

ECT

JANUARY 2021 NEWSLETTER

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**ECT now
Accepts E-
Transfers!**

**(Check out more on
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E-Transfer is Live for ECT!

Elora Community Theatre is happy to announce that we have moved into the 20th century and are now happy to receive payment for membership and donations by e-transfer at ECTFinances@gmail.com.

Membership Payment

Please add 'Membership' to the notes on the e-transfer. Please send a separate email to the same address with details of the membership including your contact information for all of the members covered by your membership - or attach a completed membership form. Forms are available for download on the website.

Make a Donation

Please add 'Donation' to the notes on the e-transfer. A donation receipt will be provided to you by email if you send a separate email to ECTFinances@gmail.com with the following information: your first name, middle initial, last name, and full street address, (CRA rules).

Thank you for your financial support.

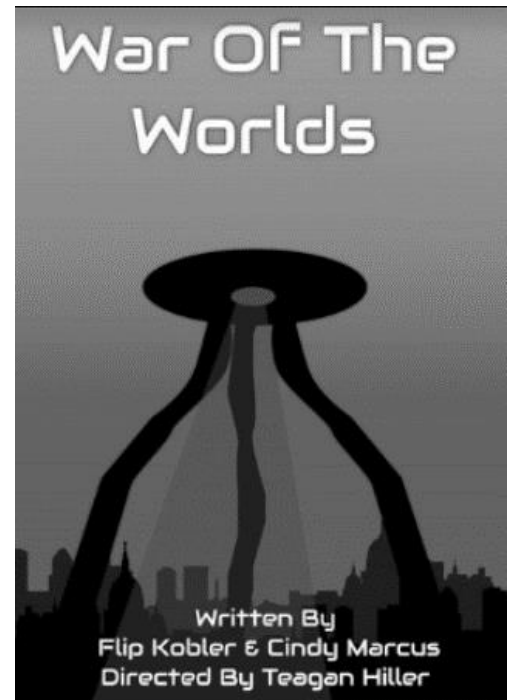
We really appreciate it (and need it at the moment!)



**THANK YOU
FOR
YOUR SUPPORT**

Virtual Playhouse - War of Worlds

The Elora Community Theatre was happy to present our youth production of War of Worlds on January 30th, 2021. This production marked 16-year-old Teagan Hiller directorial debut. "I chose to do this version of *War Of The Worlds* because it deals with some very relevant issues and right now, we need art that we can relate to," Hiller said. Inspired by Orson Wells' 1938 radio broadcast *The War of the Worlds*, this modern adaptation is designed to be rehearsed and performed live online.



"Even before I picked the show I knew I wanted to have a teen cast because teens have missed out on so many opportunities because of the pandemic," Hiller said. "Personally, I've had three shows I was a part of that have been cancelled or postponed because of COVID." Check out the talented youth involved in this thrilling production on pages 4 and 5.

Did you miss the streaming on January 30th where Martians landed, and were taking over the Earth? Do you know if our group of scrappy high-schoolers able to survive the invasion? **Check out the video now on ECT's Virtual Playhouse Youtube Channel!**

ECT'S VIRTUAL PLAYHOUSE

Virtual Playhouse - War of Worlds



Isaac Stacey as *Bean*

Isaac who is currently in grade 12 has been acting for almost 10 years being a part of various youth theatre productions, pantomimes, school plays, musicals, and more.

Isaac aspired to become a filmmaker and musician while still continuing to act.



Emma Douglas as *Dawn*

Emma is making her return to Elora Community Theatre after being a part of the 2018 production *Anne Of Green Gables*. Emma has worked with many theatre companies including Cambridge Community Players and Drayton Entertainment.



Olivia Walker as *Amanda*

Olivia has been interested in theatre since she was 9 playing Minnie May in the Elora Community Theatre production of *Anne Of Green Gables* she also was part of the ECT youth musical *Wonderland* and has worked with Center Wellington Children's Drama Club for various shows.

Ailish O'Donnell as *Chester*

Ailish is 14 and loves theatre, writing, and dancing. Her previous acting experience includes being a part of 2 pantomimes and a movie.



Virtual Playhouse - War of Worlds



Hayley Watson as *Carly*

Hayley has always loved acting and being on stage, she has done various types of dance since she was 2 years old and played Marc Antony in the Urban Arts Program's online production of *Julius Caesar*.

Rowan Veit as *Pierson*

Rowan has worked with Elora Community Theatre on numerous plays and musicals including playing Hatta in the youth musical *Wonderland* and playing multiple roles in *A Christmas Carol*.

Rowan has also worked with On The Spot Productions



Jessica Kaspar as *Lansing*

Jessica has been acting since she was 9 years old with her first show being ECT's production of *Narnia*. Jessica's other ECT shows include *Little Women* and *Wonderland*.



