

** VOCALEYE ONLINE ZOOM BULLETIN | DECEMBER 2023

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** 1) DECEMBER DELIGHTS

Just two more Almost Live episodes left of the season! 'Tis the season to spread joy and connect with one another, (and, let's be honest - wear ugly sweaters and drink eggnog!) We're thrilled to bring a touch of virtual magic to your inbox with our festive December Almost Live lineup! This month, we have an exclusive Tippi + Stan reading and our famous Holiday Surprise event, with our pals Christine Malec and JJ Hunt! Keep reading for more details and our Community Highlights! Pssst... don't forget to

purchase your [50/50 Raffle Tickets](#), the draw will take place during our Holiday Surprise event!

Almost Live events are designed to be accessible for people who are blind and partially sighted. If you've never attended a VocalEye Almost Live Zoom event before, you can register for a single event or sign up for the full season. A Zoom link and reminder will be sent to you on the day of the event. Everyone is welcome!

[Register here](#) or call 604-364-5949

[Time Zone Converter](#)

The VocalEye virtual lobby opens at 6:30 pm Pacific Time for socializing and community updates with host Amy Amantea. The pre-show introduction begins at 6:45 pm with Amy and guests. The featured presentation begins at 7 pm, followed by Q and A and community conversation.

👉 For schedule updates, visit the [VocalEye website](#)

👉 Catch up on past events on [VocalEye's YouTube Channel](#)

** 2) ALMOST LIVE ZOOM

** 3) TIPPI + STAN: END OF LOCKDOWN

Wednesday, December 6, 2023 at 6:30 pm Pacific Time

Almost Live Episode #138

Governor General's Award-winning playwright, composer and storyteller [Dorothy Dittrich](#) returns for a live reading of the latest chapter of her popular **Tippi and Stan** series, featuring the remarkable friendship between a cat (Tippi) and a pigeon (Stan).

[Tippi and Stan](#), parts 1 to 4 have been published in book form with illustrations by Dorothy. Audiobooks are also available for purchase through [Amazon](#). You don't have to be familiar with any previous chapters to enjoy this episode!

This event will not be recorded, so be sure to attend Dorothy's live reading on Wednesday, December 6!

** 4) ANOTHER HOLIDAY SURPRISE!

Wednesday, December 13, 2023 at 6:30 pm Pacific Time

Almost Live Episode #139

Join us for our festive end-of-year celebration featuring our Toronto pals Christine Malec and JJ Hunt. They'll join Amy in the Solstice spirit with fun, games, music and more Secret Santa surprises. We'll also announce the winner of our online 50/50 raffle and the winners of our holiday prize draw! This is our last Zoom of 2023 and we hope you can be there!

Almost Live Zoom will return on January 17, 2024 with a preview of the 2024 PuSh Festival!

**** 5) VOCALEYE 50/50 ONLINE RAFFLE**

Deadline to purchase tickets: Wednesday, December 13 at 5 pm Pacific Time

Draw: Wednesday, December 13 at 9 pm Pacific Time

[Purchase Raffle Tickets](#)

The current 50/50 jackpot is sitting at \$2,445 and the winner takes half! With single tickets starting at \$5, you can win up to \$10,000 while helping to make arts and culture more accessible

to people who are blind and partially sighted. Huge thanks to everyone who has participated so far!

Last season VocalEye described 41 theatre performances, hosted 14 Notable Socials, facilitated 8 Touch Tours, led 6 community workshops and 1 public art tour for the Blind community. That was just in person!

Online, we presented 34 Almost Live Zoom events, 10 Describer Cafes, 1 community workshop and 2 Crowd Source description projects. This season's calendar will include at least this many activities, if not more!

These accessible arts adventures, programs and services are offered free of charge to members of the blind and partially sighted community. We rely on a small but mighty team of part-time staff, dedicated volunteers, project grants, individual donations and fundraisers like this to make it all happen.

By purchasing a ticket or two (or twenty-five!), sharing this newsletter, or passing on this link to a friend, family member or colleague, you will be serving the community AND helping to max that jackpot for the winner!

URL: <https://vocaleye.rafflenexus.com/a/news>

All proceeds go towards funding [VocalEye programs and services](#) that are designed to make arts and culture more accessible to people who are blind and partially sighted. Our heartfelt thanks go to each and every person who supports the work we do!

* Tickets may be sold and purchased in British Columbia only.

** For support purchasing tickets, call [604-364-5949](tel:604-364-5949) or email info@vocaleyec.ca

** 6) COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

** 7) REALWHEELS PLAYWRITING CIRCLE SHOWCASE

Short excerpts from emerging playwrights who identify with disability.

Our friends at [Realwheels](#) present their annual Playwriting Circle Showcase, in a free, online public reading! Featuring works by Jennifer Burgmann, MariFer Douglas, Damion LeClair, Elizabeth Rodenburg, Peihwen Tai, Caroline Toal, and Andrew Vallance. Takes place on **Saturday, December 16 at 12 pm Pacific Time,**

online via Zoom. [Reserve here](#). For questions, access needs, or to register via email, contact: info@realwheels.ca

** 8) PODCAST SPOTLIGHT

Limitless Podcast | Let's Talk About International Day of Persons with Disabilities (with guest Amy Amantea)

December 3 marked International Day of Persons with Disabilities and last year, [Blind Beginnings](#) had Amy Amantea on their [Limitless podcast](#) last year to chat about the importance of the day as well as advocacy, allyship, “nothing about us without us”, and how attitudinal barriers and various forms of ableism continue to impact people with disabilities on a daily basis. [Listen here](#)

** 9) EGGNOG LATTE SEASON, HERE WE COME!

[Buy Me a Coffee](#) is a great way to let us know you care about our java levels and perfect for smaller donations that don't need a tax receipt. Your support, participation and encouragement are what keep us going! Fun Fact: Guess who likes a cold iced tea any day of the year? (It's Amy!)

Canadian residents who would like a tax receipt can donate once, or join our small but mighty **Make it Monthly Team**, through [Canada Helps](#). Thank you 🙏

Special thanks to the generous funders, donors and supporters who help us make the arts more accessible for people who are blind and partially sighted.

Canada Council for the Arts
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info@vocaleyecanada.ca

We occupy the unceded lands of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh peoples.

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