



THE OTTAWA SCHOOL OF SPEECH AND DRAMA

The Ottawa School of Speech & Drama (OSSD) is a registered charity offering training and education in theatre for all ages in the National Capital region. Currently in its 23rd year of operation the school is recognized for its high standards and commitment to the growth of theatre in the Ottawa region.

OSSD's impact on the community is significant. Throughout the year the school plays multiple roles as a provider of in-demand creative programming, multi-purpose theatre facility, major employer of arts professionals, popular draw to the Westboro area, and economic engine in Ottawa.

Some Facts about OSSD:

- **Annual registrations:** have grown from 794 (2002/3) to 1725 (2010/11 estimate). The operating budget has increased from \$418,982 (2002/3) to \$930,000 (2010/11). Approximately 50 different classes are held weekly. There are 25 one and two week summer camps and 4 March Break camps
- **The Ottawa Theatre School:** A Private Career College, recognized by the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Education, offering a 3-year intensive conservatory training program, unique in Eastern Ontario.
- **Outreach programs:** \$40,000 spent annually on outreach to marginalized children, youth, and seniors throughout the city. OSSD partners with social services agencies and schools to identify groups that benefit from its programming.
- **Scholarships:** Given to children of need and youth at risk: an average of 60 scholarship students per year, representing \$28,000 in waived tuition fees.
- **Employment:** 40 - 50 artists/educators on contract each year, representing approximately \$400 000 in contract salaries.
- **Performances:** OSSD annually produces 7 plays suitable for family and attended by approximately 1800 children, youth and adults. Over 4000 people attend free presentations throughout the year. Working with the local theatre community, The Ottawa Theatre School (OTS) produces or co-produces 4 plays, attended by approximately 2500 members of the general public.
- **Theatre for Young Audiences:** OSSD annually produces a play for elementary school children that is toured into area schools and performed in the Natalie Stern Studio Theatre. In 2011, the play was seen by 3000 children.
- **Community Builder:** *The Children's Republic*, a play commissioned by OSSD, and co-produced with the Great Canadian Theatre Company, is an example of how OSSD forges new relationships between different organizations. Representatives from the artistic and business communities, British, American, Israeli and Polish embassies, youth and adults, worked together to develop the most successful production in the GCTC's history. The production received international attention.