

<sup>W</sup>  
Magnus  
Theatre

The Broadway Comedy Smash Hit

# HAND to GOD

by Robert Askins

March 9th - 25th

Hold on to your  
@\$\$3\$ - you are in for  
a hell of a good time!





Artistic Director  
Thom Currie

# Magnus Theatre

Executive Director  
Alexis Rowlinson

*The Broadway Comedy Smash Hit*

# HAND TO GOD

*By Robert Askins*

## THE COMPANY

**ANDREW CECON**  
**CARLY MARTIN**  
**HUDSON MORASH**  
**AMY SELLORS**  
**GABRIEL VAILLANT**

Pastor Greg  
Jessica/Jolene  
Jason/Tyrone  
Margery  
Timothy

**THOM CURRIE**  
**GILLIAN JONES**  
**JACQUIE LOEWEN**  
**KARA PANKIW**  
**AMBER HOOD**  
**LISA MACCHIONE**  
**GINA BERNARDIN**  
**TIM STEPHENSON**  
**NADIA CHEECHOO**  
**NICHOLAS PALINKA**  
**DAVID A. BROWN**  
**TIM WALTERS**

Director  
Stage Manager  
Stage Combat Instructor  
Set Designer  
Light Designer  
Costume Designer  
Pupper Creator  
Sound Designer  
Props  
Production Manager  
Head Carpenter  
Production Assistant

**HAND TO GOD is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York.**

HAND TO GOD was developed by The Ensemble Studio Theatre/Youngblood Program at Southampton Arts in July 2011 and received its world premiere production at The Ensemble Studio Theatre in October 2011. Off-Broadway Premiere at the MCC Theater March 10, 2014

Artistic Directors: Robert LuPone, Bernard Telsey & William Cantler

Executive Director: Blake West

Originally produced on Broadway by

Kevin McCollum, Broadway Global Ventures CMC Morris Berchard Mariano V. Tolentino Jr.,  
Stephanie Kramer LAMS Productions DeSimone/Winkler Joan Raffe & Jhett Tolentino,  
Timothy Laczynski Lily Fan Ayal Miodovnik JAM Theatricals, Ensemble Studio Theatre  
MCC Theater

**The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.  
There will be one 15 intermission for this show. Approximate run time: 120 minutes.**





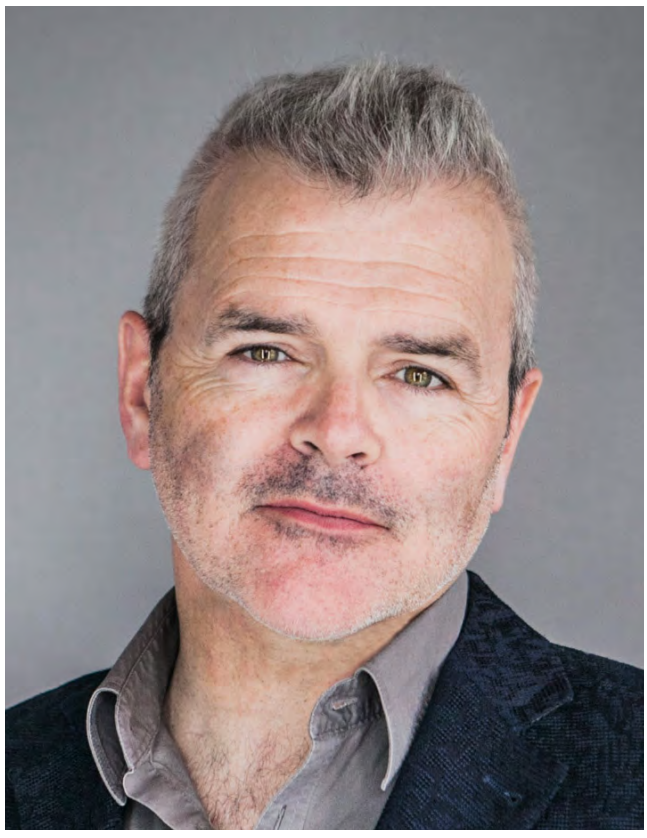
At Tbaytel, we believe the arts enhance quality of life and are a key part of building more vibrant communities.

Supporting Magnus Theatre is our way of helping to make our neighbourhood a better place for everyone.

