

NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR

Jesters was created in 1997 to provide a forum for teens to study and perform Shakespeare. Another purpose, and one that I've embraced during my tenure as director, is to bring Shakespeare down to earth – off the pedestal that some have put him on. Anyone who studies Shakespeare knows that he wrote for the masses – a fact some have forgotten or ignored because of the "language barrier" of Elizabethan English.

Enter the **Jesters**, who are prepared to turn Shakespeare on his head. Inspired by Tom Stoppard's *The Fifteen Minute Hamlet*, the **Jesters** have turned a tragedy, the Scottish Play, and a history, *Richard III*, into comedies. This year we've decided to take a comedy and turn it into a tragedy (and we all know what that means ... everyone dies in the end).

In addition, we're performing some of the Bard's own work. After all, his plays are pretty good. Each of the scenes you'll see will show you why we think Shakespeare wouldn't mind our turning his plays topsy turvy. These scenes show characters who aren't what they seem. You'll see a scene from *Richard III* in which he explains how he's going to pretend to be the dutiful subject to his brother, the King, while he secretly is plotting how to take the crown. We also have a scene from *Twelfth Night* which culminates in Viola's decision to disguise herself as a man. You'll see a scene from *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in which two characters are under the spell of Oberon's special love potion. And we're doing three scenes from *As You Like It* – a play chock full of people in disguise. We'll meet Phoebe, who is trying to convince herself that she's not in love with young Ganymede; Rosalind and Celia, who disguise themselves as brother and sister to escape the clutches of the Evil Duke; and Touchstone, a motley fool who may be the wisest person in the play.

We hope that you enjoy this evening of theatre in honor of the Bard and, let's face it, at his expense. Thank you for coming.

Special Thanks To

The **Jesters** Parents

and

All Who Contribute Time, Talent and Treasure To Sumter Players and Its Youth Programs

The Sumter Players

Jesters

IN



THE SHREWING OF THE TAMED:

The Continuing Saga of Kate and Petruchio

[An Original Play]

Written and Performed By The

Jesters

ALSO

SELECTIONS FROM THE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

May 16 at 7:00 PM

May 17 at 2:00 & 7:00 PM

MARY McCALL THEATER



THE JESTERS

[In Alphabetical Order]

Jay Anderson ☆ Roxanne Gatian ☆ Meredith Hall

Krista Hasinger ☆ Josh Minich ☆ Justin Minich

John Henry Spann ☆ James Terry ☆ Katrien van der Kuijp

Rebecca Wise

THE SCENES FROM SHAKESPEARE

Phoebe Krista Hasinger
As You Like It Act III Scene v

Jacques John Henry Spann
Touchstone James Terry
As You Like It Act V Scene iv

Gloucester Josh Minich
King Richard the Third Act I Scene i

Celia Meredith Hall
Rosalind Roxanne Gatian
As You Like It Act I Scene iii

Viola Katrien van der Kuijp
Captain Justin Minich
Twelfth Night Act I Scene i

Lysander Josh Minich
Helena Krista Hasinger
Demetrius Jay Anderson
Hermia Rebecca Wise
A Midsummer Night's Dream Act III Scene ii

THE SHREWING OF THE TAMED:

The Continuing Saga of Kate and Petruchio

A Play In One Act ... But Many Mini Scenes

THE SETTING

Alistaire Cooke's Living Room ... Present Day

Baptista's House in Padua, Italy ... c. 1922

Chez Romeo in Paris, France ... c. 1922

Police Precinct in East Cicero, Illinois ... c. 1944

THE PLAYERS

Allison Cooke Roxanne Gatian
Lucentio Justin Minich
Bianca Krista Hasinger
Baptista Minola Jay Anderson
Katherine Meredith Hall
Hortensio Josh Minich
Gremio James Terry
Petruchio John Henry Spann
Det. Tuesday Wednesday Rebecca Wise
Juliet Katrien van der Kuijp
Romeo Justin Minich
KFC Killers Jay Anderson, John Henry Spann

There is a 10 minute Interval Before the Play Begins