



## OKTC STAGE DOOR NEWSLETTER

January 2016

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### **Welcome to OKTC's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary! Celebrating 25 Years of Amazing Youth Theatre!**

Happy New Year, OKTC families! We hope you have had a fantastic holiday season, and are excited to get back into the swing of things at the Spriet. Your OKTC staff is raring to go!

With a new year comes a fresh start – time to come up with new goals, and push forward with new hopes and dreams. What are you aspiring to achieve in 2016? Here at OKTC, our hope is always to provide our OKTC youth with an amazing theatrical experience, with the chance to learn new things, to make new friends, and to grow as performers and people. With hard work and positive attitudes, we really can achieve our dreams!

Have you made your New Year's resolution yet? If not, here are some resolutions you might want to think about:

- I resolve to go see more shows at the Spriet Family Theatre!
- I resolve to get more involved by volunteering my time at OKTC!
- I resolve to have an amazing summer theatre camp experience!
- I resolve to get re-connected with my old friends and theatre family that I might not have seen for a long time!
- I resolve to get my younger (aged 5-8) son/daughter/sister/brother/grandchild involved at OKTC!
- I resolve to work super-hard on my audition material and really nail my audition!
- I resolve to work hard during rehearsals and review my blocking/choreography/music at home each day!

Hey – OKTC can help with ALL those resolutions! Read on for more!

## OKTC Profile Series

### January's OKTC Alum: Lauren Vandervoort

**Career Field**

Arts Administration

**Favourite OKTC Show**

That is SUCH a tough question! Some really special experiences I remember: *Once on this Island* (the K.C. Cann version), *Smokey Joe's Café*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *13 the Musical*.

**Current Job and Employer:**

I am the Director of Marketing & Communications for Tarragon Theatre in Toronto. Tarragon is one of Canada's longest-running and best-known theatres for modern playwriting. In my job, I'm responsible for all our advertising, promotions, publicity, design, and patron communications (including social media & website). Simply put, it's my job to make sure people know about Tarragon, and sell them a ticket.



**What is one of your favourite OKTC memories?**

All my most favourite OKTC memories come from summers spent at camp: performance days, talent shows, lost & found skits, Aliens at Spencer, paint-your-counsellor days, Wednesday night staff meetings at the Hillier's, dressy-uppys, camp dances, and of course – flagpole. There really is no place like camp. A close second is spending time at the theatre with my mom, Peggy. She was the Head of Props for many years that I was in OKTC's Main Company, and it was really special to share those experiences with her.

**How did OKTC impact you to where you are today?**

My love for the arts – and specifically for theatre - definitely started at OKTC Summer camp back in the mid 90's. That passion kept me involved in theatre throughout my high school years, when our drama teacher Ms. MacMillan first brought us to the Tarragon to see plays. Truly, I feel like I was destined to end up here!

**What lessons did you take from OKTC that you feel are still applied in your daily occupation?**

In my role, it's very important that I have a strong understanding of the art form and the 'behind the scenes' work of the theatre,



as well as the different business aspects of marketing. Even though I'm no longer on stage or in the rehearsal hall, I still spend a lot of time thinking and talking about theatre and playmaking, and I definitely learned that at OKTC.



### **An OKTC show story:**

After spending 12 years together performing as members of OKTC (starting with Art Fidler's *Frosty Follies* back in 98!), and many summers at camp, it was really special to come back and work on *13 the Musical* with my pal Andrew Tribe. Many of the HUGELY talented cast members were our campers from way back when, and the show was all about growing up and finding your voice. It was a great way to sign-off my time at OKTC before moving to the big city.

*It would be difficult, if not impossible, to separate the person I am today from the time I spent at Original Kids: as a camper, counsellor, vocal coach, actor, stage manager, and director. Thank you for letting me be a part of this anniversary year!*

## **ATTEND THE TALE...**

### **SWEENEY TODD: School Edition**



Our final show of the Fall 2015 season is sure to bring you chills as we present ***Sweeney Todd: School Edition*** for the first time in OKTC history. The Demon Barber of Fleet Street comes to the Spriet Family Theatre January 6 to 10 and is sure to dish up a delicious theatrical treat! *Sweeney Todd: School Edition* is rated PG-13 and is 2.5 hours long.