Cassandra Dammeier as *Robbins*

Cassandra loves to sing, dance, and act. Cassandra played the White Queen in Elora Community Theatre's youth musical *Wonderland*.



ECT's Virtual Playhouse – Line Up

The White Liars - February 27TH, 2020

DIRECTOR: Anthony Deciantis

SUMMARY

The White Liars depicts a fateful encounter between a down-and-out fortune teller, a rock musician, and his agent. The agent bribes Baroness Lemberg to fake some hocus-pocus over a crystal ball, ostensibly to discourage the musician from pursuing his girlfriend. The trickery entangles each of them in a dense web of mendacity.



Comedy
Adapted by
MARY HALL SURFACE

From the book by
KENNETH GRAHAME

The Reluctant Dragon - March 27TH, 2020

DIRECTOR: Fin Janleigh

SUMMARY

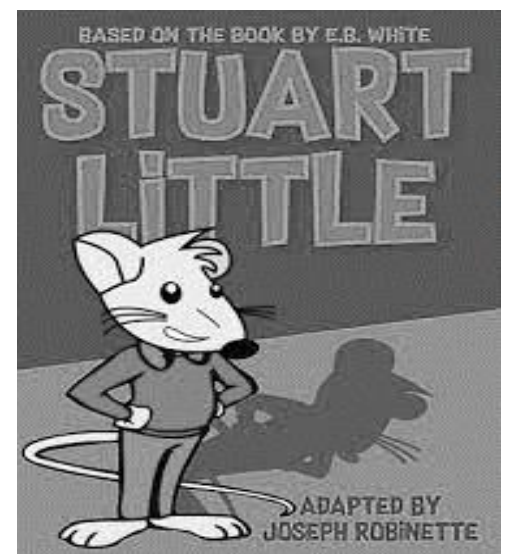
The Reluctant Dragon is about a boy named Glaston who discovers one of the last dragons living near his village. Contrary to his expectations the dragon is actually quite friendly and instead of eating sheep and terrorizing everyone, he likes to drink tea and write poetry. Unfortunately, the other villagers still see the dragon as a threat. Enter St. George the Dragon Slayer.....

Stuart Little - April 24TH, 2020

DIRECTOR: Deb Stanson

SUMMARY

Stuart is a mouse who is adopted into a human family. His new parents are sure thrilled with him, but everyone is not. Through a series of adventures he eventually gains the love of his big brother, acceptance by the extended **Little** family and even the grudging tolerance of the family cat.



Virtual Playhouse – The White Liars

Navigating a Production thru COVID-19: 101

Having the honour... and the arduous task... of directing the 2nd video-show of Elora's 4show mini season has been quite the challenge; especially, when the 'rules of engagement' have changed midway through production. The original intention was to bring the entire cast of three into our home; and only after satiating everyone with food, drink, and all sort of culinary delights (it's what Angela and I DO!!!) then, out were to come the cameras; and the digital "film" would be proverbially, rolling.

And then came the "Stay at Home Order" that we all are so familiar with. So, the predominantly stage cast and crew; who had already wrapped their collective heads around adapting for the camera, now have to adapt again for a stream: each, from our own homes.

I had found a lovely little One Act play named "White Lies" by Peter Shaffer; a charming 60min piece, written by the playwright of "Equus" and "Amadeus" fame. With the technical prowess of David Tanner; our Director of Photography, I had found the direction and vision of our production. Finally, came a wonderful cast comprising of:

Kevin Foad as TOM, a young musician in need of being taught a lesson,

John Settle as FRANK, the manager of the little Life education, and

Michelle Kreitzer Salmon, and the monumental SOPHIE; the bystander-pawn trapped on this chessboard... or is she the queen?

The cast has come together in the face of adversity not seen in the theatre since the time of Shakespeare, and are pulling through resounding. Our commitment now, is to stream... SOMETHING... as promised, on February 27th. But all are resolved to finish this project as was our original intention: as a full-length, traditional MOVIE. Even if that means we have to wait out Covid and all of it's obstacles.

