



Metro Theatre
1370 SW Marine Drive
Vancouver, BC V6P 5Z9
604-266-7191
www.metrotheatre.com

Metro Theatre holding community food drive through January 4

Community theatre collecting for the Greater Vancouver Food Bank

(December 23, 2013) As the curtain dropped last Friday evening at the end of Metro Theatre's pantomime, *Jack and the Beanstalk*, the audience was alerted to the arrival of local firefighters. But fortunately there was no fire or emergency – they were there to pick up donations for the Greater Vancouver Food Bank. Metro Theatre is holding a food drive for the duration of the panto – running December 13 to January 4 – and local firefighters were coming by Friday evening to make a mid-drive pick-up.

Much to the delight of the young (and young-at-heart) audience members, the pantomime cast members interacted with the four firefighters from Vancouver Fire Hall No. 22, and then posed for photos and signed autographs. This hub of post-show activity was a treat for the nearly full house.

“Having the firefighters come by tonight couldn't have worked out better,” said Metro Board member Catherine Morrison. “We had special guests in attendance, and having the cast interacting with the firefighters was just so fun.” The special guests Catherine was referring to were families from the Strathcona neighbourhood in East Vancouver. Metro Theatre had donated seats to two performances to kids in the Strathcona neighbourhood, and Friday night was the second of these two performances.

Catherine explains how several organizations came together to get their special guests to the theatre: Ron Suzuki from the Strathcona Community Centre coordinated the two groups of kids and their families to get to Metro, located at 1370 SW Marine Drive in Marpole; Lynch Bus Lines generously offered bus transportation at half-price; and a grant from TELUS paid for the remaining cost. “We're so thankful for everyone's efforts,” said Catherine. “And the excitement of having the local firefighters stop by at the end of the show was the icing on the cake. It was such a community-oriented evening, and we're so proud to be part of it.”

Metro Theatre's food drive continues throughout the run of *Jack and the Beanstalk*, so you can drop off non-perishable food items at the theatre until January 4. Information about the theatre, the food drive, and this family-friendly show is at www.metrotheatre.com or Metro's box office, 604-266-7191.

ABOUT METRO THEATRE

Metro Theatre (The Metropolitan Cooperative Theatre Society) is a registered non-profit cooperative society, and is fuelled by volunteers. Its mission is to promote and develop theatre arts on a non-professional level.

Metro Theatre was created in 1962, and has produced more than 475 shows, including nearly 50 musicals, over the past 50 years. Sometimes referred to as the “humble little theatre,” Metro ironically has over 300 seats and puts on eight shows a year, more than all other non-professional theatre companies in North America and many professional ones.

Metro Theatre is wheelchair-accessible and provides assisted-listening devices upon request. It offers season subscriptions as well as individual reservations online and at the door.

Metro is located at 1370 SW Marine Drive, at the base of the Arthur Laing Bridge in Vancouver. It's accessible by transit, and has free and paid parking nearby.

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Box office phone: 604-266-7191

Website: metrotheatre.com

Twitter: [@metrotheatre](https://twitter.com/metrotheatre)

Facebook: [Metro Theatre Vancouver](https://www.facebook.com/MetroTheatreVancouver)

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