An Ideal Husband* (2025). This is her first time acting with NotaBle Acts, and she is so grateful for the fun experience she's had!

**Felix Nocera** (he/him) is a 17 year old transgender student with a passion for the arts. His acting career started at 5 years old in a small children's theatre group, and has grown exponentially since then. He believes that without art, humanity would be pointless.

**Raine O'Connor** is a multidisciplinary artist and teacher living along the Wolastoq. He recently presented *So Shallow the Water Was*, a filmed monologue for the JRG Society for the Arts Disability Atlantic Arts Symposium, and wrapped on filming for Ashley Morehouse's short film *Never Got Back My Shirt*. They're excited to be working with so many wonderful artists with NotaBle Acts this summer!

**Kelsey Price** (she/her) is a performer returning to the theatre world after many years away. This marks her first time working with NotaBle Acts Theatre, and she is delighted to be a part of the summer festival. She's excited to dive back into live performances and collaborate with such a passionate and creative team.

**Stacey Richards** is an emerging playwright hailing from Saint John, NB, with a flair for bringing bold new stories to the stage. Her recent work, *The Two-Hour Bride*, earned a coveted spot in Script Happens and lit up the stage with the Saint John Theatre Company this past May. Now, she's excited to see her historical drama chosen for the NotaBle Acts Festival in Fredericton, sharing her passion for dynamic theatre with new audiences.

**Alex Rioux** (they/them) is a theatre producer, performer and educator based in Wolastoqey Territory (Fredericton, NB). Alex's professional practice began through an internship with Solo Chicken Productions. With the guidance of Lisa Anne Ross they supported the development of new works of physical theatre and innovative community programing. It was through Solo Chicken that Alex devised their physical-theatre production *Fruit Machine* which made its debut at the 2023 Notable Acts Theatre Festival. Alex has also worked closely with Theatre New Brunswick in a multitude of capacities. They've directed and produced for several local companies such as NotaBle Acts Theatre and Bard in the Barracks. Alex currently acts as the Artistic and Executive Director of Braver Stages Festival, New Brunswick's premiere festival for the fostering and promotion of 2SLGBTIA+ theatre works. They currently serve as the Interim Artistic Director at the acclaimed Ship's Company Theatre in Parrsboro, NS.

**Lisa Anne Ross** (she/her) is a theatre artist, director and lover of all things community who teaches theatre at St. Thomas University and is the Artistic Producer of Solo Chicken Productions. She loves stinky cheese, swimming in rivers, lakes and oceans, and enjoys a spectacular sunset.

**Erin Russell** (she/her) is a writer and graphic designer with a soft spot for messy people and messy magic. Her play *Influentia* was the mainstage production at NotaBle Acts in 2024, and she's thrilled to return with *Lavender Brew and Patchouli*, this time under open skies. She's delighted to stir up some trouble (with a hint of broken glass) at NotaBle this summer.

**Gillian Salmon** (she/her) is a writer, improviser, actor, filmmaker, and stand up comedian who is excited to have her writing featured at NotaBle Acts Theatre Festival for a third time. She is a Second City Conservatory Grad and has studied extensively in sketch comedy writing and improv. She loves to collaborate locally with Solo Chicken Productions and Dead Serious Comedy.

**Pluto Shaw** (they/them) is a recent graduate from UNB with their Ancient World Studies honours and Drama double major (and, no, the name is not because of the god, but rather the dwarf planet—their secret third interest). They are the stage Manager and Technical Director for NotaBle's one act *Sinking*. Other productions that they have contributed to are Bard in the Barracks' *Macbeth* and *The Merry Wives of Windsor* (2025) as Stage Manager, and NotaBle Acts' *Predormital* (2024) as Stage Manager and Technical Director. Enjoy the show!

**Brie Sparks** (they/he) is thrilled to be directing *The Happiest Day of Their Lives* by Alex McAllister for NotaBle this year! This is their first time being both in the director's chair and a part of the festival but were lucky enough to have worked in the 2025 Season of Bard in the Barracks where they brought wit and a questionable Irish accent to the role of Sir Hugh Evans in *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. Brie has participated in a number of William's works including as Feste in *Twelfth Night* and Benvolio in *Romeo and Juliet*. A St. Thomas graduate, Brie has mostly been behind the pen rather than on the stage with works produced in The Braver Stages Festival including *Was That Really Necessary?* and *Baited!* Brie is so excited to be given a chance to bring such a beautiful, tender, wonderfully human work of art from page to stage for all of you!

**Ethan Stav** (they/them) is a 2nd-year student studying MAAC and Theatre. Having starred in UNB's *From The Vaults* and *The Ideal Husband*, they're fond of using their voice acting knowledge onstage, and helping out anywhere backstage to make everything come together. They recently worked as crew for Bard in the Barracks' *Merry Wives* and *Macbeth*, and hope you enjoy this NotaBle Acts festival season!

