

## Show Tune Showdown

**T**one Cluster, an Ottawa-based GLBT choir, will host the 2008 Show Tune Showdown—a fundraising event which brings local arts organizations together to compete for the title of “Show Tune Showdown Champion”. The showdown will take place on April 5, 2008 at 8:00 pm at the Bronson Centre.

Show Tune Showdown is Tone Cluster’s own blend of “Canadian Idol”, “Name That Tune” and “Family Feud”, all with the glitter of Broadway thrown in. Three teams of four people representing arts organizations from across Ottawa will sing a selection of songs in front of local celebrity judges. All songs must have been performed on Broadway to qualify. The team garnering the most points will be awarded the grand prize of \$500 for their organization.

Teams set to compete include Suzart Productions, Sock ‘n’ Buskin Theatre Company, and the returning champions Zucchini Grotto Theatre Company. Audience members will also have an opportunity to support their favourite teams by volunteering to sing songs randomly selected by the MC throughout the evening. Those brave enough to take on the challenge will be awarded points which they can donate to their favourite team.

Local Ottawa celebrities have generously donated their time to make the event a success. James Caswell, Music Director and Conductor for the Canadian Centennial Choir, will judge the event along with Alex Munter, Executive Director of Ottawa’s Youth Services Bureau, and Kathleen Petty, host of CBC Radio One’s Ottawa Morning and CBC News: The House. For more information on our judging panel, please [click here](#).

“Show Tune Showdown is unique and fun way to involve the local arts community in Tone Cluster’s fundraising efforts,” says Rob Bowman, the event’s producer. “It allows hundreds of lucky audience members to get a taste of the talent that Ottawa’s theatrical community holds.”

Proceeds of the event will be used to raise funds to support Tone Cluster’s 15th season which will encompass an ambitious schedule of concerts, festivals, and recordings.

Tickets for the event are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door, and may be purchased starting March 10 from Leading Note, mother tongue books, After Stonewall, Wildes, and at [www.ticketweb.ca](http://www.ticketweb.ca).

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In previous years, teams from the Ottawa School of Speech & Drama, Zucchini Grotto Theatre Company, Orpheus, and the Canadian Centennial Choir have competed for the approval of celebrity judges and a \$500 grand prize, using rehearsed songs from new and old musicals.

As well the teams must brave the terrifying Showdown rounds, where the host gives clues to a Broadway tune and courageous (or foolhardy) team members take the chance of performing a musical number cold, with no rehearsal or practice time. And if none of the professionals dare take on the showdown tune, members of the audience can give it a try and award the points they receive from the judges to the team of their choice.