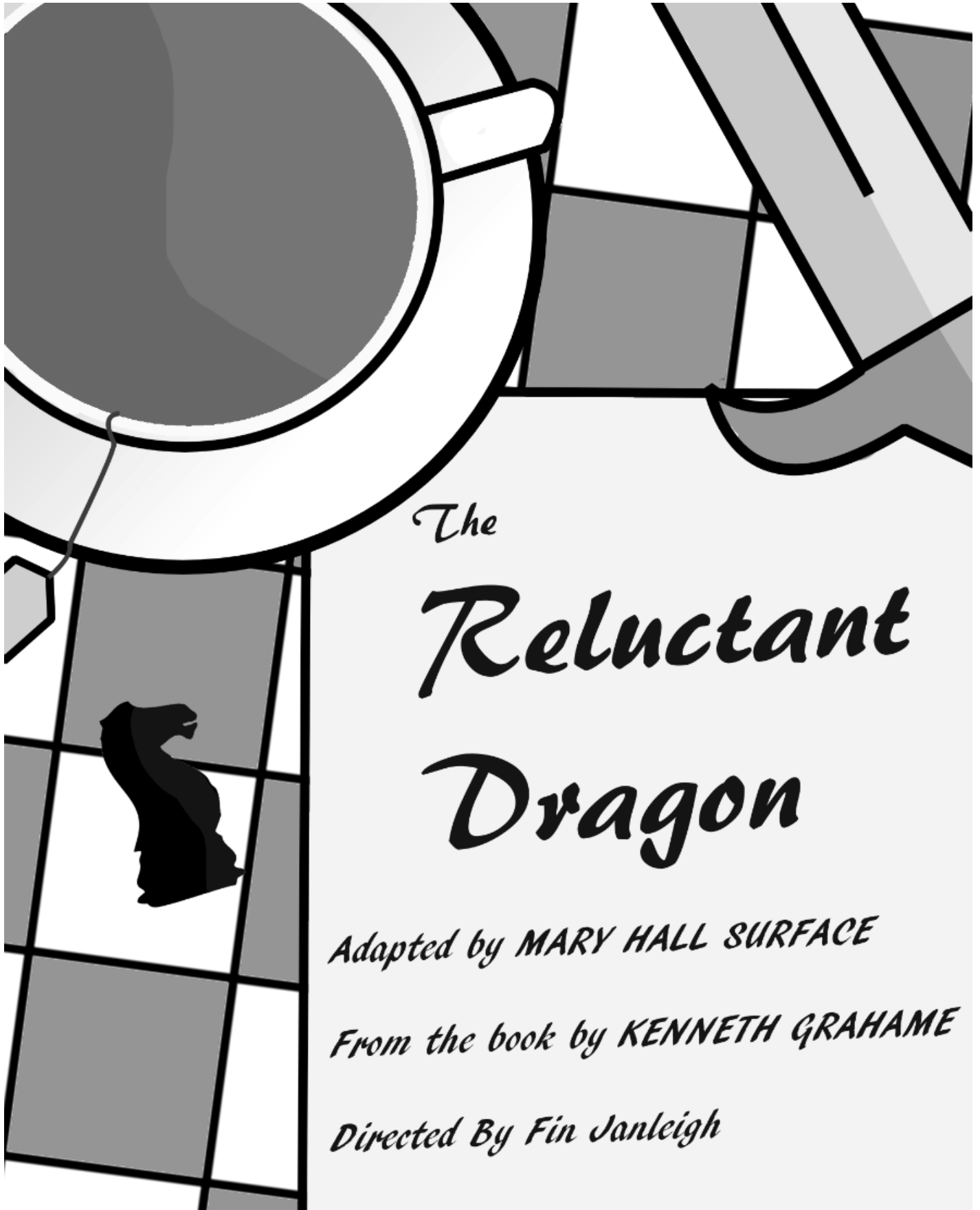
We will wait.

We will win.

We will get our way over Covid in spite of the road-blocks... or perhaps, TO spite the road blocks. I wish you all to join us for our steam on the 27th. But as with all things, the future looks brighter than the present.

Anthony Deciantis, Director of "White Lies"

UPCOMING AUDITIONS:



The

Reluctant Dragon

Adapted by MARY HALL SURFACE

From the book by KENNETH GRAHAME

Directed By Fin Janleigh

UPCOMING AUDITIONS:

Announcing Auditions for The Reluctant Dragon!

Looking for Youth Ages 10 to 18!

The youth production of "The Reluctant Dragon", directed by Fin Janleigh is currently looking for audio auditions! This show will be a radio drama streaming March 27th, with the first rehearsal occurring February 21st. Rehearsals run on Sunday and Tuesday evenings, from 7:30 to 9:00pm.

To audition for The Reluctant Dragon select and learn one of the monologues below. Don't worry about the character's gender, just pick the monologue you think you can do best.

Make an **audio only** recording of yourself performing the monologue. Say your name, and the character you are reading for before beginning your monologue. Before recording: make sure to find a quiet place with minimal background noise, make sure to stand while recording to improve sound, and make sure you can be easily heard in the recording.

Once you have finished, email your recording to finklaran@gmail.com. Please also include your name, contact info, and list of past productions in which you have participated, and let us know if you have any experience with music (singing, or playing an instrument).

