

Toronto, February 6, 2026

Dear Friends of la Troupe des Anciens de l'Université de Toronto,

Our Troupe is happy to welcome you to the elegant Isabel Bader Theatre, on campus, for its production of Molière's *L'Avare* (April 16 and 17). Those of you who regularly come to our shows will have noticed that, in the last two years, we have performed in different venues (Arts and Letters Club, Theatre Centre). This change in venue was not due to a taste for novelty, but to the difficulty of finding a theatre in Toronto for a group with limited means.

We need your help.

Our Troupe will soon be 60 years old. In its humble beginnings, the members were all university students. Gradually, we grew. We began to invite schools, giving young people the opportunity to see French classical plays in the original language.

In 1984, Saint Michael's College opened its first theatre, the Alumni, and our Troupe was invited to stage the first show there. For a few years, it was paradise. We paid for the rental of the theatre, but the fee was minimal.

The transformation of this beautiful theatre into a classroom seemed a disaster to us, but once again, luck smiled on us. We discovered the charming George Ignatieff Theatre, where we performed for about fifteen years. Alas! Three years ago, the (GIT) closed its doors for renovations. Will it reopen? Nothing is certain.

Since then, we have been reduced to looking for a suitable space, conveniently not too far from the city centre. The choice is slim and the price is not. The Isabel Bader Theatre is well located, but the cost is high. Ticket sales cover only a small portion of the rental costs.

We had no choice. After performing faithfully annually for nearly sixty years, it would be heartbreaking to give up our production because of a lack of funds. That is why, dear loyal audience, we are appealing to you. Our Troupe would be grateful and honoured to receive from you a donation that would enable us to continue our celebration of French language and literature. Unfortunately, although we are a non-profit group, our receipts do not entitle you to claim a deduction from your taxes, which we deeply regret.

Once again, thank you for your support and loyalty over the years.

You can send your donation by cheque to:

La Troupe des Anciens de l'Université de Toronto
University of Saint Michael's College, Box 535
81 Saint Mary Street, Toronto ON M5S 1J4

Or on-line at http://latroupedesanciens.org/tda_wp/request-for-funds/. You may also send an e-transfer to alexandra.eshelman@gmail.com.

Thank you!