**We're in it together**

**tbaytel for good.**





**Thom Currie** (Artistic Director) is a director, playwright, dramaturg, actor and producer and is currently Artistic Director of Magnus Theatre. Thom has worked in theatres across Canada, including Victoria

Playhouse Petrolia, Sudbury Theatre Centre, Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre, Stage West (Calgary and Mississauga), Theatre In The Park, The Georgian Theatre Festival, The Showboat Festival Theatre and Magnus Theatre, among many others. He has directed and performed in cities such as Paris, London, Amsterdam, Frankfurt and Brussels. Thom has served as Artistic Director at several professional theatres across Canada. Prior to Magnus Theatre, Thom was Artistic Director of the Stephenville Theatre Festival (NL), Managing Artistic Director at The Showboat Festival Theatre In The Round (ON), Artistic Director of The Georgian Theatre Festival (ON) and Founding Artistic Director of ReallyLittleTheatre (INTL). In addition to writing the jukebox musicals ***Back In 59***, ***Mama's Country Record Collection*** and ***POP! Goes The Sixties***, Thom has written 15 musicals for young audiences, which have been performed across North America and Europe. His rock opera for young audiences, ***Rock 'N' Fables***, has the distinction of having the most in-school performances of any musical in Canadian Theatre history. Thom is the recipient of the Over The Fence Award from Vision TV for his television adaptation of his play, ***The Wish***. Thom has lectured at University of Toronto, Seneca College and Ryerson University, and has worked as an adjudicator, educator and workshop leader across Canada.





**Andrew Cecon** (Pastor Greg) spent most of his adult life performing in theatres across Western Canada, before returning to Thunder Bay a few years ago. He has appeared at Magnus Theatre in ***Miracle on 34th Street***, ***Bang Bang***, and ***A Closer Walk With Patsy Cline*** and ***Lunenburg***. He was most recently seen in ***Three Musketeers*** at the Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre. Love to Katrina, Aviva and Joren.



**Carly Martin** (Jessica/Jolene) is a multi-disciplinary artist and classically trained vocalist from Thunder Bay, ON. She discovered a passion for performing at a young age when she attempted to stage a neighbourhood production of High School Musical and the rest, as they say, is history. Carly is a recent graduate of Sheridan College's Honours Bachelor of Music Theatre Performance program. She is grateful and ecstatic to be returning to Magnus Theatre to join the hilariously magnificent cast of Hand to God. Selected credits: ***Man of La Mancha*** (Magnus Theatre), ***Happy End*** (Theatre Sheridan), ***Casimir and Caroline*** (Theatre Sheridan), ***Parkdale*** (Musical Stage Co./Theatre Sheridan), ***This Will Be Excellent*** (Magnus Theatre TYA). As an artist, Carly is inspired by community and by a desire to share meaningful stories that have the ability to connect and resonate with people of all ages and experiences.



**Hudson Morash** (Jason/Tyrone) is a reader, dancer, music player, game lover, pizza slinger, and actor who grew up right here in Thunder Bay. After discovering that theatre was really his thing,



maybe through his days as a young dancing Cossack in Chaban Ukrainian Dance Group or his roles in St Patrick High School shows like *The Wizard of Oz* and *The Little Mermaid* – wielding a trident no less – he began a career in community theatre as the baker in ***Into the Woods*** (Paramount Live). Over the years, he went on to perform in ***Greased***, ***Mamma Mia***, and ***The Addams Family*** (Badanai Theatre Co), ***Spring Awakening*** (Applauze Productions), and ***Alice in Wonderland*** (Cambrian Players). Hudson also had the chance to play some truly fun and quirky parts during Thunder Bay’s annual 10 x 10 Short Play Festival, including a cowboy in *A Man Dies by the Gun* and a housecat-turned-human in *Benny and Max*. Turns out, inhabiting a character is consuming in the best sort of way, and Hudson can’t get enough. He is just tickled to be joining the wonderful and hilarious cast of *Hand to God* and making his Magnus Theatre debut.