All Auditions are due by Feb 13th 2021!

UPCOMING AUDITIONS:

The Reluctant Dragon Characters to Audition for:

Glaston - young child, loves stories and is fascinated with knights and mythical beasts

Darby - Glaston's Mother

Woolchetser – Glaston's Father, shepherd.

Kendral – Head of the town

Morpeth – Owner of the town tavern, maker of infamous meat pies.

Grimsby – Aspiring knight, he's all talk

The Dragon – A poetry loving gentleman who is also a dragon

St. George – a by-the-book knight

The Reluctant Dragon Monologue Options:

Monologue 1: Badger: Excellent and deserving animal! Now, there's just one more thing I want you to do, Mole, before you sit down to your supper along of us; and I wouldn't trouble you only I know I can trust you to see a thing done, and I wish I could say the same of every one I know. I'd send Rat, if he wasn't a poet. I want you to take those fellows on the floor there upstairs with you, and have some bedrooms cleaned out and tidied up and made really comfortable. See that they sweep *under* the beds, and put clean sheets and pillow-cases on, and turn down one corner of the bed-clothes, just as you know it ought to be done; and have a can of hot water, and clean towels, and fresh cakes of soap, put in each room. And then you can give them a licking a-piece, if it's any satisfaction to you, and put them out by the back-door, and we shan't see any more of *them*, I fancy. And then come along and have some of this cold tongue. It's first rate. I'm very pleased with you, Mole!"

UPCOMING AUDITIONS:

The Reluctant Dragon Monologue Options:

Monologue 2: Alice: [*Angrily*] Why, how impolite of him. I asked him a civil question, and he pretended not to hear me. That's not at all nice. [*Calling after him*] I say, Mr. White Rabbit, where are you going? Hmmm. He won't answer me. And I do so want to know what he is late for. I wonder if I might follow him. Why not? There's no rule that I mayn't go where I please. I--I will follow him. Wait for me, Mr. White Rabbit. I'm coming, too! [*Falling*] How curious. I never realized that rabbit holes were so dark . . . and so long . . . and so empty. I believe I have been falling for five minutes, and I still can't see the bottom! Hmph! After such a fall as this, I shall think nothing of tumbling downstairs. How brave they'll all think me at home. Why, I wouldn't say anything about it even if I fell off the top of the house! I wonder how many miles I've fallen by this time. I must be getting somewhere near the center of the earth. I wonder if I shall fall right *through* the earth! How funny that would be. Oh, I think I see the bottom. Yes, I'm sure I see the bottom. I shall hit the bottom, hit it very hard, and oh, how it will hurt!

Monologue 3: FATHER: It's all up with me! I seen him! Never more will I go up on them Downs. Not for all the shillin's in Sussex! You know that cave - the high one - up above the field where I tend me sheep? I never liked that cave, somehow. The sheep never liked it neither. And when sheep don't like a thing there's generaly some reason for it. For some nights past, I been hearin' faint noises comin' from the cave. Noises like heavy sighs, with grunts mixed up in 'em. Grunts! And snorin'! Far waay down deep snorin'. Not honest storin' like you an me a night, you know. So I took a cast round the cave, quietly, and I seen him! Saints defend us, I seen him as plain as I see you! He was sticin' halfway out the cave, as big as four cart horses, all covered with slimy shiny scales -And with every breath, fire flickered out of 'is nostrils. Its a dragon!

The Youth of ECT – The Veit Sisters



Bonds between sisters are strong, especially when we are talking about sisters, Hennessey & Rowan Veit. Only 21 months apart, they are inseparable. Both girls have a passion for the arts and have each chosen their own path. Hennessey, a grade nine student at Eastwood Collegiate's Integrated Arts Program, is a passionate musician whose life-long dream is to become a professional musician. When it comes to acting, Hennessey prefers to be behind the

scenes, helping with set painting, props, sound effects, and movie production. She has had the privilege to play her saxophone during the 2020 production of Love Letters, and just finished being a Foley Artist in Elora Community Theatre's, War of the Worlds.

Joining her sister in War of the Worlds as Pierson, Rowan prefers to be in front of the camera. Her passion for singing, acting, and dancing shines through every day, even taking to the middle of the living room to sing and act out her favourite musical song. Rowan, at 12 years old, is a veteran of Community Theatre, debuting in Elora Community Theatre's "A Christmas Carol" as Belle's daughter. She has also played, fun-loving Hatta, in ECT's production of "Wonderland", and has now had the opportunity to be part of two virtual play's: A Midsummer Night's Dream and War of the Worlds.





A Christmas Carol – December 2017



Wonderland, the Musical – June 2019