

Shakespeare For A New Generation

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Intrepid Shakespeare Company is dedicated to bringing Shakespeare to life for elementary, middle and high school students.

WHAT...

Actively exploring Shakespeare's texts facilitates a fast and long-lasting understanding of his plays.

William Shakespeare was a playwright and actor who worked through the most collaborative of all art forms – theatre. He understood the power of the spoken word to move and persuade as well as the thrill and complicity experienced by an audience at a live performance. The sensory act of hearing, seeing and feeling the sounds, rhythms and words aids comprehension in a way that reading the play cannot. The characters become vivid and the humor, so crucial to Shakespeare's plays but often so difficult to access on the written page, comes alive. **There is no substitute for the shared experience of seeing Shakespeare live.**

WHY....

Theatre-based Education

Research has shown that arts education encourages high achievement, builds creative problem solving and analytical skills, refines judgment, and stimulates “thinking outside the box”.

Students exposed to theatre are often more confident and creative and develop a life-long appreciation of language.

Teachers have found that few students can appreciate the power of Shakespeare's language through reading it but that ALL students benefit from an active, collaborative learning experience, which brings the language to life. Theatre-based approaches are found to accommodate different learning styles and different abilities, giving confidence to the less able, while challenging the more able.

It is our hope that exposing students to Shakespeare through live theatre will make learning fun, accessible and serve to enrich each student's life and create the next generation of theatergoers.

“Students who have sustained involvement in theatre arts were shown over time to have greater self-confidence, motivation and empathy than their non-arts peers (according to a 10-year national study of over 25,000 high school students)”
- California Alliance for Arts Education

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Shakespeare Educational Tour

*Assisting educators in addressing Academic Content Standards
and supplementing the curriculum in language arts.*

in-school performance

A troupe of professional actors presents a 50-minute adaptation of a Shakespeare play that is accessible, fun, and relatable.

Grades 3 through 8: A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

Fairies, magic and mischief...a perfect introduction to Shakespeare for any age. An exciting and physical 50-minute version of Shakespeare's magical comedy.

High School: ROMEO & JULIET

Brought to life by modern actors for a modern audience. Swordfights, friendship, rival families, and first love. Romeo and Juliet is the perfect play for teenagers because in it they see a reflection of themselves. A fast-paced, edge of your seat 50-minute telling of the greatest love story ever written.

The presentation of each play is preceded by a classroom or assembly talk to introduce the play, followed by a question/answer forum with the artists and director.

Shakespeare Toolkit

Each teacher will be sent a comprehensive package of educational materials full of ideas to engage, inspire and challenge all students, from the most reluctant to the most able.

In-School Touring Production Requirements

A 20' X 20' X 8' high indoor performance space. A gym, cafeteria or all-purpose room is ideal for this performance. The space should be well lit, but theatrical lighting is not necessary.

Shakespeare can still speak to young people,
inspiring them to articulate their feelings, develop their ideas
and gain new insights into the world around them.

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day of shakespeare

In one day, students receive six in-class workshops and a 50-minute performance of a Shakespeare play. A Midsummer Night's Dream is offered to grades 3 through 8. Romeo & Juliet is offered to high school students. The workshops are interactive and engage students in Shakespeare's stories and characters, language and poetry, and preparation for viewing a live performance.

Five Teaching Artists arrive at your school by 8am on the day of the performance. Beginning as early as your first period, the Teaching Artists will divide into teams and visit classrooms to lead 40-minute workshops with your students (tailored to the needs of the specific age groups). All workshops involve student participation through improvisation, speaking the language and playing with Shakespeare's verse (iambic pentameter). Getting the students actively involved – up on their feet speaking the text – is the most immediate, accessible, and exciting way to engage them in the play.

Workshops for grades 3 through 6:

- **CHARACTER**
understanding what is meant by a 'character' in the story
- **SHAKESPEARE'S THEATRE**
to be familiar with some of Shakespeare's stories and characters
- **LANGUAGE**
to identify some of the distinctive features of Shakespeare's language and how language has changed over time
- **THEMES**
to explore some of the great themes of Shakespeare's plays, such as kinship, romance, and ambition

Workshops for grades 7 and 8:

- **RELEVANCE**
to engage with some of the issues, themes and ideas in Shakespeare's plays and to appreciate the way they remain relevant in the 21st century
- **CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT**
to understand how characters are developed during the course of a play
- **BREAKING DOWN THE PLAY**
to appreciate the dramatic conventions and linguistic qualities of scenes and understand their significance to the play as a whole.

