

# ool transformed

Story: Colleen Weber  
Photos: Bruce Gardave



had to produce and design our own production involving everything from lighting, to sound, to stage managing, directing, house managing and ushering."

The students also get first hand experience working the audio board or patching the lights for school productions. "Everything there is involved in the performing arts we do," summarizes grade 12 student Lisa Melnychek, "and we have a lot of fun!"

The energy and enthusiasm these students exhibit for the program extends beyond school hours. When asked about his after school involvement, student Duane Kugelsstadt replies, "I am in the show choir and I'm in the mime troupe which meets after school everyday."

Besides performance related activities, there is a club known as the Arts Troupe. These volunteers tend the school box office, organize fund raising and usher for school based performances. Arts Troupe gives those students who may not be enrolled in the arts program an opportunity to be involved.

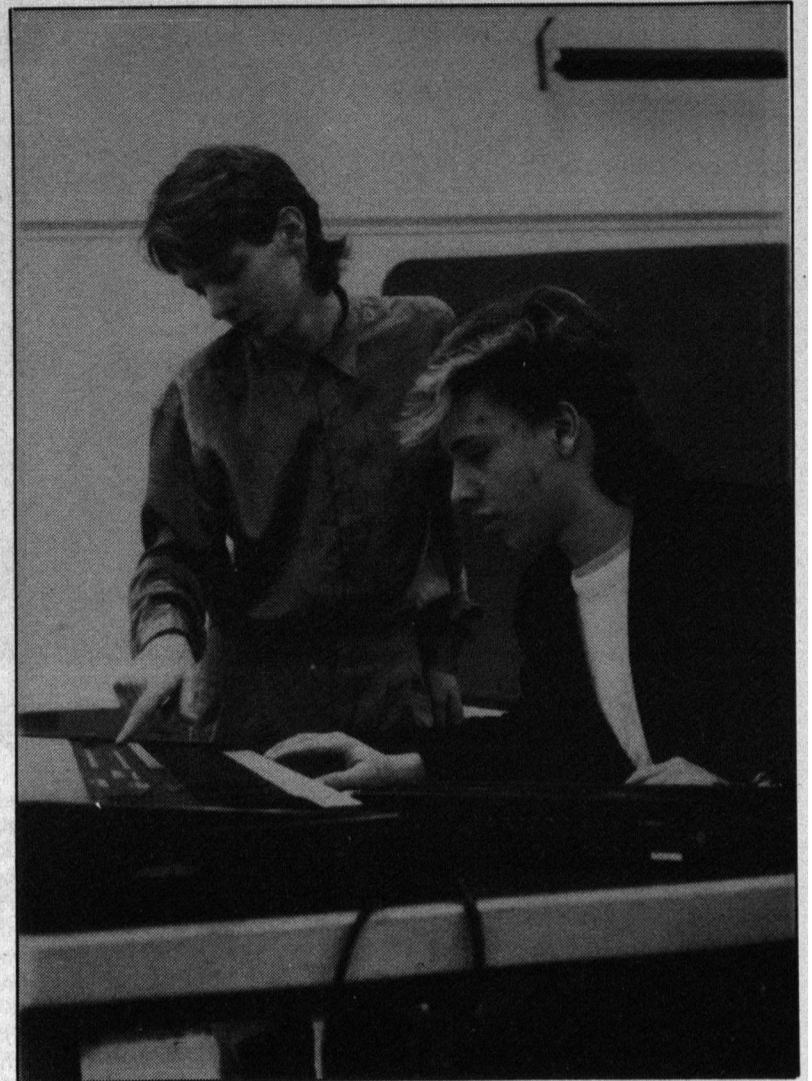
Once again the involvement does not stop here. Dance instructor Hilary Hunt tells how the clothing and textiles teacher utilized her talents to make costumes for the school's fall production, "Music in Motion". Undoubtedly, Maskell is correct in exclaiming that, "The staff commitment and the student commitment to what is happening here is absolutely unbelievable!"