**Aaditya Verma** (he/him) is a hobbyist writer based in Fredericton. *Hollow Peace*, a psychological thriller on the perils of one's mind, is his debut as a first-time playwright. He has stepped a toe in this enthralling new world and is beyond thrilled to join the rapids.

**Mary Walker** (she/her) is a Fredericton-based theatre artist and graphic designer. Recent acting credits include *Macbeth* (2025) and *Romeo and Juliet* (2024, Bard in the Barracks) and *Influentia* (NotaBle Acts Mainstage 2024). She is thrilled to be working with new and exciting scripts for NotaBle again this year, this time as a director and actor.

**Brent White** is a Fredericton resident who also lives part-time in Sackville, NB, where he teaches accounting in the Commerce program at Mount Allison University. His play, *On the Grounds of the Assembly*, is his fourth play to be performed at NotaBle Acts in recent years.

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**Thank you for donating!** Your donation will go towards the costs of staging the festival, with the majority of funds donated going to help support the artists involved

#### THANK YOU

The NotaBle Acts Summer Theatre Festival, as well as Bard in the Barracks, are made possible in large part through the financial support of the Alvin J. Shaw Trust Fund, UNB. This fund was endowed by Alvin Shaw (1921-1992): Spanish professor at UNB, long time director of the UNB Drama Society, mentor and inspiration to many of the leading figures in Fredericton's theatre scene from the 50s through the 80s, co-founder of Theatre Fredericton, supporting member of Theatre New Brunswick, and allround patron of the arts. We wish to acknowledge and salute his memory and his generosity.



The NotaBle Acts Summer Theatre Festival also wishes to thank:

Theatre New Brunswick; Fredericton Tourism; Adda Mihailescu and Manuel de Campo (Beaverbrook Art Gallery); The Fredericton Playhouse; Matt Carter; Charlotte Street Arts Centre; Tania Breen; Chris Saad; St. Thomas University; The Grad House; Julianna Hallett and Lydia Noble (UNB English Department); Mark Kilfoil (CHSR); Vanessa Vander Valk (CBC); Kyle Albright; Erin Russell.

#### NOTABLE ACTS THEATRE FESTIVAL



## JUL24-AUG3 FREDERICTON 2025

#### **THURSDAY 24**

#### FRIDAY 25

#### SATURDAY 26 SUNDAY 27

#### MAINSTAGE TILT

Created & Performed by Jean-Michel Cliche & Alex Rioux

Memorial Hall, UNB 7:30PM

#### **MAINSTAGE**

TILT

Created & Performed by Jean-Michel Cliche & Alex Rioux

Memorial Hall, UNB 7:30PM

#### **PLAY OUT LOUD**

Readings of three new plays in development

Charlotte Street Arts Centre 2:00PM

#### TAKING IT TO THE STREETS

Beaverbrook Art Gallery Courtyard 7:30PM

#### PLAY OUT LOUD

Amber Hope Porter by Beth Graham The Day the Universe Felt a Little Smaller by Josh Burke

Charlotte Street Arts Centre 2:00PM

#### TAKING IT TO THE STREETS

Beaverbrook Art Gallery Courtyard 7:30PM

#### MONDAY 28

#### TAKING IT TO THE STREETS

Seven 10-minute & site-specific plays

Beaverbrook Art Gallery Courtyard 7:30PM

#### **TUESDAY 29**

#### TAKING IT TO THE STREETS

Beaverbrook Art Gallery Courtyard 7:30PM

#### WEDNESDAY 30

ACTING OUT
Sinking & 32 Short Plays About
Fredericton
Momorial Hall LIND

Memorial Hall, UNB 7:30PM

#### THURSDAY 31

#### ACTING OUT

Sinking & 32 Short Plays About Fredericton

Memorial Hall, UNB 7:30PM

#### **TICKETS**

MAINSTAGE: \$20 General, \$15 Student/senior/underemployed ACTING OUT: \$15 General, \$12 Student/senior/underemployed

All other shows/events: Admission by donation

#### FRIDAY 1

#### **ACTING OUT**

Sinking
by Brandon Hicks

32 Short Plays About Fredericton by Gill Salmon

Memorial Hall, UNB 7:30PM

#### SATURDAY 2

#### **MAINSTAGE**

#### Crane Girl

By Alexa Higgins Performed by Falling Iguana Productions

Memorial Hall, UNB 7:30PM

#### **SUNDAY 3**

#### MAINSTAGE

Crane Girl

By Alexa Higgins Performed by Falling Iguana Productions

Memorial Hall, UNB 2:00PM & 7:30PM

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