

GROS MORNE THEATRE FESTIVAL

STORIES FROM THE HEART



Theatre Newfoundland Labrador

Established in 1979, Theatre Newfoundland Labrador is a professional theatre company based in Western Newfoundland that is dedicated to the creation and development of new plays for and about the people of Newfoundland and Labrador.

In 1996 Theatre Newfoundland Labrador started the Gros Morne Theatre Festival, a summer festival featuring up to eight productions running in repertory. Working in partnership with Shallow Bay Motel, the Gros Morne Theatre Festival operated out of the Warehouse Theatre here in Cow Head for 22 years.

Shows by Theatre Newfoundland Labrador have gone on to tour around the world, visiting cities throughout Canada and even making international stops in England, Ireland, and Australia.

In 2021 Theatre Newfoundland Labrador opened the Nurse Myra Bennett Centre for Performing Arts, a new state-of-the-art theatre named after local outport nurse Myra Bennett, recognizing her extraordinary contributions to healthcare here on the Great Northern Peninsula.

Theatre Newfoundland Labrador is a member of the Professional Association of Canadian Theatres and is a registered Canadian charity. If you are passionate about supporting Newfoundland and Labrador artists and the stories they tell, please consider making a [donation](#).

Thank you for joining us for another beautiful summer in Cow Head!



Welcome from our Artistic Producer

Welcome to the 2026 Gros Morne Theatre Festival!

I've programmed a season of stories from the heart for you this summer. Every production in our season investigates the meaning of home. On our stages you'll encounter lives marked by resilience in the face of hardship, moments of deep and tender connection, and stories that ask how we came to be here.

We're returning to a Gros Morne Theatre Festival classic, *Stars in the Sky Morning* by Rhonda Payne. A play inspired by true stories collected from women who grew up, here on the Great Northern Peninsula.

Governor General Award-winning Newfoundland and Labrador playwright Robert Chafe offers us a more contemporary setting in his play *One Foot Wet* that follows a young Newfoundlander on a mission to retrace her family's heritage.

Powerhouse novelist and playwright Megan Gail Coles returns to her home here on the GNP with the world premiere of her new play *Building Houses*. The next installment in the Driftwood Trilogy, *Building Houses* investigates the foundational story of the island and its first peoples. It's one you definitely won't want to miss.

Whether you've called this place home your entire life, or are just passing through for one night, I know you will leave our theatre carrying a piece of Newfoundland and Labrador with you.

Thank you for being here with us. If you enjoyed yourself, please tell a friend, or better yet, come back and visit us again. Enjoy the show!

Nicholas Leno
Artistic Producer, Theatre Newfoundland Labrador



NEDDY NORRIS NIGHT

June 4th - September 13th , 2026

Connect with our culture.

Running for over 25 years, *Neddy Norris Night* is an evening of traditional folk music and stories from around the province. We guarantee that in addition to clapping your hands and tapping your toes, you'll leave with a little piece of Newfoundland and Labrador in your heart.



Cast:

Allison Crowe
Nick Hamlyn
James Squires

Creative team:

Allison Crowe, Creator & Director
Adam Brake, Stage Manager
Natalie Hutchings, Stage Manager
Nathan McConnell, Lighting Designer
Nála Simone Lendor, Costume Designer
Denise Dolliver, Set Designer



Prizes for *Neddy Norris Night* are generously donated by our friends at [The Dark Tickle Company](#). You can find their fabulous products in shops all around the province, but be sure to visit them on your Northern Peninsula travels!

Allison Crowe



Corner Brook's Allison Crowe has been creating music for documentaries (Ashley MacDonald's "September 7, 2012") and feature films (Zack Snyder's Justice League, Man of Steel, and Army of the Dead), film composition (Zack Snyder's Rebel Moon) to performing on stage (Squeamish directed by Adam Brake, Hard Ticket Theatre's The Weir directed by Mark Bradbury, GMTF multiple seasons including Supper Club by Willow Kean and directed by Nick Leno, various roles in Newfoundland Rocks which she co-wrote with Adam Brake, The Birds directed by Varrick Grimes, Jewel directed by Nicole Rousseau and Bingo Ladies directed by Pamela Halstead and Jerry Etienne. She is humbled and grateful to be back for her 14th season with GMTF!

Nick Hamlyn



Nick Hamlyn is a singer, multi-instrumentalist and actor from Corner Brook, Newfoundland. After a fantastic year that included winning Best New Director and Best Presentation for 'Exit, Pursued by a Bear' at the 2026 Provincial Drama Festival, starring in OBP's production of 'Groundhog Day' and performing a musical written by and starring Kevin MacDonald of Kids in the Hall. He is thrilled to return to GMTF for his second season.

