

The Rural Root Theatre Company

Venue Details for The Fall 2017 Eastern Ontario Drama League's One-Act Play Festival

Location: The Northwind Wireless Fibe Centre in the village of Constance Bay
262 Len Purcell Drive
Constance Bay, Ontario

Driving Directions: www.ruralroot.org/directions

THE NORTHWIND WIRELESS FIBE CENTRE is located at the physical centre of the village and is surrounded by the Torbolton forest. The Centre was built in 1978 and was expanded in 1992 and again in 2015 and now has nearly 17,000 sq. ft. applied to fitness, programs, services, and events and is operated, maintained and developed by the Constance and Buckham's Bay Community Association (CBBCA). The Centre operates 7 days a week, averages between 90 and 130 hours/week of activities – depending on the season - and receives over 80,000 visits annually.

ACCESSIBILITY

There is a large (and free) parking lot in front of the building. Outside the Main Entrance there are designated parking spots for those with 'disabled' permits. To assist people with wheelchairs, walkers or mobility difficulties, from the parking lot to the building there is a lowered curb that leads to the double-entrance doors that are each provided with pushbutton controls to open them. Once inside, on the left is a door providing access to the stairs up to the second floor and the Main Hall. Alternatively, an elevator can be accessed by turning to the right and through a double-width doorway (also pushbutton controlled) and then left through a final pair of doors. On the left is an elevator that will take occupants to the second floor and directly outside the performance venue in the Main Hall. From there, all areas of the second floor are accessible - even the stage.

THE ELEVATOR

Power to the elevator is enabled by turning a key switch mounted beside the entrance door. There are two switches, one on the ground floor and the other on

the second floor. Only one needs to be turned on for the elevator to work. Pressing the wall-mounted button either opens the door to the waiting elevator or causes the elevator to travel to the floor on which the button is pressed and held. Once the door swings open automatically, it will remain ajar for a half-minute or so and then slowly close. Once the door is closed, the destination pushbuttons on the wall inside the elevator are enabled. One occupant has to press and hold the button until the elevator arrives at the desired floor.

The elevator is intended mainly for use by people unable to use the stairs. It is not intended for freight, but provided the weight limit (see sign on wall inside the elevator) is not exceeded, small items can be transported with the occupants. The elevator dimensions in inches:

- Door: 35 wide
- Cabin Depth: 64 Width: 47 Height: 87

SEATING

The Main Hall is used for many other activities that require a clear floor space. As shown in Photo 1, for theatre performances stackable chairs are set up in 8 rows of 13 chairs plus 2 rows of 10 chairs (total capacity 125 seats). All chairs are steel-framed and the seats are vinyl covered. Each chair back is provided with a cloth cover that identifies the seat number and row.



Photo 1 View from in front of stage to back of the hall. On the far left is the entrance door. In the centre is the 'Tech Desk'.



Photo 2 View towards stage from behind the last row of audience.

MAIN HALL DIMENSIONS

- Length: 75 feet
- Width: 40 feet
- Ceiling height: 10 feet

The audience space takes up one half of the Hall and is 32 feet wide by 38 feet deep. The remainder of the Hall measures 30 feet deep by 40 feet wide and is used for: the display of archive posters; a marquee depicting the cast members and key production staff; 4 round tables are usually set up with chairs for 6 people. At the far end of the space there is access to a fully-equipped kitchen plus a licensed bar, each with a serving window.

THE STAGE

Please refer to Figure 1 for a dimensioned plan of the stage.

In summary:

- Proscenium opening is 19.5 feet Wide x 9 feet High
- Stage floor is 31 inches above the floor of the hall
- Stage floor to overhead light fixtures: 9 feet.
- Stage width: 34 feet
- Stage depth: 13 ft. 4 in.

- Behind the upstage wall is a permanent crossover that provides a usable width of 34 in. and it has a sloped floor (down from stage-level at SR to hall floor level at SL).
- If necessary, items can be screwed to the rear wall of the stage and/or to the floor.
- The floor finish is currently off-white vinyl tile.
- The ceiling space is painted black and allows for items to be attached to or suspended from the building roof purlins (beams) and the steel pipes that are primarily used for suspending lighting fixtures.

