



September 30th, 2020

Before we begin this evening, I just want to acknowledge all Streetlight members and community members that may be struggling at this time, whether for personal reasons or because of the current pandemic. Please remember you all have the love and support of the Streetlight community.

Well where to begin... what a year this has been, as my first year as president! When taking on this role, I knew I had very big shoes to fill, following in the footsteps of Karen Keels, our past president. This meant I had to make sure to be on my best game because Karen has always led with integrity, compassion and a common goal, which all of the executive members have and that is to keep the theatre arts alive and well in the Ottawa Valley. I also knew that coming into this role, I was going to continue to work with an exceptional executive committee that works tirelessly, to make sure that our community has the opportunity to both participate in the theater arts and to enjoy the theater as an audience member. I hope I have done you all proud since taking on the role as president because I recognize the value that each and every one of you bring to this committee, along with the countless hours you devote to making Streetlight Theatre be the best it can be.

I can't go on, before taking a moment to recognize my amazing vice-president. Thank you, Katherine, for always being such a team player and my right hand on this journey. You are so appreciated!

Now, onto this past year's activities. First off, we now have Streetlight clothing that executive members, Mel and Katherine spearheaded. We think it is important to be visible in the community and bring awareness around what we do as a theatre company. This initiative was a great step in that direction. If you want Streetlight theatre clothing, please inquire by asking through any of our social media platforms.

We had the opportunity this past year to showcase talented performers from Streetlight Theatre at the charity event *Dinner en Blanc*. Performers provided excellent entertainment to support the charity festivities. The attendees of this event raved about how amazing their performances were and how it added a very special spark to the occasion.

We were very excited that Streetlight Theatre presented the outstanding youth musical, *Into The Woods*, led by executive members Aimee Garcia, Mel McClelland, April Laabs & Carma Webber. This was an amazing performance because of the dedication and work by all those on the production team, the many volunteers and of course by our talented youth. The audience was captivated as soon as the curtain lifted and were transported into this world of fairy tale, music and adventure. This show was no doubt a great success and enjoyed by all!

As we all know, the Covid 19 pandemic has affected us all and we are still in the thick of it trying to learn, stay safe and navigate where we go next. Because of this pandemic, we had to cancel our upcoming show for this season, *The Newsies*. We were so sad to let this project go, as we already had it cast and plans were being made to get production up and running. However, we knew that health and safety is always a top priority and even though this show could not go on

as planned, we continue to hope that someday soon, we can get back at doing what we love and that is providing top notch, quality shows for our community to both enjoy and participate in.

A further result of Covid-19 has meant that we are not taking in any funds. As you know the only way we make money is through our productions. Like many non-profit organizations, we rely on these productions to make enough money to pay rent and other expenses. As an executive we knew that we needed to reach out to our beloved community and ask for help. Streetlight is a non-profit organization that we want to see still standing after Covid 19 so that we can return to what we love doing, putting on shows, providing opportunities for creativity and artistic expression.

We drafted and posted a letter asking for donations through our social media outlets and we were overjoyed to see that our community members heard our call for help and have been sending us generous donations. This both humbled us and showed us that our community supports the arts and wants to see the work that we do continue. To these amazing community members, we extend a massive thank you, to you.

However, our community did not stop there. With the leadership of our executive member, April Laabs, a fundraiser was created to help support Streetlight Theatre, Booze Survivor! So many people signed up and contributed to this exciting and fun fundraiser. We are again, so very thankful for everyone's contribution and support in this endeavor. We as an executive, are so appreciative of our community and we want you to know that your kindness and generosity will never be forgotten.

Finally, we do have some fun endeavors to explore in the future, which will include possible future shows and the location we are currently housed, but that is still upcoming!

Thank you all, for attending, thank you to our community and thank you to our executive members.

Stay healthy, stay safe,

Kyle Gleason
Streetlight President