

MEDIA RELEASE

A musical with an Albertan heartbeat: The Citadel Theatre's Young Companies presents, *Working: A Musical*

May 17, 2022

Edmonton, Alberta – Complete with musical numbers, dance and gripping local stories of Alberta workers in all career types, the Young Companies performs their take on *Working: A Musical* at the end of this month.

The Citadel Theatre Young Companies, presented by the Maclab Group, are advanced training and mentorship programs in Performing, Playwriting and Production, for aspiring theatre artists between the ages of 16 - 21. These theatre artists are dedicated to furthering their craft and are serious about pursuing post-secondary education and a career in theatre. Many of the Young Companies alumni are now in prestigious acting and musical theatre training programs across North America.

Led by two professional Edmonton theatre directors, Gina Puntil and Corben Kushneryk, the show paints a vivid portrait of the people that the world so often takes for granted. The script is inspired by Studs Terkel's best-selling book of interviews with American workers, and the score features music by a plethora of legendary songwriters including Stephen Schwartz (*Wicked*), Lin-Manuel Miranda (*Hamilton*, *Moana*, *In The Heights*) and James Taylor.

"This has been an amazing opportunity for the students to put themselves and their community directly into the musical. Not only did we meet with local workers to add their words to the story, but the show is peppered with anecdotes from the students themselves about their experiences as young workers. This production is quintessentially theirs," says Luc Tellier, Director of Education & Outreach.

This localized version of the show is infused with interviews with Albertan workers conducted by our Young Company students, shining a unique light on our local workforce. Behind every job, there is a person with a story to tell.

The Young Companies, presented by the Maclab Group, is an audition-based admission program with applications for the 2022/23 cohorts to be announced early this summer.

Working: A Musical runs May 27 – 29, 2022 in the Rice Theatre. Tickets are available at www.citadeltheatre.com.

Production photos will be available upon request.

CAST

Bethany Arcand-Kootenay
Camryn Bauer
Alexander de Rouyan
Carys Jones
Victoria Kibblewhite

Mason
Trucker
Project Manager, Retiree, Gig Worker
Media Relations, 19 Year-Old
Iron Worker

Abby Krushel
Mana Middleton
Rhys O'Donnell
Mara Schoorlemmer
Stefan Sikanja
Jamie Spurrell
Fira Street
Megan Strong
Julie Sucie
Jack Valentine
Emma Yee

Grocery Clerk, Performer
Stay At Home Mom
Retiree, Firefighter
Hedge Fund Manager, Festival Communications Manager
Tech Support, Migrant Worker, Retiree
Factory Worker
Teacher
Waitress
Delivery
Postal Worker, Retiree
Community Organizer

CREATIVE TEAM

Corben Kushneryk
Gina Puntil
Cathy Derkach
Shrina Patel
Anna Davidson
Kiidra Duhault
Even Gilchrist
Heather Cornick
Tiff Martineau
Brendan Neary
Julie Sucie

Director
Director
Music Director
Choreographer
Stage Manager
Stage Manager & Sound Designer
Costume & Prop Designer
Lighting Designer
Lighting Operator
Sound Operator & Mixer
Assistant Music Director

BAND

Cathy Derkach
Chris Smith
Mike Lent
Dwayne Hrynkiw

Music Director and Keyboards
Guitar
Bass
Drums

For more information or to arrange interviews, contact:

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