



Spring 2007

Making your world a stage,
all year round.

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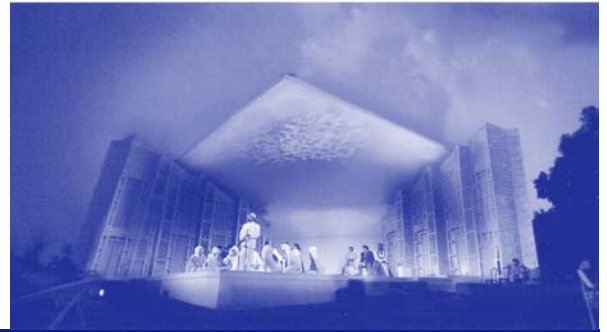
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- Artistic Director
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- Education & Outreach Coordinator
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- Teaching Artist-In-Residence
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www.nashvilleshakes.org

The Nashville Shakespeare Festival

Established 1988



www.nashvilleshakes.org

Busy Spring Calendar for The Bard

The Nashville Shakespeare Festival is excited to announce two exciting events for the spring .

PUBLIC TO VIEW OPEN AUDITIONS FOR 2007 SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARK PRODUCTIONS

**NON-EQUITY ACTORS INVITED TO OPEN CALL
APRIL 28TH 10:00 A.M. – 6:00 P.M.
IN THE CENTENNIAL PARK BANDSHELL**

All theatre enthusiasts are invited to attend the 2007 open auditions for the *Shakespeare in the Park* productions of *The Merry Wives of Windsor* and *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*. The public is welcome to attend and watch the audition process. The public is also encouraged to bring along their canine companions to audition for the role of "Crab the dog" featured in the production of *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*. ★

The Bard's Crawl & Art Sale

**Friday May 18th
Roundabout Plaza
Presenting Sponsors:
Dodson, Parker & Behm,
Provence Café,
Eakin Partners,
and Village Real Estate**

We invite you to join us for our spring fundraiser. It will begin with a wine and cheese event at Provence Bread & Café in the Roundabout Plaza from 5-7pm. Artwork from several local artists will be available for purchase from 5-7pm. At 7pm, we will travel by foot down Demonbreun on the Bar'd

Crawl. Different drink and food specials will be offered during the 7-9pm time period for anyone with a \$10.00 arm band. We will end at 9pm at Rhythm Nashville with a raffle drawing for two specially-themed dinner baskets from The Mad Platter and Chappy's for your summer picnic at the park!

We will be unveiling the 20th Anniversary Poster from the award winning Spirit of Nashville Collection. You will want to be one of the first to have this collector's item! A Framed Signed Print will be Auctioned off at 7pm. ★

The Nashville Shakespeare Festival Announces 20th Season

Two Productions come to Shakespeare In the Park

We are offering two bodacious comedies to you this summer to celebrate our 20 years in Centennial Park. In one, the *Merry Wives of Windsor*, set to a New Orleans Mardi Gras theme, will trick the self obsessed Falstaff into making a grand fool of himself to the delight of the entire community, and in the other, *Two Gentlemen of Verona* will discover that when life is a circus, it's best to be one of the clowns. We're scheduling these shows so that you can see both in one weekend, or come to one, and come back the next weekend (or two weeks later) to see the other. Let us know if

this works for you, and if donations are good, we'll do it again next year. Thanks so much for being a Friend of the Festival. One of my favorite Shakespeare in the Park stories is a conversation I had with a teen friend. She said that seeing the 1994 production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* was one of her first memories. In her version, Puck flew up to the top of the bandshell before flying away into the sky. She was four years old that summer. Puck, of course, had actually climbed onto the top platform and the lights went out before he actually "flew" away, but her imagination created a magical

moment that she treasures. There is not a more succinct way of explaining why we have been presenting free Shakespeare in the Park for 20 years. Theatre stimulates imagination. Being outdoors inspires awe. Shakespeare's poetry produces magical dreams. Spending quality time with family and friends at Shakespeare in the Park creates memories that will last a life time.

See you in the Park for the 20th Season!

Denice Hicks
Artistic Director



Executive Director Announced

Nancy VanReece has been named Executive Director of The Nashville Shakespeare Festival. In this capacity, she will guide NSF's marketing, development, and administrative functions as the treasured Nashville theater company enters its 20th season.

Of her appointment to this executive post, VanReece states, "I couldn't be more thrilled to be working with such wonderful people to bring Shakespearean experiences to as many people as possible in Nashville and throughout the state of



Nancy VanReece

Tennessee. My grandmother gave me a collection of Shakespeare's works when I was about ten years old and told me that I would always

have something to learn if I 'listened between the lines'. I look forward to offering that same opportunity to our community."

VanReece most recently enjoyed a successful eight and half year career in entertainment, corporate and healthcare licensing for the world's largest performing rights agency, Broadcast Music Inc (BMI). She brings to NSF a total of twenty-five years experience in sales, marketing, promotion and business development. She has served as president of an independent advertising agency for eight years as well as a successful personal recording artist and record producer manager for nine years. She has additional experience working within the world of government and policy, lobbying public officials for various causes on the federal, state and local levels.

"NSF is fortunate to have Nancy join our company and our family at this incredible

time in our journey. As we enter our 20th season, we are producing two shows in repertory for **Shakespeare in the Park** this summer, providing more workshops and performances in schools throughout Middle Tennessee than ever before. There is such momentum building on our long history of excellence, and we are confident that Nancy and Artistic Director Denice Hicks are the right team to lead NSF into our next twenty years," said Bill Coleman, NSF Board Chair.