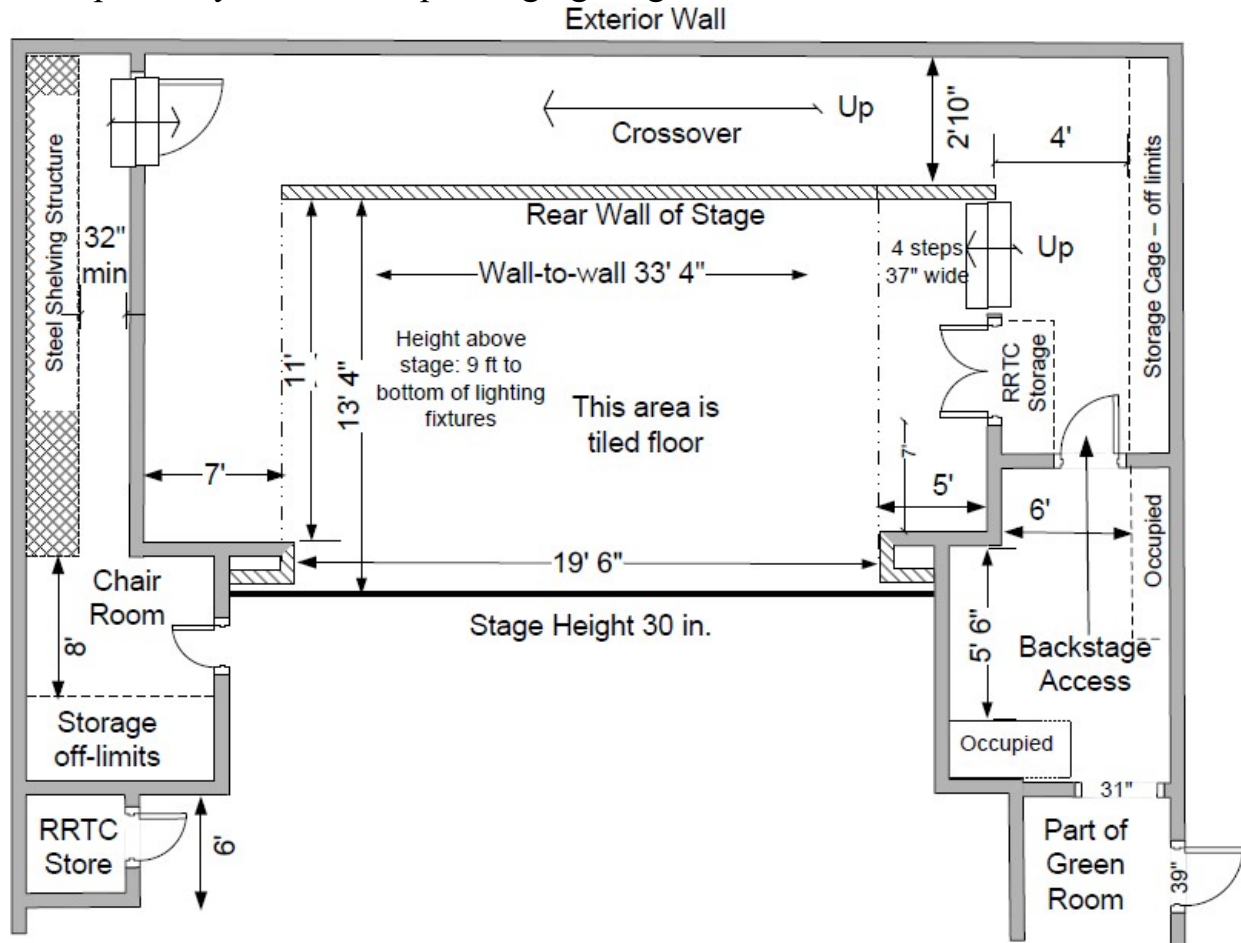


Figure 1. Plan of Stage at Northwind Wireless Fibe Centre

CURTAINS

No main curtain is available. Black velvet, fire-proofed curtains hang from tracks that allow the rear and both sides of the stage to be concealed.

PROJECTOR AND SCREEN

At a distance of 7 feet from the front of the stage there is a roll-up screen that is 10 feet wide by 8 feet tall. At 28 feet from the stage is a ceiling-mounted projector. Input to the projector is usually provided by a laptop computer via a cable that runs

from Stage Left (SL). If desired, the projector can be adjusted to display onto the stage.

LOAD-IN

Please refer to Figure 2.