**Amy Sellors** (Margery) is excited to a part of this show. Amy’s extensive theatre career has landed her on stages all across Canada and as far as Western Europe. She now calls Thunder Bay home. Magnus

audiences may remember Amy as ‘Aldonza’ in ***Man of La Mancha***, ‘Linda’ in ***Smarty Pants***, ‘Natalie’ in Norm Foster’s ***Lunenburg***, and as ‘Patsy Cline’ in ***A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline*** in Waverly Park. Also at Magnus, Amy has played the roles of ‘Berthe,’ the housekeeper in ***Boeing Boeing***, ‘Magenta’ and ‘Trixie the Usherette’ in ***The Rocky Horror Show***, ‘Oz’ in ***We Will Rock You***, ‘Fay, Angel, and Gwen’ in ***Here on the Flight Path***, ‘Nina’ in ***Looking*** and ‘Bernice’ in ***Don’t Hug Me***. Outside of Thunder Bay, some of Amy’s favourite credits include an aging ‘Snow White’ in ***A Snow White Christmas*** (Theatre Orangeville), ‘Daphne’ in ***Perfect***



**Wedding** (Stephenville Theatre Festival), ‘The Lady of the Lake’ in **Monty Python’s SPAMalot!** (Stephenville Theatre Festival), ‘Patsy Cline’ in **A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline** (Stephenville Theatre Festival and Globe Theatre) and ‘Annabella, Margaret, and Pamela’ in **The 39 Steps** (Thousand Islands Playhouse), ‘Susan, Melody, and Laura’ in **Bedtime Stories** (Theatre Orangeville), ‘Fantine’ in **Les Miserables** (Thousand Islands Playhouse), and all the women in **Sitting Pretty** (Showboat/Lighthouse). At the Stratford Festival, Amy was seen in **My Fair Lady, The Threepenny Opera, Gigi,** and **The Hunchback of Notre Dame.** Thanks to Thom, Shelby, and Dave for all their love and support.



**Gabriel Vaillant** (Timothy) is thrilled, honored, and elated to play Timmy in his Magnus Theatre debut in *Hand to God*. Born and raised in Thunder Bay, Gabe has happily called Toronto home for the past few years, but will always be a TBay kid at heart. Gabriel is a multi-disciplinary artist and graduate of St. Lawrence College’s Musical Theatre Performance Program. Recent theatre credits include: Peter in **Jillian Jiggs** (Solar Stage, Dora Award nominee), Beadle Bamford in **Sweeny Todd** (First Act Productions), and sailing the high seas of the Toronto waterfront for four seasons as Teddy Jones in Art & Water’s production of **Pirate Life**. Most recently, Gabriel’s costume design was nominated for a Dora Award in the four-time Dora Award winning production of **Moby Dick** by Art & Water. You can find Gabriel singing with the Candy Cane Carollers at the Distillery Winter Village and around the GTA. Many thanks to Mom, Dad, George, and his family for their constant love and support.





## **Gillian Jones** (Stage Manager)

This is my bio all about how, my life got flipped turned upside down and I'd like to take a moment before the show starts

to tell you how I became involved in the live arts. In North Thunder Bay, I was born and raised. On a playground is where I spent most of my days. Chillin out max and relaxin all cool, but never shootin' B-ball outside of the school. When a couple of folks who were up to some good, started a rehearsal in my neighbourhood. I worked on one little show and my boss was eager to offer me a job here at Magnus Theatre. Nice to be back in the theatre again.



## **Kara Pankiw** (Set Design) is a Set, Costume, and Lighting Designer.

Her work includes, ***Sexual Misconduct of the Middle Class*** (RMTC), ***The Gravedigger*** (Gas Station Theatre), ***Escaped Alone***

(Full of Days Collective); ***Smarty Pants*** (Magnus Theatre), ***Alice in Wonderland*** (Manitoba Theatre for Young People), ***The Velveteen Rabbit*** (Carousel Players), ***La Liste*** (Théâtre Cercle Molière), ***Awaken*** (Shakespeare in the Ruins/zone41), ***Bar Mitzvah Boy*** (Winnipeg Jewish Theatre). She spent the 2020 and 2021 seasons as a Set and Costume Assistant at the Shaw Theatre Festival. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre and Film from the University of Winnipeg, and a Bachelor of Environmental Design from the University of Manitoba.