James Squires



James Squires (BFA) is a performer from Pasadena, Newfoundland. He has been lucky enough to work with New Found Family Drama and Rising Tide Theatre, among others. James is also a member of the sketch comedy troupe, The Four Idiots. He has put particular focus on writing original works in recent years and showcasing them wherever he is allowed. James can't wait to be back at TNL for his third season!

Adam Brake



Adam is a theatre creator and educator based out of Corner Brook, NL. He works both on and off the stage acting, directing, and writing. Adam has taught at Grenfell in the theatre program since 2014, and recently opened Open Door Theatre, a youth-focused theatre company, in Corner Brook, and is excited to be back in Gros Morne this summer.

Natalie Hutchings



Born and raised here in Cow Head, 2026 marks Natalie's 6th year with GMTF. This is Natalie's second year as a Stage Manager and she also helped with some marketing and fund development throughout the year! While previous years had her serving and bartending, she also helped make the move from the Warehouse Theatre to the Nurse Myra Bennett Centre for the Performing Arts. Natalie would like to thank everyone that has helped her along the way with a special shoutout to Denise Dolliver for all her guidance, inspiration and for believing in her. Natalie's excited for patrons to experience GMTF's 2026 season!

Nathan McConnell



Nathan McConnell is a Gatineau/Ottawa-based Stage Manager/Technician. He is a graduate of John Abbott College's Professional Theatre Production program in both their Technical and Design streams. Credits include Stage Manager for Newfoundland Rocks, Falling Trees, The S.S. Ethie (TNL) and Assistant Stage Manager for The Supine Cobbler (GCTC). He also works as a Lighting Technician throughout Ottawa having lit multiple shows and events at National Arts Centre, Meridian Theatres @ CentrepoinTE and Shenkman Arts Centre

Nála Simone Lendor



Nála is a Toronto Costume Designer and Head of Wardrobe. She has worked across all areas of wardrobe, from design to management, with companies like Souleppper, Obsidian, and Tarragon, bringing creativity to every project. She explores the power of art through storytelling with textiles and other materials. She is a graduate of Toronto Metropolitan University's Performance Production and Design program with a minor in Fashion Studies. You can also find her @nalaslendor (Instagram) and on her website

Denise Dolliver



Denise has been a theatre professional for 36 years and has worked in various capacities in theatre production, administration, and as a theatre instructor. Denise has designed set and props for TNL's Gros Morne Theatre Festival, and for Neptune Theatre's Young Neptune Company and Youth Theatre Company. In her spare time, Denise loves to beachcomb with her two dogs, do various handicrafts, and enjoys having a jigsaw puzzle in progress!

Nicholas Leno



Nicholas Leno is the Artistic Producer of Theatre Newfoundland Labrador where he programs the Gros Morne Theatre Festival and manages the Nurse Myra Bennett Centre for the Performing Arts alongside his partners in crime Dana Pittman and Dawn Payne. Born and raised in Grey County Ontario, Nicholas received a BA in Theatre from Brock University and an MFA in Theatre Directing from the University of Ottawa. Prior to working for TNL he was the artistic director of a Company of Fools and the festival director of the Fresh Meat Festival, both beloved arts organizations located in Ottawa ON. Past GMTF shows include: Freeman & Becky (director), Supper Club (director), Hero Dog (dramaturge), Newfoundland Rocks (dramaturge), The S.S. Ethie (ruffles the dog)



HAVIN' A TIME

WITH DANIEL PAYNE

June 9th - August 24th, 2026

Come experience classic Newfoundland and Labrador music from a master of tin whistle, accordion, fiddle, and bodhran - Daniel Payne! Daniel has become a legend around these parts for his extensive knowledge of traditional NL music. It's a night you won't want to miss.



Daniel grew up in Cow Head and became hooked on playing music in his teens. Since then he's traveled the world singing and playing the dance tunes of Newfoundland and Labrador. These days he's busy being a dad and creating videos for his YouTube channel New Found Tunes with Daniel Payne.

Havin' a time with Daniel Payne is sponsored for the season by our friends at Northern Tire & Automotive Ltd. Proudly serving Cow Head and surrounding areas for all your tire and auto needs.

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COMMUNITY

The **2026 Community Subscription** offers a discounted subscription rate to patrons in our local communities from Norris Point to Bellburns.

This subscription entitles patrons to one ticket for each production at the 2026 Gros Morne Theatre Festival



FUNDERS



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for the Arts

Conseil des arts
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Funded by the
Government of Canada's
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