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day of shakespeare (cont'd)

Workshops for grades 9 through 12:

- **CRITICAL ANALYSIS**
to make a confident, critical and personal response to the whole play, using close textual reference
- **CHARACTER ANALYSIS**
to understand the complexity of Shakespeare's characters
- **RELEVANCE OF SHAKESPEARE**
to appreciate the moral and philosophical significance of Shakespeare's plays and their relevance for a contemporary audience.

Each team is available for 3 workshops in the morning. Working with our 2 teams, this gives a total of six 40-minute workshop time slots per school. Schools are free to combine classes so that our actors/teachers can see all the students who are scheduled to attend the performance later.

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This program meets a majority of the Language Arts standards for the State of California, including:

- **Word Analysis & Vocabulary Development**
- **Reading Comprehension**
- **Literary Response & Analysis**
- **Oral English Language Conventions**
- **Listening & Speaking Strategies**

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playshops

Any Shakespeare play is available to focus on for playshops!

Students will gain new insights into Shakespeare's relevance while experiencing the power of his language when they get out of their seats and on their feet to play with Shakespeare's text.

Students work with two Teaching Artists to unleash an exciting, immediate, and personal experience of Shakespeare's language, which they quickly make their own in the acting process. The Teaching Artists will work with the students to relate to the plot and characters of the play and then get them up on their feet to act the text. There is no better and more immediate way to understand and relate to Shakespeare than by doing it. Students at all levels of reading, comprehension and language skills can fully participate. The two Teaching Artists will also perform a few of the key moments of the play in order to better illuminate the story and the language for the students.

Playshops are a one-class period event.

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after-school student production

A professional actor/director will spend 8 weeks with the students exploring and mounting a full length Shakespeare play. It is ideal if this class can take place twice a week. The first two weeks are spent understanding and working on the text through improvisation and scene work. The students then have an opportunity to audition for their preferred part. This gives them hands-on experience with preparing and presenting a Shakespeare monologue. It is also a wonderful way to encourage public speaking and greater self-confidence. Then, rehearsals begin! All students will have a role in the production. The students will also get hands-on experience doing stage combat and voice and movement work.

For those interested in working behind the scenes, there will be opportunities to learn about and have hands-on experience with stage management, set design, props, costume design, and sound design. The production will culminate in either an assembly production for the school or a two-night production open to the public.

Suggested plays for this program are:

Grades 3 through 6: **A 40-minute adaptation of A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM**

Grades 7 and 8: **An 80-minute adaptation of A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM**

High School: **An 80-minute adaptation of Macbeth**

The school may also suggest alternative plays

Intrepid Shakespeare Company

who we are

San Diego Critics say...

“ a most welcome addition to the San Diego theatre scene”

“make it a priority to see their shows”

“You’ll love Intrepid’s smart productions”

“an intimate alternative to outdoor evenings in Balboa Park”

Intrepid Shakespeare Company is a theatre company in San Diego committed to bringing the classics to life for a modern audience by focusing on the text and using Shakespeare’s words and imagery to tell the story. Intrepid is dedicated to present live theatre to the community in a bold, accessible, affordable way through passion, imagination and language.

intrepid productions

Intrepid Shakespeare Company produces a season of plays annually. In 2010 we will be performing King John, Much Ado About Nothing and Richard II. We will be offering student matinees for each play as well as play guides (a teaching artist who visits the students beforehand to prepare them for the play), pre- and post-show discussions with the actors, and group discounts.

Homeschool Programs

All of the above productions, workshops and classes are also offered at our theatre space downtown.

Pricing

- In-school Production: one performance \$525; additional performances on the same day are available at a discount
- Day of Shakespeare: \$1100
- Playshops: \$200 for first, \$100 for any additional class.
- After-school Production: the price of this program is dependent upon the needs of the school. Please contact us for more information.

A deposit is required to hold your booking.

For more information and booking, please contact:

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