**Amber Hood** (Lighting Design) is recent immigrant to the Canadian theatre scene, Amber comes to us all the way from Montréal. Prior to arriving in Canada, Amber traveled the world as Head Lighting Designer



and Production Manager for Celebrity Cruise Lines, producing and designing a different full length and spectacular theatrical experience every evening for four years. With her background in corporate entertainment and her degree in theatrical design, Amber has been able to work with a wide array of Canadian companies since establishing herself in her new home. She spent a season and a half on the Stratford Festival's Festival Stage before the Covid shut down. Designed and operated lights for the Just for Laughs Festival, and even traveled with an arena show for Cirque du Soleil. Amber also had the immense pleasure of designing the first post pandemic production for Mirvish on the Royal Alexandra stage. Big thanks to Magnus Theatre for the opportunity to travel and work with this fantastic team! Big thanks also to her husband and cat for holding down the fort in Montréal while she was away. To learn more about Amber, her past works and future productions, please visit [www.AmberHoodLD.com](http://www.AmberHoodLD.com)

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Magnus Theatre's  
50th Anniversary Season*





**Jacquie Loewen** (Fight Director) trained through an honours performance degree at the University of Winnipeg, and additionally with Fight Directors of Canada in Toronto, and at the Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity. Select choreography credits include: ***Into the Woods, Orlando, Hand to God*** (RMTC), ***Macbeth*** (Kansas State University), ***Macbeth*** (Bard on the Beach), ***Indigenous Playwrights New Works Workshop*** (Playwrights Theatre Center-Vancouver), ***Beauty and the Beast*** (Rainbow Stage), ***Otello, Tosca*** (Manitoba Opera), ***Am I Not King: The Last Concert of Richard II*** (Zone41). She has won 2 Winnipeg Theatre Awards for Outstanding Choreography.



**Nicholas Palinka** (Production Manager) is the current Production Manager at Magnus Theatre and would like to thank Dave, Nadia, Lisa and Tim for your hard work throughout the season. Nadine, thank you for your support, without you I wouldn't have been able to have a career in the arts. If you've read this far, thanks and enjoy the show!



**Tim Stephenson** (Sound Design) Tim is a production award winning graduate from the Ontario Institute of Audio Recording Technology. In the years since graduation he has worked as an Audio Technician at the Thunder Bay Community Auditorium setting up some of the biggest shows to come to Thunder Bay.





**David A. Brown** (Head Carpenter) joined Magnus four seasons ago as the head carpenter after working as the canoe builder / shipwright at Old Fort William for 40 years. Canoe and boat building were his main jobs but Dave wore many hats while at the Fort and has been involved in many movie and television productions. From an “I-Max” production in the early 1980’s to many commercials and print productions. Appearing in National Geographic and the National Enquirer in the same year. He was heavily involved in “Haunted Fort” building many props, animatronic effects and enjoys lighting things up as a “licensed pyrotechnician.”. Dave enjoys the new challenges at Magnus and is getting used to building square and level, he would still like everything to be curved like a canoe or boat.



**Lisa Macchione** (Costume Design) is a passionate devotee of the performing arts and all things adornment. In 1999 she graduated from Seneca College’s Fashion Arts program and has had the opportunity to use her skills in costuming to work onset of local films, historical reenactments as well as her own performance art. Researching characters, creating one of kind pieces, and the spark of a thrift store treasure hunt are what she enjoys most. She is thrilled to join the team of creative crew and cast at Magnus Theatre.



**Nadia Cheechoo** (Head of Properties) is an Indigenous woman from Wikwemikong, Ontario. She is back at Magnus Theatre, adding yet another position to her repertoire. She has had previous props experience working in film, but this is her first



time in this position at Magnus. With carpentry and wardrobe already under her belt, she's ready to continue honing old and new skills. Then she plans to carry those skills into future shows, theatres, and film projects. Magnus Theatre has been a major stepping stone in her career as an artist, and she hopes to continue to share her skills with them and others.



**Gina Bernardin** (Puppet Creator) was born and raised in a small town near Winnipeg Manitoba but moved to Thunder Bay in 2020 to be close to family. She has worked in film since 2002. Puppets have always been an integral part of her life even in high school where she made muppet-like puppets for a talent show. Later she worked on two different children's shows making puppets and working on set maintaining and costuming them for 8 years. She has also made puppets for Artists in the School Programs and made mascots for schools.



**Tim Walters** (Production Assistant) didn't start his journey in theatre from a young age, but he did perform in a production of Hairspray at St. Ignatius Highschool as a handful of smaller characters, and in another local production of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat playing accordion. Those productions introduced him to the wild, wacky, and hectic world of live theatre. He first started working with Magnus Theatre in 2018 on the production of Back in '59 as a sound tech assistant under Jean-Paul De Roover of Blueprints Audio. He has done a little bit of everything while working at Magnus, building sets, hanging lights, pitching the new saddle-span tent, running sound, controlling cameras, working backstage, and playing accordion on



stage. Tim has been involved in several past productions at Magnus including: Back in '59, Rocky Horror Picture Show, A Christmas Carol, SHOUT, Home: A Bluegrass Celebration, Man of La Mancha, Dock Spider, and now Hand to God. Tim is very grateful to be continuously called back to work with the great community at Magnus Theatre. When not working with Magnus he is a private accordion teacher, performer, composer, and free-reed aerophone instrument repairer.



