



**CULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD
2013 COMMUNITY RECOGNITION AWARD
FOR PERFORMING ARTS – THEATRE**

MICHAEL HENNESSY

Michael Hennessy has been actively involved in community theatre in Sault Ste. Marie for the past 35 years. He has participated in over 80 main-stage productions during that time, both as an actor and director, and has spent many years providing advice and guidance to those in our region. He has directed five winning main-stage productions at the annual Quonta Regional Drama Festivals, has won two Outstanding Director awards, and in 1978 was named Outstanding Director at the All Ontario Theatre Festival. He has recently become an adjudicator and is in the talent bank of Theatre Ontario.

In 1982, Michael co-founded Family Life Theatre. Family Life Theatre brings community and public awareness of social issues of concern. He has written, produced and directed over 1,800 performances of over 30 plays bringing these social issues to the public and to school children. Using his *Plays For Living* as a tool, Michael always brings in social workers to lead the discussions after the productions and this has led to many youth and seniors receiving the support they need. Family Life Theatre's productions help improve the quality of life for many citizens of this community.

Michael also mentors his actors and production staff on how to perform, create lighting and in costume design.

Michael has been an ambassador for Sault Ste. Marie throughout the Province of Ontario and he has worked diligently throughout his life towards making Sault Ste. Marie a good place to live and raise a family.

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