

Stage North planning musical, invites grassroots participation

Stage North's greatest musical venture is in the works.

Now is the time to get involved in this ambitious project which will bring talent from numerous areas together under one roof. The plans

are grand — designs are already in progress for an exciting and innovative stage setting. The music will be diverse. If you like country and western, old rock and roll or Elvis, sing-along-tunes or dramatic

choruses, you'll love this present-day opera.

The amateur theatre group is not only inviting people to enjoy a final product but also to get involved at the grassroots level. There are few groups as interdependent as a rural theatre and its community, and it is important to note that each relies directly upon the other for its success. By having a hand in the production itself all can 'reap the rewards' from an individual as well as a community position. This is what makes amateur theatre truly exciting.

Stage North's solid cultural investment in this area has been strong. Past musicals include Cruel Tears, a trucker's story complete

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with an 18-wheeler, The Wizard of Oz, Fiddler on the Roof, The King and I, were all triumphant if audience numbers are a criterion. And, these numbers would make any amateur theatre company in B.C. proud. This support in itself is a tribute to the people of Fort St. John.

With all this experience, coupled with fresh ideas and talents of those who will get involved for the first time, we should look forward to another notch in the cultural belt of our growing community.

Stage North is inviting anyone interested to meet some of the creative and dynamic people who make up the troupe. Anyone who might like to participate can call Judy at 785-9350.

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photo by Denise Dirksing

SITTING DOWN TO TEA, Elaine Harper (Marian Truscott, on right) discusses her relationship with her fiance Mortimer, with his aunts Martha and Abby (June Ainsworth and Mary Telford) in

Arsenic and Old Lace. A dress rehearsal was held last night, and performances start tonight at 8 p.m. in the Multi-purpose room at Northern Lights College. The show runs until Sunday Feb. 9.

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Interesting night of 'murder'

A Review
By DENISE DIRKSING

Murder is never funny at the best of times, but couple it with two dottering old aunts and the plot of *Arsenic and Old Lace*, and it makes for quite an entertaining evening.

Bodies begin to add up in this situational comedy as Martha (June Ainsworth) and Abby (Mary Telford) cheerfully poison their gentlemen boarders in an attempt to end to put

an end to their lonely existence.

Stashing the bodies in the cellar of their house with the help of an unbalanced uncle who thinks he's Teddy Roosevelt, the two aunts are more than content to carry on with questionable ways until their nerve-wrecked nephew, Mortimer (Daniel Vecchio) struggles to put an end to their missions of mercy.

Thicken the plot with an evil second

nephew Jonathan (David Ross) and his accomplice Dr. Einstein, (Dan Bosley) and you have a play that's well worth seeing.

Directed by Doug Xenis and presented by Stage North, *Arsenic and Old Lace* will be performed in the Multi-purpose room at Northern Lights College from Friday, Jan. 24, to Sunday, Feb. 9.

Tickets are available at the Art-space for \$7 an adult and \$4 for seniors and students.