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Reading series kicks off Sunday

Posted By KERITH NICHOLL, THE INTELLIGENCER

Posted 21 hours ago

The Festival Players of Prince Edward County staff will be present the third annual playwrights reading series event -- hosted by Books and Company.

It will be held at Books and Company in Picton and will kick off Sunday with a reading by Suzanne Pasternak, a local singer/songwriter/playwright.

Pasternak will be joined by Marion de Vries, Bernie Gaw and Tom Leighton, collaborators of one of this seasons plays entitled Ship of Fire, who will read excerpts from their play, as well as, share some of the music from it.

Ship of Fire is a musical about the 1853 sinking of the luxury passenger steamship, the Ocean Wave on its voyage from Hamilton to Montreal. The play imagines some of the lives involved in that disaster and the stories of the everyday heroes who rescued the survivors.

"I think this will be the hit of this year's event," said Lisa Sterling, marketing and development intern with the Festival Players of Prince Edward County.

The play will run this summer from July 8-25 at the Mt. Tabor Playhouse in Milford.

The next two readings involved in the playwrights reading series will be held on June 7, when Leanna Brodie, writer of the play Schoolhouse, will make an appearance and on June 28, when Jim Betts, the writer of Colours in the storm, will talk about his career with Canadian theatre. All events will be held at 2 p. m. and run for an hour and a half.

"We're really trying to encourage locals to come out to this," said Sterling. "I have even been talking to local high schools and trying to get some of the drama kids to come out because it will be a great experience for them and a chance to pick a playwrights brains."

Admission to the reading series is free and there will be refreshments available.

For more information call Lisa Sterling at 613-399-5677.

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