

# Bobcaygeon's Globus Theatre gets creative for Season Within Reason

*Catherine Whitnall*

Necessity is said to be the 'mother of invention' but it's creativity that provides the fuel.

Having to cancel this year's summer season of live shows at The Lakeview Arts Barn to keep everyone safe during COVID-19 pandemic was a difficult one for Sarah Quick, James Barrett and their board, but they were determined it was only a temporary setback.

"We felt compelled to do something creative as long as it fit within the parameters of what's been happening," said Quick, noting the company is fortunate to have 7,000 square feet of space for physical distancing and seating of up to 50 audience members for this year's Season Within Reason.

"Normally, we'd be doing auditions and casting, then move on to rehearsals and pulling together costumes and sets, lighting and sound. But we can't very well do that right now and stay safe, so we had to come up with something that would work within our space, meet safety protocols and still be entertaining."

It all starts with a dinner theatre style play reading series opening with Norm Foster's *Renovations for Six* (Aug. 22), *Pinkerton Comes to Prospect* by Jamie Williams (Sept. 10), *Where You Are* (Sept. 19) by Kristen Da Silva and Quick's own *#Happy* (Oct. 1).

The season continues with *Kama Sutra*, the play Quick co-wrote with Peter McGarry, Aug. 27 to 29, then innovation gets kicked up a notch with *Bobcaygeon-ation Street of Our Lives*, a live, improvised soap opera.

"We have an amazing number of colleagues who excel with improv and this is the perfect vehicle for them," said Quick.

The production, which runs as a three-'episode' show series will be performed Sept. 24 to 25 in front of a live audience at the theatre and another online. Each 'episode' will start with its own plot — subsequent shows also building on "previously on ..." — and welcome a plethora of special guests including students from the troupe's School of Dramatic Arts which operates from the downtown Bobcaygeon box office.

Quick said the site will also be used for some story time sessions for children.

"I think it's a great opportunity to use a fun environment to climatize children who will be going back to school in September as to the new normal they will be experiencing," said Quick, noting all public health safety protocols will be in place.