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CHRISTOPHER BROWN TO STAR IN SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARK

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – June 10, 2008 – His acting career has taken him across the country, but this summer Christopher Brown will be returning to the city where his love for theater began.

The Nashville Shakespeare Festival announces today that Brown will star in this summer's Shakespeare in the Park production, *Coriolanus*.

"We are thrilled to have Chris playing the role of Coriolanus," said Nancy VanReece, executive director for the Nashville Shakespeare Festival. "He is an extremely talented Shakespearean actor and we know that our audiences will appreciate the intensity and passion he brings to the part."

Born and raised in the Mid-South, Brown moved to Nashville in his 20s to pursue a music career. While there, he discovered his love and talent for film and theater, thus beginning his acting career. Over the course of his career, Brown has worked with Nashville's Mockingbird Public Theater, the GATE conservatory in New York City, and The Shakespeare Theater in Washington, D.C. In addition to acting, he has lent his talents as a director to various film and theater projects. Brown is currently a member of Chicago's Blue Man Group.

Brown is starring in the title role of *Coriolanus*, one of Shakespeare's political tragedies. Set in ancient Rome, *Coriolanus* is about the internal and external struggles facing a political candidate. The play, produced in collaboration with Naked Stages, takes place from Aug. 14 through Sept. 7 in Centennial Park.

For more information about the Nashville Shakespeare Festival or Shakespeare in the Park, visit www.nashvilleshakes.org.

About Nashville Shakespeare Festival

The mission of the Nashville Shakespeare Festival is to educate and entertain the Mid-South community through professional Shakespearean experiences. The Festival accomplishes this primarily through its public productions of Shakespeare in the Park in the summer and Winter Shakespeare at The Troutt Theater and its educational workshops for young people and businesses.

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