

## ***So You Think You Can Act*** ***Features Local Celebrities Battling for the Prestigious Trophy!***

**Winnipeg, December 5, 2011**– On February 16<sup>th</sup> at the Gas Station Theatre the inaugural *So You Think You Can Act* event will entertain audiences. *So You Think You Can Act* is a fun fundraiser supporting the transformative theatre work of Sarasvati Productions. The evening will feature celebrities, famous for things other than theatre, testing out their acting chops in front of a panel of judges and an audience. The audience will choose the winner of the inaugural trophy.

This year's theme is Love Gone Wrong in honour of the post-Valentine's Day date. Audiences will be treated to scenes about bad break-ups, unrequited love and failed wooing.

"We are looking forward to an entertaining night with a great array of Winnipeg talent," said Artistic Director Hope McIntyre. "We've been talking about this fundraiser for a long time and it is great to be able to launch it in February. We have a packed season and this event will go a long way towards supporting the important work we are creating."

Big Daddy Tazz promises to keep the evening fun as emcee and representatives from the theatre and improvisation community will be sitting at the judges' table. Kayla Gordon (Winnipeg Studio Theatre), Robert Metcalfe (Prairie Theatre Exchange) and Lee White (CRUMBS Improv) will be taking on the roles of the typical reality competition judges. The judges' commentary will range from the ludicrous to the absurd, but it will be the audience who crowns the winner.

The list of local celebrities range from radio, television and print media as well as former politicians and well known entertainers. We are especially excited to have Hot 103's Ace Burpee take the stage in a scene with his mother, local performer Jane Burpee. Our wonderful celebrities are:

- Ace Burpee (Hot 103)
- Randall King (Winnipeg Free Press)
- Tracy Koga (Shaw TV)
- Sylvia Kuzyk (former CTV weather specialist)
- John Lu (TSN)
- Howard Mandshein (92 CITI FM)
- Laurie Mustard (The Winnipeg Sun)
- Al Simmons (musician/entertainer)
- Judy Wasylycia-Leis (former MP)
- In addition, special guests will be announced closer to the event!

*So You Think You Can Act* will run on February 16<sup>th</sup> at 8pm. Tickets are \$25, which includes a wine reception, and can be purchased through [www.sarasvati.ca](http://www.sarasvati.ca) or at 586-2236.

**About Sarasvati Productions:** *We seek to inspire artists and audiences through the use of theatre and to provide a place where artists can develop, showcase their skills and celebrate their creativity.*