Tickets are on sale now: 519-679-8989 or  
[https://oktc.secure.force.com/ticket/#details\\_a0Si000000CLNkUEAX](https://oktc.secure.force.com/ticket/#details_a0Si000000CLNkUEAX)

Want a sneak peek? Be sure to check out our teaser trailer here:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ak3UudJTrKQ>

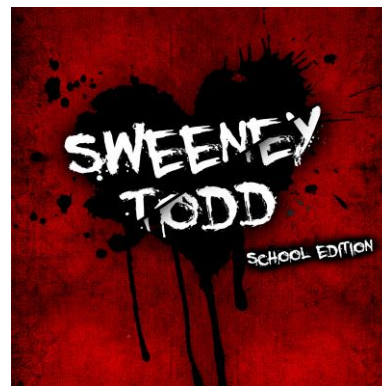


Photo Credit: Bryan Nelson

## FROM THE OKTC BOX OFFICE:

***\*\* The OKTC Box Office will be closed January 11 to January 22 \*\****

Spring season tickets go on sale **January 30, 2016**. For best seats, get your subscription now! Subscription sheets were included in your Spring 2016 casting package, or can be obtained at the OKTC Box Office.

Tickets for the **25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion Party on Saturday February 13** are on sale now! Get yours at the OKTC Box Office or order online at <http://originalkids.ca/25th-party-tickets.html>. Tickets are limited, so don't delay!

## ORIGINAL KIDLETS – BE A LITTLE STAR IN A BIG SKY!

### March Break Kidlets 2016 – ON SALE NOW!

If you know a young actor aged 5-8, they'll love getting down in the jungle with our fabulous March Break camp – **Jungle Party Tonight!** From March 14-18 they'll roar like lions, fly like flamingos, and strut their stuff in the wildness of the Spriet Family Theatre!

Registration is available on our website: <http://originalkids.ca/march-break-2016.html>

Spring Kidlets and Summer Kidlets Kamp go on sale **January 23 at 12:00pm!**



## CAMP OK 2016!

Are you getting excited for the summer? We sure are!

We would like to welcome Sydney Gilchrist as our new Camp OK Director for 2016! Sydney, currently in her fourth year at Queen's University in Kingston studying history, grew up through Camp OK and Original Kids. Sydney was a camper for 7 years and now will be serving her 8th summer on staff. As an Original Kid Main Cast member for 9 years, her favourite shows were *Aladdin* and *12 Angry Jurors*. Sydney was also a keen New York City tripper, having gone on the trip three times. We can't wait to see all of your exciting plans for Camp OK 2016!



### Want to register for Camp OK 2016?

Camp OK Shows will be announced on January 20 at 6:00 pm. **Registration begins January 23 at 12:00 pm!**

Camp OK dates for Summer 2016:

- SESSION 1: July 4 - July 15, 2016
- SESSION 2: July 18 - July 29, 2016
- SESSION 3: August 1 - August 12, 2016
- SESSION 4: August 15 - August 26, 2016

### Want to work at Camp OK 2016?

Postings for Artistic Staff and Senior Counsellors will be going up this month! Postings for Counsellors and SKITs (Senior Kids In Training) to follow – keep an eye on our Facebook page for more details!

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## THANK YOU!

Thank you to the J.P. Bickell Foundation for their generous donation of \$2,500 towards our Balcony project.

For more information about donations, click here: <http://originalkids.ca/donate-now.html>

## QUESTIONS? CONCERNS? CONTACT US!

OKTC Office – [originalkids@oktc.ca](mailto:originalkids@oktc.ca) // 519-679-0598

OKTC Box Office – [tickets@oktc.ca](mailto:tickets@oktc.ca) // 519-679-8989

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