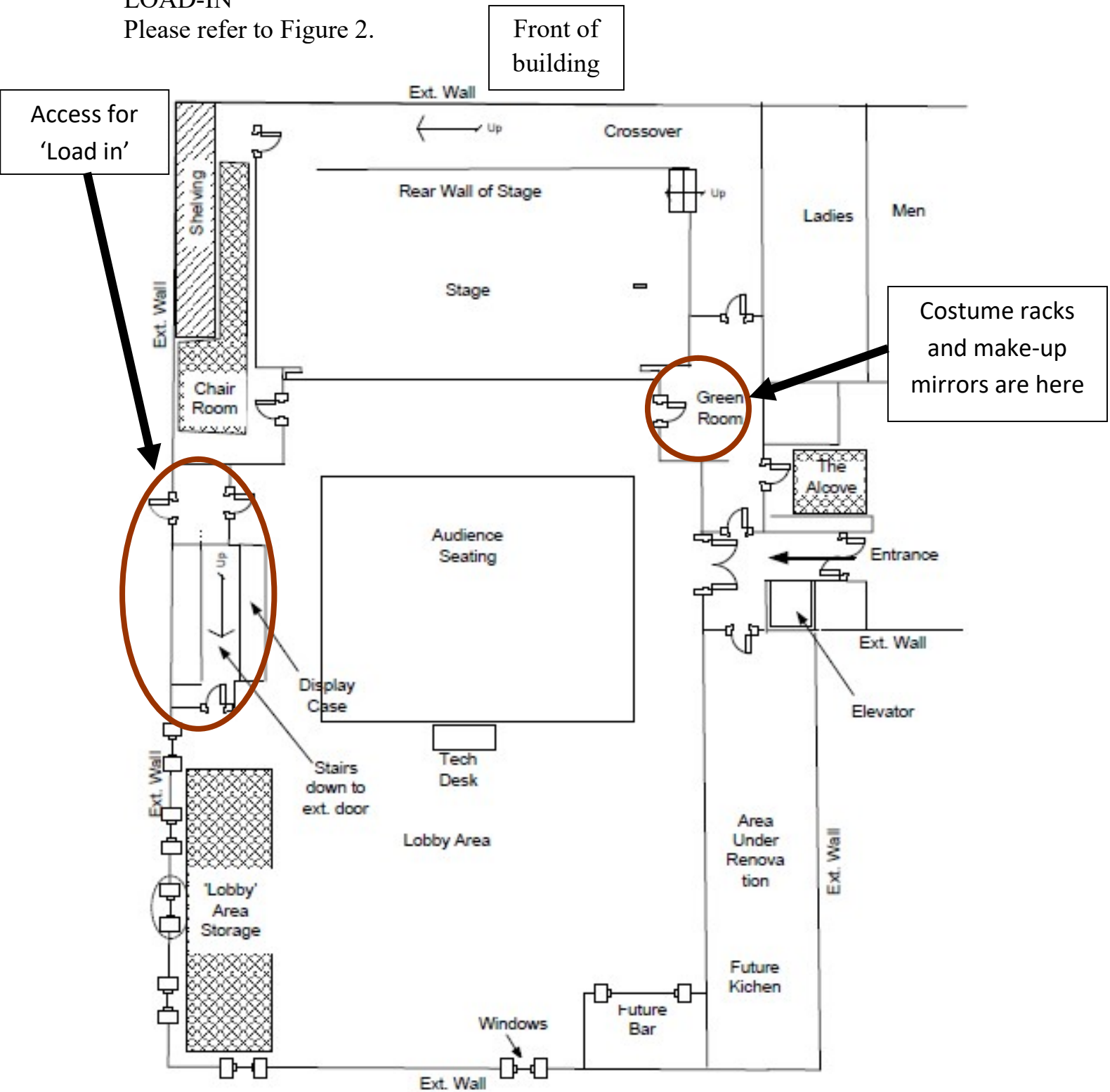


Figure 2. Plan view of Main Hall with 'Load in' access door and stairs (circled).

Along the exterior wall that faces the adjacent ball diamond there is a door that opens to a single flight of stairs that leads directly to the Main Hall.

Reference dimensions:

Exterior and interior door openings: 35 inches wide by 84 inches high.

Width of stairs: 42 inches.

Headroom above stairs: a minimum of 83 inches.

Note: the stairs run parallel to the outside wall. Thus, from the exterior doorway to the stairs requires a 90 degree turn to the right. For objects longer than 8 feet, it is necessary to lift them over the stair railing (35 inches high) before proceeding up the stairs.

Once inside the Main Hall, items can be stowed temporarily in one of the areas described in Table 1.

Location	Area	Stage Access	Comments
Stage Right	7 by 11 feet	Direct	The SR curtain can conceal the area
Stage Left	5 by 7 feet	Direct	The SL curtain can conceal the area
Chair Room	8 by 10 feet Warning: a passage beside the storage rack is 32 in. wide and leads from the store to the SR door.	4 steps up to a doorway leading into the SR area listed above.	Chair Room access from the Main Hall is via a door beside the front of the stage.
The Green Room Alcove	11 by 17 feet	Via 39 in. Green Room door, then through two 31 in. doorways and up 4 steps to area at Stage Left or to crossover passage behind stage and then to Stage Right.	Use only for small, easily-carried items as this area will also be occupied by cast and crew members plus costume racks.
Rear of Main Hall	10 feet by 25 feet (max.)	Carry items along aisle beside audience area to front of stage at right.	Audience must be asked to remain seated to keep aisle clear.

Table 1. Stow Areas for Furniture and Sets.

