

For Immediate Release April 20, 2011

The logo for 'The Marvelous Wonderettes' features the title in a stylized, multi-colored font. 'The Marvelous' is in a black cursive script, while 'Wonderettes' is in a bold, multi-colored sans-serif font with small starburst accents.written and created by Roger Bean
The Hit 50s & 60's Musical**Gananoque, ON**

On May 14, 2011 The Thousand Islands Playhouse will open its 30th Anniversary Season with *The Marvelous Wonderettes*, a sparkling musical that features 31 songs from the great girl group era of the 50s and 60s. This cotton candy -coloured delight (written and created by Roger Bean) is performed from May 13 to June 11 by four of the most charming singers to ever grace a high school prom, *Cyndi Carleton, Lara Caswell, Alison MacDonald,* and *Tracy Michailidis*, under the direction of Tim Fort at the Thousand Islands Playhouse Springer Theatre.

Like a female *Forever Plaid*, but with great songs chosen to fit every twist in the story, *The Marvelous Wonderettes* follows the friendship (and mini-feuds) of four talented female friends (Cindy Lou, B.J., Susie and Missy) who have hopes and dreams as big as their crinoline skirts. The show starts as the girls suddenly get the chance to perform at their Springfield High School prom in 1958 and continues when they're invited back 10 years later - a little older and maybe even a bit wiser. Their relationships may not always be *completely* harmonious, since there's serious competition for Prom Queen involved, but their singing certainly is - with the 50s segment featuring tunes such as *Mr. Sandman, Lollipop, Dream, Stupid Cupid, Lipstick on Your Collar, and Mr. Lee*. The 60's reunion brings the group new kinds of heartaches and delights - as they belt out hits such as *It's In His Kiss, Heatwave, You Don't Own Me, It's My Party, Leader of the Pack, Maybe I Know, and RESPECT* and more.

Laura Caswell has appeared in musical theatre productions across the country, most recently as the Witch in *Wizard of Oz* for Neptune Theatre and also in the *Buddy Holly Story* in Sudbury. **Alison MacDonald's** musical credits include numerous musicals in Vancouver

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(where she was nominated for two Jessie Awards). **Tracy Michailidis** started her career as Anne Shirley in *Anne of Green Gables* at Charlottetown, and also appeared on Broadway and in both the Stratford and Shaw Festivals. Tim Fort has directed over 60 major musicals and 110 cabaret revues in the past several decades (which includes 29 years at Vermont's Weston Playhouse and 25 years at Queen's University.) Choreographer Dayna Tekatch's credits include being a member of the 2010 National Arts Centre company (where she will choreograph/direct again this year) and *The Drowsy Chaperone* at the Playhouse. Musical director Greg Gibson .,dsmf,df.

Set design is by Gillian Gallow, costumes by Jayne Christopher, Stage Management by Kathleen Harrison with assistant Katie White.

Showtimes for the performances at Tuesday–Saturday at 8 pm with matinees Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays at 2:30. Tickets may be purchased through the Box Office, 613 382–7020 or at 1000islandsplayhouse.com.