## Registration for Spring Classes now OPEN!

### **Magnus Minis - Ages 5-8**

Saturday, March 25th, 2023 – May 27th, 2023 (no class April 8th & May 20th)

10AM-11:15AM - \$130

Instructor: Shannon Vancook

### **Magnus Youth - Ages 9-12**

Saturday, March 25th, 2023 – May 27th, 2023 (no class April 8th & May 20th)

11:45AM-1:00PM - \$130

Instructor: Shannon Vancook

### **Acting: An Introduction - (18+)**

Wednesday, April 5th, 2023 – May 24th, 2023

7:30PM-9:30PM - \$250

Instructor: Jordan Blaxill

### **Improv Fundamentals - 18+**

Monday, March 27th, 2023 – May 15th, 2023

7:30PM-9:30PM - \$250

Instructor: Jenn McCallion

### **Intermediate Improv: Emotions in Scenes - 18+**

Tuesday, March 21st – May 9th

7:30PM – 9:30PM - \$250

Instructor: Jenn McCallion

To register visit  
[magnustheatre.com](http://magnustheatre.com)  
or call 807.345.5552



# 91-5 ckpr

THUNDER BAY'S RADIO STATION



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Opening Night  
Musician Spotlight:  
Katie Stevens

Katie will be joining  
us in the Lobby  
for the Opening Night  
Gala March 10th



Artist Spotlight:  
Susan Goldberg



Susan's curated collection  
of art will be displayed in  
our lobby until  
March 25th!

**No Scents Makes Sense!**

***Due to the number of people with allergies, Magnus Theatre strives to be a scent-free theatre. Please avoid using perfumes, colognes or other scented products***



The 2023  
10x10 Short  
Play Festival  
Selected Plays

Showcase Dates:  
June 9th & 10th

Hands of Fate  
by Sheena Larson

Dive  
by Katya Arifin

Uhtceare  
by Amanda Doig

Leapfrog  
by Stefani Celine

Photographic Memory  
by Ron Davies

Deal  
by CB Campbell

Last to Know  
by Shelby Ch'ng

The Guest  
by Daniel Hannah

Like a Kite  
by Ron Fromstein

No Place to Hide  
by Michael Lehto



# AUDITIONS

**MARCH 12, 13 & 14**

**NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY! BOOK A TIME  
AT [CAMBRIANPLAYERS.COM/AUDITIONS](https://cambrianplayers.com/auditions)**

## MOMOLOGUES 2: OFF TO SCHOOL

**by Lisa Rafferty, Stefanie Cloutier & Sheila Eppolito**

**Directed by Nathalie Roy**



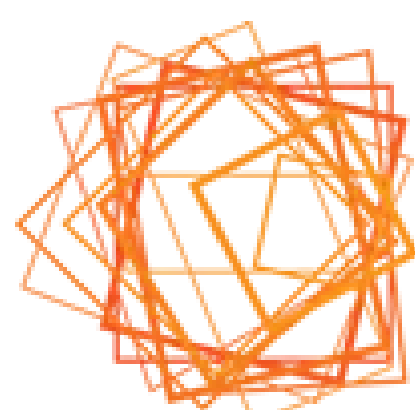
**Magnus Theatre is the only professional theatre company between Winnipeg and Southern Ontario.**

Canadian Actors'

**EQUITY**

Association

Artists engaged in Magnus Theatre productions are members of Canadian Actors' Equity Association, a national association representing artists working in theatre, opera and dance from coast-to-coast-to-coast. Equity's membership includes performers, directors, choreographers, fight directors and stage managers.



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Magnus Theatre is a proud member of the Professional Association of Canadian Theatres. PACT is a member-driven organization of professional Canadian theatres which serves as the collective voice of its members for the betterment of Canadian professional theatre.



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Associated Designers of Canada is a national, professional non-profit arts service organization dedicated to representing the interests of set, costume, lighting, projection and sound designers working in the live performing arts in Canada.

