

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SJTC Secures \$7,000 Grant for Educational Outreach from New Brunswick Children's Foundation

SAINT JOHN – The Saint John Theatre Company (SJTC) is excited to announce that they have been awarded \$7,000 by the NB Children's Foundation. This funding will enhance Educational Outreach programs for youth in Southern New Brunswick. The following projects make up the proposed educational outreach activities for the company's 35th season of work.

Ukrainian Collaboration: an initiative with the Pro-English Theatre from Kyiv, Ukraine. This will include live and streaming performances and discussion sessions for students in the greater Saint John area. The aim is to offer perspectives on the current situation in Ukraine. Tour dates have been tentatively scheduled for the Fall of 2025.

De-Consecration Project: as part of the company's dedication to First Nations reconciliation, artist Lara Lewis will research the history of the Saint John County Courthouse. Her findings will lead to a future performance piece shared with schools at no cost. A digital version will also be available for classrooms.

Digital Outreach: the SJTC will continue to provide digital offerings, including summer productions of *Macbeth* and *Hamlet* by Loyalist City Shakespeare. The popular production *We Were Here* by Clyde A. Wray will also be available for educators to stream in Southern NB, complete with study guides.

ARC Academy: in the spring of 2025, ARC Academy will provide theatre education opportunities for young adults, paving the way for a comprehensive training centre.

New Education Outreach Coordinator: Jesse McRae has joined us to manage our school engagement across Saint John, Kings, and Charlotte counties. A main goal is to re-establish the SJTC Education Outreach Committee to better support school curriculums.

We sincerely thank the NB Children's Foundation for their generous support, allowing us to enrich the educational experiences of local youth.

The New Brunswick Children's Foundation, governed by a fifteen-member board, represents communities throughout the province. Since its founding, the Foundation has awarded over \$20 million to organizations and charities supporting children's needs, with that figure growing annually. The organization boasts a 170-year legacy of providing for the wellbeing and success of children in the province, adapting to meet the ever-changing needs.