

# Leaside-Rosedale TOWN CRIER

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## Expect the unexpected at Fringe

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Town Crier

June Morrow's journey from honour roll student to exotic dancer is one of 140 unjuried, unexpected and hopefully unforgettable tales set to premiere at the 19th annual Fringe Festival.

The Forest Hill resident, who now divides her time between journalism and comedic performances, recounts her seven years as a stripper in her one-woman comedy show, *Miss April Day's School for Burgeoning Young Strippers*.

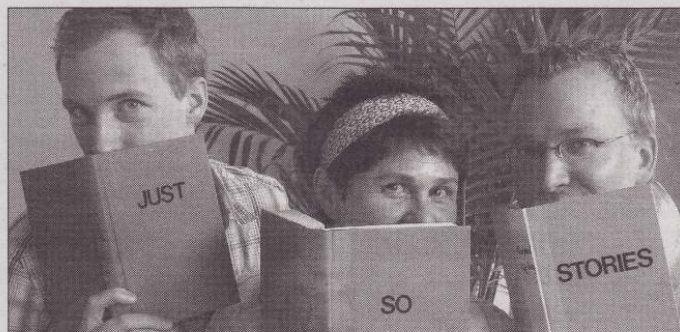
It runs until July 14 at St. Vladimir's Theatre on Spadina Ave., south of Bloor St. West, and retells Morrow's days stripping at such Toronto clubs as Zanzibar, Charlie T's and the Brass Rail.

"As an honour roll student in college, stripper is certainly something my peers would never have voted me 'most likely to become'," Morrow notes in the play's press release. "However, my first shift in the 'blue collar ballet' at a North York's 'gentlemen's' club swept me off my feet.

"The attention! The applause! The money!"

Other local talent in the July 4-15 theatre festival includes actor Katie Dorian and stage managers Marielle Bryck and Liz Wilson.

The three Rosedale area residents are behind *Serena de Bergerac*, a tale of teenage love written and directed by Yasmin Siddiqui, a drama teacher



TAKE THE KIDS to Just So Stories at the Fringe Festival, but maybe not to Miss April Day's School for Burgeoning Young Strippers.

at nearby Branksome Hall.

The play is a modern twist on the famous tale of Cyrano de Bergerac and it runs until July 14 at Theatre Passe Muraille Mainspace on Ryerson Ave.

North Toronto resident Amy Pearson is starring as Fiona in *Spilling Beans*, a drama running until July 14 at Tarragon Theatre Mainspace.

The 22-year-old studied theatre at Bishop's University in Sherbrooke, Quebec, and is now pursuing a full-time acting career.

Andrew Lamb, an alumni of Leaside High School who is now director of education and outreach at the Tarragon Theatre, directs the Rob Watson-penned play, *Just So Stories*.

The kid-friendly piece marks Lamb's second run in Toronto's Kid's Fringe, having directed an adaptation of Phoebe Gilman's *The Balloon Tree*

last year. It runs until July 15 at the Palmerston Library.

Dubbed the only festival that pushes the envelope with uncensored performances, the city's largest theatre celebration provides an opportunity for hundreds of local and international talents to make a name for themselves in Toronto's theatre scene.

Primarily located in the Annex, there are 30 venues, including the parking garage of the Polish Combatants Association on Beverley St., that are participating this year.

For the first time in the Fringe's history, the festival extends far beyond the summer itself with the Next Stage Theatre Festival. The inaugural festival, set for January of next year, will showcase new works by members of Toronto's innovative and talented arts community.