A great deal of the commitment comes from Maskell himself. He envisions great things for Vic by way of offering alternative technically and culturally enriching programs to students. Future plans include a program on the Principles of Technology as well as a Pacific Rim Studies program.

Maskell feels it is essential to accent these learning programs with first hand experience. As part of the arts education program this year, Maskell organized a two week tour of China for a group of Vic Comp students. "Some of the kids who are going are dancers and performers," explains Maskell, "so we are going to perform in China."

In just over a year Victoria Composite has gone from being largely neglected to becoming internationally respected. Today, the halls of Vic Comp resound with applause and the shuffle of dance slippers.

"It doesn't sound like a rough tough downtown inner-city school, does it?" quips Maskell.



*"The arts program is becoming a motivating force within the community."*

the school also served a large second-language population. opening of the Centre for Education in 1984 came the need to a regular high school program. priorities of the school board was on a viable high school program as the Centre for Education," says

some students to spend part of their study time working in a field of interest.

At the present time Vic Comp has an ongoing partnership with Theatre Network. "They use some of our space on the weekends for their programs and rather than charging them rent," Maskell goes on to say, "they provide a service to us." Services rendered to date have included providing the students with workshops on the principles of stage, front of house procedures, and theatre sports.

Stephen Heatley, Artistic Director of Theatre Network, is ecstatic about the connection with Vic Comp. "By offering our theatre as a resource to them," Heatley explains, "we are creating a strong sense of commitment in the arts." The theatre benefits by connecting directly with the community and the students are given insight into the world of professional theatre.

Most of the students enrolled in the arts at Vic Comp are interested in pursuing a career in the performing arts. Through the course of the program the students experience the gamut in theatre production. Glennis Baker explains their end-of-semester project, "We

ring our theatre as a e to them, we are a strong sense of ment in the arts."

who at that time was principal at e High School, was appointed the task of regenerating enrol- oria Composite. "I arrived here in of '85 with a mission to work with developing a plan to revitalize the ounts Maskell.

Maskell's plan included not only light the school's previously ities but also drawing on resour- e local community. Maskell hopes what he calls "partnerships with these partnerships would enable

**ER BACK**

NTRE

p.m.  
ents \$2.50  
eaks)

ISLAND

**EAS MOVING**

From a trunk to a houseful of furniture. Wherever in the world you're going, we'll move your goods quickly and safely. We organize everything, including packing, shipping, insurance, customs. Regular container groupage services to U.K., Europe, Japan, Australia and New Zealand.

Edmonton 451-5964

Edmonton • Toronto • Ottawa • Montreal

**E - Z MINI STORAGE**

STUDENT SUMMER SPECIAL

- temp & dust controlled units
- all units have 8' ceilings
- NO minimum length of stay
- damage deposit only \$10
- "only 20 blocks from campus"
- complex sprinklered throughout
- burgler alarms & security cameras

	Reg Mo Rate	Special Rate
5' x 5'	\$39	\$24
5' x 10'	\$49	\$39

RESERVATIONS ACCEPTED

11444 - 119 St.

**451-5252 or 455-8943**

\*Must present student ID on move-in

**SUMMER JOB**

with

**The Ice Pedlar**

Ice Truck Drivers Wanted!

Must have a drivers' abstract and know the city.

**455-8203**

**SUB THEATRE**

☆ MOVIES ☆

\$1.00 for U of A Students

\$3.50 for Non-Students

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR AT 7:30 PM.

**SHOWTIME: 8:00 PM.**

Who in the name of God is getting away with murder?

SEAN CONNERY  
E. MURRAY ABRAHAM

**AN ASTONISHING ACHIEVEMENT!**

Michael Medved, SNEAK PREVIEWS

**A WHOPPING GOOD TALE... CONNERY IS SUPERB.**

David Ansen, NEWSWEEK

THE NAME OF THE ROSE

April 10 • R

Edmonton • Toronto • Ottawa • Montreal