

ENTERTAINMENT

Georgetown Little Theatre Youth Company opened its production of *The Georgetown Boys* on Thursday night at the GLT Studio, as the company brought the history of the Armenian Boys of Georgetown back to life on the stage. Among those taking part are hungry boys (from left), Eric Gibson as Taniel, William Kutarna as Mikayel, Christopher Leon as Hovsep, Ginny Anderson as Old Man and Holly Kallmeyer as Mrs Adomian.

Photo by Ted Brown



GLT Youth Company to perform original play on local history

CAT HEAVEN
GLT Youth Company producer

The Georgetown Little Theatre Youth Company (GLTYC) is staging an original production called *The Georgetown Boys* this month.

The GLTYC is proud to present this original theatrical production based upon the stories written by Marsha Forchuk Skrypuch and adapted for the stage by Sam Hancock. The two-week run of the production will take place at the GLT Studio in Stewarttown from May 1 to 10, with a special one-night-only Gala Performance at the John Elliott Theatre on May 14.

To purchase tickets for the Studio performances, please call 905-877-3422. Tickets are \$10.

This production is indicative of the growth of the Youth Company over the past five years. The young cast and crew are thrilled to be a part of this unique event. Based on two books by award-winning author Marsha Forchuk Skrypuch, *Aram's Choice* (available in stores now) and *Call Me Aram* (to be released in fall 2008), *The Georgetown Boys* was adapted for the stage and directed by local Georgetown resident, Sam Hancock. He has directed many productions since graduating from Guelph University's theatre program. His plays have won audience awards and have been staged in Toronto, New York and San Francisco.

Forchuk Skrypuch is the author of many books for children, including *Silver Threads* and *Enough* as well as her Young Adult novels, *The Hunger* and *Nobody's Child*, which was nominated for the Red Maple Award, the Alberta Rocky Mountain Book Award, and the B.C. Stellar Award.

In 1923, 110 young Armenian boys, aged 8-12, were brought to Canada to live on Cedar Vale Farm in Georgetown where they were trained in farming with the aim of becoming Canadian farmers. *The Georgetown Boys* documents a significant moment in the history of Georgetown and Canada. It was "Canada's noble experiment" —Canada's first international humanitarian effort. Many of these orphans grew up and settled in Southern Ontario, reuniting with their friends as often as they could, forming a tight-knit community that continues to this day among their descendants.

The Georgetown Little Theatre is proud to support the efforts of the Youth Company. There are 24 performers in this production with as many, if not more, adult and youth volunteers helping backstage. Organizing and rallying this large troupe of theatre artists is Cat Heaven, Sue Bryan and Kay d'Entremont who have been the guiding force behind the GLTYC since its inception in 2003.

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