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music. people. **connected.**

SOCAN is a performing rights society that licenses the public performance and communication of the world's repertoire of copyright-protected musical works in Canada and then distributes royalties to its members and affiliated international societies.

**Magnus**  
Theatre

**A special thank you to our  
amazing volunteers that helped make  
this show possible!**

**Lynda Verdenik**

**Hal Lewis**

**Bill Deadman**

**Amy Poetschke**



In case you were looking for him...  
We found him.

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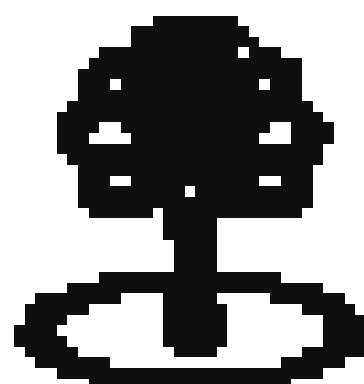
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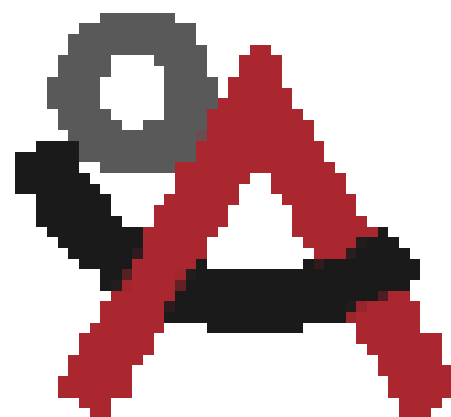
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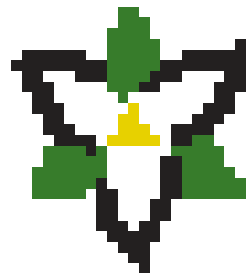
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In a world where right and wrong are not always clear, Father Tartuffe stands out as a pillar of his community. He is, in fact, a dishonest, hypocritical swindler and is revealed to be nothing like the devout, rich, and holy man he tried to convince everyone that he is. This is a hysterical new twist on a classic farce you won't want to miss!



WORLD PREMIERE COMEDY!

# Father Tartuffe

A Modern Adaptation of Tartuffe  
by Herbie Barnes

April 20-May 6, 2023





Magnus Theatre is thrilled to announce The Next Stage project! Magnus Theatre has thrived in its first 50 years as Northern Ontario's only professional theatre. Demand is growing exponentially for both programming and facility rentals, but upgrades are vital to extending possibilities within the community. The Next Stage is a major infrastructure project launched to restore, upgrade, and expand this unique facility to meet emerging needs of the community and to maximize Magnus Theatre's impact as a cultural and economic force.

The project will see the addition of a 125-seat Studio Theatre, expansion of the Production Shop, renovations to the Lounge, and building improvements and retrofit, all while maintaining the Heritage features of the Central School building.

The Next Stage project is funded in part by the Government of Canada, FedNor, the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation, the Trillium Community Building Fund, the Trillium Resilient Communities Fund, the Thunder Bay CEDC, and TBXI.

Want to get involved in supporting Magnus Theatre's Next Stage? Reach out to [executivedirector@magnustheatre.com](mailto:executivedirector@magnustheatre.com) or (807)-345-8033 ext. 225.



# Magnus Theatre

## Staff & Board



### MANAGEMENT

Artistic Director – Thom Currie

Executive Director – Alexis Rowlinson

### THEATRE IN EDUCATION

Theatre in Education Director – Jordan Blaxill

Theatre in Education Instructors – Jenn McCallion, Shannon VanCook

### FUNDRAISING & DEVELOPMENT

Director of Development - Mairéad O'Higgins-Human

### MARKETING & PUBLICITY TEAM

Interim Marketing Director – Julie MacCoy

Publicity & Social Media Coordinator – Julie MacCoy

### PRODUCTION TEAM

Production Manager – Nicholas Palinka

Technical Director – Tim Stephenson

Head Carpenter – David Brown

Head of Properties – Nadia Cheechoo

Head of Wardrobe – Lisa Macchione

### ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Financial Officer – Shaveh Moores

Accounting Clerk - Harneet Kaur

Accounting Intern - Marcel Goddard

Box Office Coordinator – Jessica Krasnichuk

Office Administrator - John Ostrowski

Box Office Representative – Sandra Snider

Front of House Manager/Volunteer Coordinator – Jerron Fuchihara

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Treasurer – Meagan Ellis

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