

YES Theatre and the Sudbury Symphony Announce Collaborative Project

Live concert version of Les Misérables will run in December 2014

Sudbury, ON Dec. 20, 2013: Christmas will come early for local fans of the arts as **YES Theatre** announces a collaboration with one of Sudbury's oldest cultural institutions at the young theatre company's holiday gala on Friday night at the Caruso Club.

The **Sudbury Symphony** and **YES Theatre** will premiere a **concert version** of the hit musical, **Les Misérables**. The **three-night only** engagement in **December 2014** will pair YES Theatre's signature vocal sound with the orchestral talents of the Sudbury Symphony.

The hit musical, which is enjoying a revitalization due to a recent **Academy Award Winning film** and **live performances in Toronto**, tells an enthralling story of broken dreams, unrequited love, passion, sacrifice, redemption and the human spirit - all set against the backdrop of 19th century revolutionary France. The main character, Jean Valjean is hunted for decades by a ruthless policeman, Javert, after he breaks parole. When Valjean agrees to care for factory worker Fantine's young daughter, Cosette, their lives are changed forever, as are the lives of every citizen in a France filled with change and political upheaval.

"I can't think of a better time to stage this than the holiday season," stated **Sudbury Symphony Executive Director Dawn Cattapan**. "Many of the themes of the show- love, forgiveness and caring for those who are less fortunate are on everyone's minds at this time of year."

For both companies, this engagement is the opportunity to show Sudbury a different side; this will mark the **first time** the Sudbury Symphony has performed a **full musical**; this will also be YES Theatre's first engagement with a **live orchestra** and a **concert-only** version of a stage musical. The company expects to wear costumes and use the occasional prop; however, apart from minor movement on stage, the performers will not participate in major action sequences, instead allowing the music to deliver this emotional tale to the audience.

"This is a fantastic way for two of Sudbury's most respected artistic entities to come together," said **Alessandro Constantini, YES Theatre's Artistic Director**. "We're just as excited as the Sudbury Symphony to give this incredible gift to our community."

Tickets for *Les Misérables* in Concert are \$35 each for adults, and \$25 for students and seniors.

Subscribers to the Sudbury Symphony's 14.15 season and YES Theatre preferred patrons will receive priority seating when tickets go on sale in the New Year, until July 31, 2014. Remaining tickets will go on sale to the general public on August 1.

About the Sudbury Symphony Orchestra:

Performing a 6 concert season annually, the Sudbury Symphony Orchestra is recognized as one of Sudbury's leading performing arts institutions and a leader in orchestral music in Northern Ontario. Tickets are available online at sudburysymphony.com or by phoning the box office at 705.673.1280.

Founded in 1953, the Sudbury Symphony Orchestra's mission is to increase the awareness and appreciation of music in the Sudbury Region and surrounding area by providing the opportunity for the public to attend a stimulating program of concerts and by encouraging artistic excellence, commitment and education. The Season Presenting Sponsor is Petryna Advertising. The Amped Up! Program is presented by Vale. The SSO is grateful for the support of its government funding partners: The Ontario Arts Council and the City of Greater Sudbury.

About YES Theatre:

YES Theatre is one of the City of Greater Sudbury's newest professional theatre companies that has entertained audiences since 2010. YES Theatre looks to demonstrate the exceptional talent found here in Greater Sudbury in every area of a production, including: acting, producing, directing, choreography, lighting, sound, music, set design, costume design, makeup and more. Their directive is to enable local artists an avenue to share their talents in a professional theatre experience in the Sudbury community. No previous theatre experience is necessary, as there are mentors and community leaders who will provide their expertise and support every step of the way to educate and explore the many talents of local artists.

Join YES Theatre for their Five Year Anniversary season including *Jesus Christ Superstar* and *In the Heights* this July and August at the Sudbury Theatre Centre.

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