Casting Call: Wintertime Outdoor Devised Theatre Project

For its 35th anniversary in 2025, the Silver Skate Festival is excited to be launching an ambitious artistic creation project that uses art to reexamine our consumption and our waste.

Each year, a path through a wooded area of parkland becomes the Silver Skate Folk Trail. It is animated by professional actors in glowing costumes who interact with audiences in-character, performing a traditional tale or an original story commissioned by the festival. In our anniversary year, the creation process for this interactive performance will be led by a team of designers (Tessa Stamp, Whittyn Jason, and Even Gilchrist) who will collaboratively create a large-scale art installation for Laurier Park, where our 35th festival will take place. This sculpture will be made predominantly from materials recycled from our 2024 festival which would otherwise have become garbage. Based on this installation, a team of devisers led by director Elizabeth Hobbs and dramaturg Charlie Peters will shape the performance for the 2025 festival. The creation process will be innovative and design- and dramaturgy-led, letting the sculpture and research on sustainability inspire the story and creative interactions that will animate the trail.

Silver Skate is seeking a small team of performers/creators who are excited to create interactive performance in response to the designer’s creations, research about sustainability, and local green initiatives.

This creation process will require performers who are adaptable, ensemble-oriented, and excited for the challenges of creating and performing for and with the public outdoors in the wintertime. Performance creation experience is considered an asset.

Creation dates: Dec 3rd to 22nd, 2024, Tuesdays to Sundays, 8 hrs/day
Rehearsal dates: Jan 27th to Feb 6th, 2025
Run dates: Feb 7th to 16th, 2025, Friday to Sunday 5-8:15 (with the possibility of a weekday performance or two to be confirmed)
Pay: $750/week for 6 weeks (CAEA members to be engaged under the DOT Policy with applicable fees and deductions)
Audition Information

Audition dates: Friday, June 21st (evening) and Saturday June 22nd (daytime) - please indicate any preferences when submitting and we will do our best to accommodate

Auditions will consists of 1-hour of devising work in small groups, no preparation required other than coming prepared to create collaboratively (wear clothes you are comfortable moving in)

Present in the audition room: Elizabeth Hobbs (director), Charlie Peters (dramaturg)

Deadline to submit: 11:59PM, Monday, June 10th, 2024

For more information or to submit, please contact:

Charlie Peters
Folk Trail and Live Theatre Coordinator
theatre@silverskate.ca

(Please send a CV/resume and put AUDITION REQUEST in the subject line if requesting an audition)

Access Information

Performances take place on packed snow which will often be uneven and sometimes icy. Performers may be outside for up to 90min in a stretch before a break (or shorter as mandated by Silver Skate’s cold weather policy). Performers will be working in low light (nighttime) punctuated by periods under bright stage-lights.

Auditions and rehearsals will take place in Silver Skate’s offices. There is elevator and staircase access to the 2nd-floor room which has a 28.5”-wide door and a small incline to enter the room. The room has fluorescent lighting and no exterior windows.