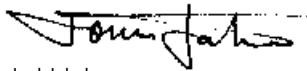


A Note from the Artistic Director

Since 1993 when Shakespeare in the Schools came into being, we have been performing Shakespeare for young people all across the region. While we often have performed in small schools that were comprised of grades K-12, the program's focus has always been junior high and high school level students. Having watched elementary school aged children enjoying our summer productions for 36 years and sensing there might be a need, we wanted to offer a program specifically targeting this age group and thus MONTANA SHAKES! was born.

In the spring of 2008, under the direction of Susan and Will Dickerson, a wonderfully creative team put together a pilot project to test the waters and the response was off the charts. This program, which features an interactive production of Shakespeare scenes, a lively talk back and workshops that build on the performance experience and are designed for different age levels, provides a perfect introduction to Shakespeare at a time when young people are the most receptive to learning. The goal of the program is to provide a positive first experience with Shakespeare and an introduction to his work that is based in appreciation, not apprehension. Given the response we have received thus far, this program truly delivers.



Joel Jahnke
Artistic Director

I thought it was a meaningful high quality program which students will not forget

- Principal, Lewistown, Montana

Montana Shakespeare in the Parks
is proud to present...

MONTANA SHAKES!

A program specifically designed for younger students presented in the tradition of traveling theatre companies of the Old West.

With MONTANA SHAKES! we bring you an interactive collection of scenes and workshops presented by an accomplished team of professional actor-educators.

The Play

All The West's A Stage: A Midsummer Night's Dream

Our comical traveling troupe of actors comes straight to you from 1876. They've dusted off their trunk of costumes and props to present Shakespearean scenes that have made them famous across the Old West. Just don't mind them if they need a little help from their audience!



Performance of *All The West's A Stage: A Midsummer Night's Dream* with Kevin Asselin and Tonya Andrews.

The Workshops

MONTANA SHAKES! offers three exciting and interactive workshops in the areas of verse, stage combat and design.

VERSE: GREEN EGGS & HAMLET

What is this thing called verse? Students will begin to understand why and how Shakespeare wrote the way he did through the use of interactive games and exercises that focus on the rhythm of the verse, rhyming and imagery. Older students are given the opportunity to experience Shakespeare's language through choral reading and more advanced imagery work.

STAGE COMBAT: KNAP TIME!

Our most popular workshop, stage combat allows students to see the actual mechanics behind fighting and frolicking on stage. Combining Shakespeare's language with humorous moves, students will be shown the art behind making stage "combat" seem real to the audience in a manner that is appropriate to each age group. At all times, safety will be emphasized.

DESIGN FOR THE STAGE: FROM WEAR TO WHERE

Students will learn how a costume designer dresses each character from page to stage and how they help to create the world of the play. Using Shakespeare's language and our big traveling trunk of costumes and accessories, students will create their own zany characters while working as a team. The workshop ends with a final presentation between student audience and actors "in costume" incorporating a Shakespearean scene.

The actors used visuals to make the confusing words and the basic plot understandable. They loved the whole thing. It made them feel silly and happy inside.

- Second grade teacher, Helena, MT



Students participating in a Design workshop in Forsyth Elementary School, Forsyth, Montana.

Dear Kevin, Tonya, and Jordan...
Thank you for coming to our school to perform! My favorite part of the performance was when Puck got yer' Vows and ran away. We drew pictures of Puck and the Mechanicals. And we used Oil pastels to draw the magical forest. I liked acting out the vocabulary words I wish we could go in all three workshops. I hope you liked our drawings. I hope you can come to our school many more times. I had fun watching you perform. Thank you again for coming to perform.

Your 3rd grade friend,
Jessica Martin

Reserve a date for your school or organization today - call (406) 994-1220

MONTANA SHAKES!