Note: Locations are listed in order of preference from 'most preferred' at top to 'least' at bottom.

TECHNICAL

As a routine, a portable table is set up behind the last audience row to provide operating positions for stage lighting, sound and the Stage Manager. From this 'Tech. Desk' location there is a clear view of the stage and easy-access to wired connections to all lighting dimmers, sound amplifiers plus the intercom.

VIDEO CAMERAS

To allow people in the Green Room to observe and hear the on-stage activity, a camera is mounted near E5 (see Figure 3) and connected directly to a TV located in the Green Room.

To enable viewing on-stage activity during each blackout, a second camera is mounted near the projector (suspended above audience) and connected to a video monitor at the Stage Manager position on the Tech Desk.

INTERCOM

A single-channel 'home-brew' wired intercom (modeled on an analog Clear-Com 'party-line' system) is used by the Stage Manager to communicate with ASM positions at stage right and left. Additional access points are at each end of the back-stage passage; two points in the green room (for another ASM and for paging cast/crew) and in the Chair Room. A total of 5 portable belt-packs (plus headsets) are available plus two 'speaker stations'.

LIGHTING

For the Festival, a 'default' lighting set-up providing a 'stage wash' will be in-place and programmed into the ETC 2496 control board at the Tech. Desk.

Separate sliders on the board will allow adjustment of several on-stage lighting zones: SL, SR, Centre or each lighting fixture. With sufficient advance notice, special lighting set-ups could be accommodated.

The stock of lighting fixtures includes: Qty 3 Altman Ellipsoidal w/ 575Watt lamp; Qty 9 Fresnel with 6 inch lens and 500Watt lamp; Qty 10 Color Kinetics 'Colorblast -12' rectangular RGB LED panels. The latter are used to add colour and are usually inadequate as main light sources.

Two follow-spots are available and can be put to use if advance notice is provided.

POWER OUTLETS

All power to the stage lighting system is controlled by a relay panel in the Green Room. There are 6 outlets in the stage ceiling that can be applied to 'specials'.

Another 4 outlets are powered by the 6-channel dimmer mounted on the off-stage left wall.

In the lighting bay above the audience space are two portable 4-channel dimmers devoted to providing power to part of the 'default' lighting setup. A third 4-channel dimmer is available as a spare.

SOUND

Speakers

The Main Hall is equipped with front-left and front-right speakers (Behringer B215) plus two smaller speakers (70Watt rating) mounted on the wall at the back of the hall. All 4 are fed by a two-channel Behringer EP1500 amplifier.

Mounted above the rear wall of the stage are two speakers (same size as those at rear of hall) fed by a second amplifier rated at 60 Watts per channel.

Inputs to both amplifiers are provided via 4 balanced XLR cables within the 'snake' that runs from the Tech. Desk to the audio rack mounted in the wall at off-stage left.

The Snake

In addition to providing 4 balanced lines for the amplifier inputs, the snake includes 20 balanced lines intended for on-stage microphones or similar small-signal sources. Two of these lines are dedicated to the above-stage microphones used by the Hearing Assist facility.

Sound Control

There is one 8 input mixer plus a 12 input mixer (both are 100% analog) available and one of these is used to interface between suitable signal sources and the inputs to each amplifier. Typically, the microphone (XLR) inputs are connected via the snake to microphones on-stage. Alternatively, the 'Line' inputs (1/4") are connected via suitable adapter cables to a laptop output (1/8" or SPDIF) or RCA/Phono output of a CD or DVD player (or similar).

If a sound designer/operator chooses to apply a digital (e.g. USB) output then it is their own responsibility to provide the required interface conversion to achieve compatibility with the analog inputs of the mixers.

No equipment is available for microphones to be worn by actors on stage.

However, upon request, we do have several microphone stands plus several wired microphones that can be put to use.

HEARING ASSIST SYSTEM

Located above each side of the stage are microphones that connect via the snake to the second mixer at the Tech Desk. The mixer output is single-channel and connected to an FM transmitter (typically broadcasting at 72MHz). In exchange for the loan of some identification, a patron can borrow one of 10 (at least) pocket-sized receivers plus a headset in order to listen to a loud and clear presentation of the on-stage activity.

INTERNET

Internet connectivity is available via the WiFi system provided for the building. No password is required. A second WiFi facility is available to those who have a valid Ottawa Public Library card.

TELEPHONE SYSTEM

The building has one land-line telephone with handsets in the kitchen (off Main Hall) and near the building's main entrance. Typically the telephone is not answered except by an automated messaging system. If required, arrangements can be made to have a person (e.g. in our box office) access the messaging system to check for relevant incoming calls.

Cell phone coverage in the building is not reliable.

For outgoing calls, the land-line phone can be used by anyone.