



PRESENTS

The Thanksgiving Play

By Larissa FastHorse



February 6-16, 2025
Thurs - Sat 7:30pm, Sun 2:00pm
Orillia Opera House Studio Theatre
Tickets \$30

Co-Directed by Samantha Cole
Co-Directed by Alyssa LaPlume
Produced by Joan Mizzi-Fry
Poster Artwork by Windigo Army

Box Office 705-326-8011 or online at
www.mariposaartstheatre.com/thanksplay



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Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that we are gathered on the traditional territory of the Anishinaabeg, specifically the Ojibwa, Odawa and Potawatomi nations collectively known as the Three Fires Confederacy. This territory is part of the Williams Treaty of 1923, and the J. Collins land purchase of 1785.

We also recognize our neighbours the Chippewas of Rama First Nation. We invite you to learn more about their history from the Mnjikaning Fish Weirs, to their deliberate displacement from Orillia, along with the other nations of the Chippewa Tri-Council, to their enduring presence as the stewards of this land.

MAT is committed to moving forward in the spirit of reconciliation while celebrating the traditions, cultures, and undeniable impact of the First Nations, Inuit and Metis People.



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THE THANKSGIVING PLAY

By Larissa FastHorse

Co-Directed by
Samantha Cole & Alyssa LaPlume

About the Show

Good intentions collide with absurd assumptions in Larissa FastHorse's wickedly funny satire THE THANKSGIVING PLAY, as a troupe of terminally woke teaching artists scrambles to create a pageant that somehow manages to celebrate both Turkey Day and Native American Heritage Month.

Setting

A high school drama classroom located anywhere but the Los Angeles area.

This show runs approximately 90 mins with no intermission.

THE THANKSGIVING PLAY is presented in arrangement with Concord Theatricals.



CONTENT WARNING: Please note that this production contains depictions of violence and gore that may be triggering to some audience members. If you are sensitive to such content, please take necessary precautions. Your emotional well-being is important to us.

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTORS

When we were chosen to be co-directors on this project, we immediately fell into step with each other and our vision of the play. Most importantly, we both shared a healthy amount of fear and apprehension. Larissa FastHorse's wickedly smart satire must be handled right and as true to the intention as possible. This required some big swings with the content. Our promise to each other was to have true collaboration, check for blind spots, and call each other in/out if need be. We truly held up every choice, every detail under the microscope - we thank all of those that followed us through this project for their dedication, time, and hard work.

We said from the beginning that this show would fly or fail based on the success of finding a true ensemble. Our cast walked into the project on day one humble, with open minds and hearts ready to tackle their discomforts, ask questions, and learn. We are proud of them, and wish them a wonderful run.

The irony of two white people directing the show is not lost on us; this is the brilliance of Larissa's message within *The Thanksgiving Play*. It is impossible to be a part of this production as a non-Indigenous person without stepping into the realities of our privilege, our positionality to our history, and our relationship with the notion of 'taking space.' These characters hold up the mirror to the self professed ally, and we are no exception.

Larissa FastHorse designs her one-act plays where "the first act happens here in the space [...] the second act happens after you leave" (FastHorse, *The Broadway Show*, 2023). We directed the first act; the second act is in your hands.

Samantha Cole & Alyssa LaPlume
Co-Directors, *The Thanksgiving Play*

CAST

Caitlin Robson LOGAN
Jack Quail JAXTON
Peter Merkle CADEN
Ashley Legedza ALICIA

VIGNETTE ACTORS

Anastasia Vermeulen, Audrey Buchanan,
Gabriel Van Dam, Rachel Walker-Brown

PRODUCTION TEAM

Samantha Cole CO-DIRECTOR
Alyssa LaPlume CO-DIRECTOR
Joan Mizzi-Fry PRODUCER
Christopher Wright STAGE MANAGER
Leo ter Veen ASST. STAGE MANAGER

Stephanie Lamb PUBLICITY
Wayne Lennox SET CONSTRUCTION
Carol Sinclair COSTUME DESIGNER
Laurel Dewar PROPS MASTER
Susan Mitchell PROPS ASSISTANT
Savana Collier PROPS ASSISTANT
Madeline Thornton LEAD SET PAINTER
Catherine Sherwood ASST. YOUTH SET PAINTER
Faye Welbourn ASST. YOUTH SET PAINTER
Mariangela Sherwood ASST. SET PAINTER
Geoff Taylor VIDEOGRAPHER/EDITOR
Kristian Diesen COMPOSER (S3 & S5)



The use of any recording device, either audio or video, and the taking of photographs, either with or without flash, is strictly prohibited. Please turn off all electronic devices such as cellular phones, beepers and watches.

THANK YOU

Stage Manager Mentor: Leigh Rawlins

Set Movers: Brian Halbot, Jeff Halbot, Pierre Chamberlain, and Rick Cameron

Poster Artwork: Windigo Army

Headshot & Show Photography: Natalie Baker

Permission for Scene 1 Song Usage: The Kiboomers

Additional thanks: Coleman Terry, Duck Soup Productions, Evan MacRae, Jim Langman, Michael Beresford, and to Emily, Claude, Max, Emma & all the Staff at the Orillia Opera House.

**SCAN QR CODE TO ACCESS
FULL DIGITAL PROGRAMME,
CAST, CREW & AUTHOR BIOS,
AND MORE INFORMATION
ABOUT THE SHOW!**

or visit
mariposaartstheatre.com/thanksplay

SCAN ME



A vertical banner featuring a photograph of a woman with long blonde hair, identified as Becky Spencer, a Realtor. The background of the photo is a sunset over a body of water. In the top right corner, the Coldwell Banker logo is displayed, consisting of a stylized 'CB' with a star above the 'B', and the text "COLDWELL BANKER THE REAL ESTATE CENTRE. BROKERAGE". Below the photo, the name "Becky Spencer" is written in a cursive font, followed by "REALTOR®". At the bottom, the phone number "705.955.0644" and the email address "BeckySpencerRealEstate@gmail.com" are listed, along with the website "BeckySpencerRealEstate.com".

A horizontal banner for "MADE by SARAH" cakes. The top section has a maroon background with the text "CAKES • CUPCAKES • MACARONS" in white. Below this is a circular logo featuring a pink flower, a slice of orange, and a macaron. To the right of the logo, the text "MADE by SARAH" is written in a serif font, with "by" in a smaller, lighter font. The bottom section has a white background with a QR code on the left, followed by a left-pointing arrow and two social media icons: a globe for the website "madebysarahcakes.ca" and an Instagram icon for "@madebysarahcakes".

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