The package includes:

- ♦ A 30 minute production of *All The West's A Stage: A Midsummer Night's Dream* performed by three professional actors with sets, props and costumes. All scenes include audience participation from the students.
- ♦ Directly following the performance, actors conduct a 15- 30 minute question/answer session with the students before breaking into smaller groups for workshops.
- ♦ Choice of three workshops that are designed for grades K-6. Each school will choose up to 9 workshops from any of the three levels (K-1, 2-3 and 4-6). Workshop size is limited to 20 students per workshop and are 40 minutes long.
- ♦ Each school will receive a study guide, educational materials, posters, programs and postcards to promote the show in their school and community.
- ♦ The cost of the entire program is \$750.
- ♦ The tour will run from March 23rd through May 15th.
- ♦ To reserve a spot on the tour contact Kathy at 406.994.1220 or kjahnke@montana.edu

The actors involved the audience and made it so much fun. The looks on the students faces were priceless. The workshops were great because we got to be actors. We got to do"not just listen.

~ Fourth grade teacher - Lewistown, Montana



A young student plays a part in *All's The West's A Stage: A Midsummer Night's Dream* at Ridge View Elementary in Belgrade, Montana.

My first graders enjoyed watching one of their classmates be a part of the performance! What a wonderful program and opportunity to introduce young children to Shakespeare.

~ First grade teacher - Bonner, Montana

Call now to book
406.994.1220



Jordan Ahnquist leads a workshop at Hawthorne Elementary in Bozeman, Montana.



MONTANA SHAKES!

c/o Montana Shakespeare in the Parks
P.O. Box 174120
Bozeman, MT 59717-4120
(406) 994-1220

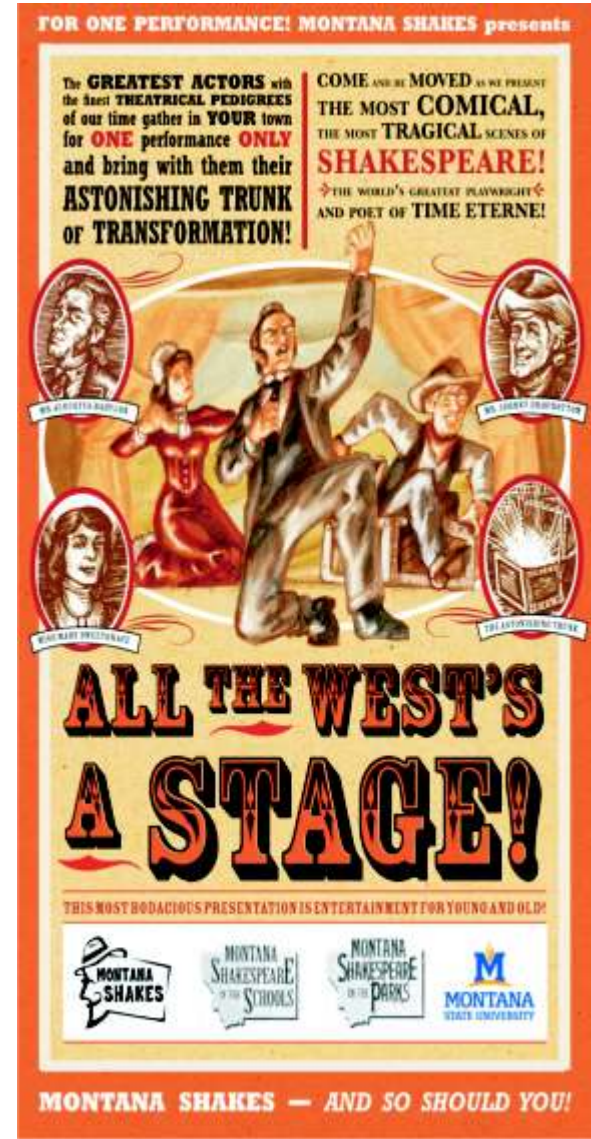
www.montana.edu/shakespeare

MONTANA SHAKES!, Montana Shakespeare in the Schools and Montana Shakespeare in the Parks are outreach programs of Montana State University and are sponsored in part by:



MONTANA SHAKES!

presents



MONTANA SHAKES! is an interactive program combining a play and a series of workshops, specifically designed for elementary students, that seeks to introduce Shakespeare to young students at their own level.