



Media Release

UPCOMING FUNDRAISERS SUPPORT SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

Sept. 13, 2010

Two major St. Lawrence Shakespeare Festival fundraisers are rapidly approaching, the first being a presentation of award-winning Canadian play *Jake's Gift* Oct. 2-3, the second a five-course gourmet dinner set for Oct. 9.

Beginning at 6 pm with a champagne reception, tickets for *Shakespeare and Song* are \$250 each which includes a \$175 tax receipt. It'll be held in the chapel of the former Grenville Christian College on Highway 2 just west of Prescott. Canadian Opera Company soprano Megan Latham will entertain guests.

Jake's Gift will be staged at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Prescott Oct. 2 at 7:30 pm, and Oct. 3 at 2 pm. Tickets are \$20 each.

Written and performed solo by Julia Mackey with a running time of 60 minutes, "Jake's Gift" is set in Normandy on the 60th anniversary of the D-Day Allied landings. In revisiting the site, 80-year-old Canadian WW2 veteran Jake encounters 10-year-old Isabelle whose inquisitive nature and charm challenge the old soldier to confront some long-ignored ghosts.

In past reviews, *Jake's Gift* has been called an "acting tour-de-force" and a "near-perfect play". Mackey's transformation between characters has been described as "stunning and nuanced".

The dinner featuring Megan Latham and *Jake's Gift* continue the St. Lawrence Shakespeare Festival's developing tradition of hosting significant cultural events in its home-base of Prescott outside the bounds of the summer festival itself.

"Not only do they provide high-caliber entertainment, but these events are another way for us to help cover some of our annual costs," said Sandra Lawn, chair of the company board of directors. "While the festival has been expanding every year and so have its revenues, expenses are also going up as we cater to our growing market."

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TICKETS, CONTACT:
613-925-5788 or www.stlawrenceshakespeare.ca

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