Ms. VanReece moved to Nashville in 1986 after attending Baylor University. She was president of the board of directors for People's Branch Theater 2004-2006 and now serves on the board of directors for The Nashville Film Festival and on the Community Advisory Board for the Women's & Gender Studies department at Vanderbilt University.



The Nashville Shakespeare Festival Announces New Board Members



Joseph (Woody) Woodruff

is a partner at Waller Lansden. He has extensive trial and appellate experience in business and tort litigation, healthcare law, and the representation of fiduciaries and financial institutions. Mr. Woodruff has represented clients with national operations in state and federal trial and appellate courts throughout the United States. Mr. Woodruff also has substantial experience in mediation, arbitration, and other alternative forms of dispute resolutions. Mr. Woodruff is recognized in The Best Lawyers in America (Woodward White Inc.) for his work in commercial litigation.



Jon Glassmeyer

served as Board President of Artrageous 2003-2006. This non-profit organization's sole function is to put on the annual Artrageous fundraiser and donate the proceeds to Nashville CARES. He has also served the following organizations: Metro Nashville Arts Commission –Appointed by Mayor Bill Purcell, he served on this commission from 2000 to 2004. Nashville Children's Theatre – Served as a board member from 1997-2003. He held several executive committee positions including Board and Development chairs. Also chaired the annual Quest fundraiser in 1998. GLBT Chamber of Commerce - An active member since its creation in 1998, past Board Member at Large, and currently serving on the Programs Committee.



PLEASE VISIT THE NEW WEB SITE

www.nashvilleshakes.org

Making your world a stage, all year round.

Special thanks to the donation from Nancy Denning Martin and the services of Vision3 interactive!
Our new web site is up and ready to assist you with up-to-date information on our year-round activities:

Spring Events, Spring Workshops, Summer Shows At The Park, Autumn Events, Autumn Workshops
Winter Show at Belmont University (inside!) in January, The Winter Teen Fest in February

It's Free Because of Me!

Since 1988, the Nashville Shakespeare Festival has produced 19 consecutive seasons of professional, family-friendly productions and educational outreach programs for more than 200,000 people throughout Middle Tennessee and the surrounding communities. Thanks to the support of the Festival's generous individual and institutional donors, NSF's Shakespeare in the Park performances have always been presented at no charge to the general public.

The mission of the Nashville Shakespeare Festival is to educate and entertain the Mid-South community through professional Shakespearean experiences. Your donations make that dream a reality!

The Nashville Shakespeare Festival gratefully acknowledges the following institutional sponsors for their generous support:

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The Nashville Shakespeare Festival would also like to thank the following major individual donors for their

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Invitations to special events

\$100-\$249

All of the above plus...
NSF T-shirt or hat of your choice

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All of the above plus...
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Complimentary beach chair rental
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Anniversary Poster (while supplies last)

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All of the above plus...
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Shakespeare In The Park
Exclusive backstage tour

\$1000 and up

Contact Executive Director
Nancy VanReece at 615-255-2273 or
nancy@nashvilleshakes.org
for additional benefit packages

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Education Updates

In February, NSF inaugurated its annual **Winter Teen Fest** with its production of *Julius Caesar: The High School Experience*, featuring a diverse cast of teens from six area high schools and directed by NSF's Teaching Artist in Residence, Jon Royal. Following this highly successful production, Jon was invited to Los Angeles to observe and study **Shakespeare Festival / LA's** acclaimed **Will Power to Youth** program which engages at-risk teens in the production and performance of Shakespeare's plays.

In April, Education & Outreach Coordinator, Claire Syler, and Artistic Director, Denice Hicks, made visits to **Harpeth Hall** to work with freshman studying *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. NSF's positive relationship with Harpeth Hall will continue when Claire returns to work with seniors studying *Hamlet* and sophomores exploring *Much Ado About Nothing*.

NSF's educational presence will also be felt at **Rose Park Elementary School**. Through a grant made possible by Vanderbilt's Peabody College of Education, Claire will work with 6th graders at Rose Park studying *Julius Caesar* and ancient Rome. Three in-class workshops will address the text, characters, and themes of Shakespeare's tragedy, in particular, students will explore 'honor' through discussion and explorations of Brutus and Marc Antony's actions and language.

As part of **The Nashville Film Festival's** April workshop for young people interested in film and performance, NSF will provide a session exploring language and subtext with Shakespeare's poetry.

In May, NSF will provide an educational opportunity for students and adults alike. Through a collaboration with the esteemed **Shakespeare & Company** of Lenox, Massachusetts, NSF will present a weekend Clowning Intensive taught by Shakespeare & Company member Michael Burnet. This exciting opportunity will offer area teachers, actors, and students exceptional training as well as provide performance training for staff members Denice Hicks, Claire Syler, and Robert Marigza as the Festival prepares for a zany summer of comedy and clowning.

Shakespeare in Action!



Have you ever seen a child's face during a live theater performance? When she's realizing entire worlds exist in her own imagination? Have you ever seen your teenager reading Shakespeare for fun? Did reading *Julius Caesar* aloud in freshman English turn you into a rabid fan of Shakespeare?

If you answered "No" to the questions above, you haven't seen **Shakespeare in Action**.

**SHAKESPEARE
IN ACTION
WORKSHOPS**
offered year round
to all ages



To register or get more information on any of NSF Education Outreach programs call us at **615-255-2273** or email education@nashvilleshakes.org.

Claire Syler
Education & Outreach Coordinator

Shakespeare needs you!

The Nashville Shakespeare Festival welcomes volunteers from the community to take part in all aspects of production. For more information, please contact Operations Manager Robert Marigza at **615-255-2273**.

The mission of the Nashville Shakespeare Festival is to educate and entertain the Mid-South community through professional Shakespearean experiences.

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