

Nebraska Shakespeare is committed to keeping education endeavors relevant and engaging. For twelve years, Nebraska Shakespeare has molded activities to the needs of schools. Actor/educators hold a bachelor's degree or higher, are versed in Shakespeare's works and style, and receive daily guidance from the Director of Education, whose year-round work with schools and communities forms ongoing connections with students. Workshops provide direct connection to the performance, break down the text with practical exercises, and relate applications to moments and scenes from the play. Participants make immediate connections and develop a deeper comprehension.

SHAKESPEARE ON TOUR offers three educational outlets: *in-depth study guides, pre- and post-performance workshops, and interactive post-show discussions.* All are designed in alignment with Nebraska education standards. The program strives to practice and build communication skills; broaden vocabulary fluency; and expand student comprehension through analysis of text, plot, genre and themes of the play.

Please contact Sarah Carlson-Brown, Director of Education, at carlson-brown@nebraskashakespeare.com

EDUCATION VISION

"Shakespeare's plays were meant to be experienced through performance. From the Globe Theatre in London to a small classroom on the plains of Nebraska, Shakespeare should be actively engaged with on a personal and relatable level. Only by experiencing Shakespeare's genius through the delivery of performance - no matter how polished or rehearsed - can we truly uncover the humanity, honesty, and humor of his text. All Nebraska Shakespeare education programs strive to remove the stigma of Shakespeare's language and highlight his deep understanding of human love, loss, and joy. Off the page. On the stage."

PERFORMANCES:

Benson High School
Valentine High School
Rock County High School
Bellevue West High School
Duchesne Academy
Plainview High School
North Platte High School
Lincoln Public Schools
Shenandoah High School
Ord High School
Hemingford High School
Humboldt High School
Central Valley High School
Sacred Heart High School
NE. Public School Dist. ESU#3
Wahoo High School
Cozad High School
Garden County High School
Alice Buffet Middle School
Mount Michael School
Omaha Central High School
Burke High School
Northwest High School
North Star High School
Elkhorn South High School
Lexington High School
Gering High School
Omaha South High School
Loomis Public Schools
Westside High School
Morton Middle School
Bryan High School
Ralston High School
King Science Middle School

COMMUNITY PERFORMANCES:

Creighton University
 September 22 at 7:30 PM
 Lied Mainstage
Plainview, Nebraska
 October 1st 2 PM
Ord, Nebraska
 October 21st Evening
Valentine, Nebraska
 October 22nd Evening

NEBRASKA SHAKESPEARE
 UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-OMAHA
 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CENTER
 (CEC)117E
 6001 DODGE STREET
 OMAHA, NE 68182-0154
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ON TOUR SPONSORS



The Nebraska Arts Council, a state agency, has supported this arts event through its matching grants program funded by the Nebraska legislature and the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Nebraska Cultural Endowment. Visit www.nebraskartsCouncil.org for information on how the Nebraska Arts Council can assist your organization.



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Nebraska University
 Leon J. Millard Foundation
 Hitchcock Foundation

THANK YOU TO THESE SUPPORTERS:

Susan and Jim Tracy,
 Housing - Joan Welsh and Pat Leuschen,
 Erienne Wredt at Benson High School,
 the Omaha Community Playhouse,
 Mark Pluhacek at Marks Bistro,
 Mark Pettit at Pettit's Pastry,
 Greg Lindberg at Dundee Dell,
 Brian McGee at Upstream Brewing,
 Corkscrew Wine & Cheese, and
 the Burke High Theatre Department.



NEBRASKA SHAKESPEARE

12TH ANNUAL NEBRASKA SHAKESPEARE ON TOUR

"A community divided, wracked with fear and rocked by violence. Romeo desperately struggles to retain what is left of art, beauty, and love. Juliet, clinging to her family for protection and strength, has fallen victim to their blind hatred. In an attempt to find control over their own hearts, Juliet and Romeo discover that in this desolate wasteland, merely surviving is insufficient. Despite the ongoing civil destruction, it is the internal conflict between head and heart that holds this world hostage. Presented through a Brechtian theatrical lens, this *Romeo and Juliet* lays bare the means of production, transforming characters before the audience, and stripping away the disguise of live performance. This world must change or be forever broken."

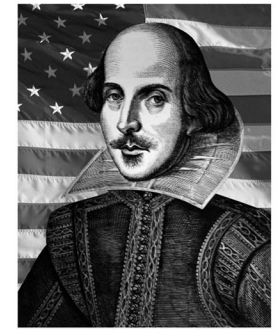
- Sarah Carlson-Brown,
 Director, *Romeo and Juliet* On Tour
 Nebraska Shakespeare Director of Education

SEPTEMBER 24TH - NOVEMBER 3RD GREATER NEBRASKA / WESTERN IOWA

"THESE VIOLENT DELIGHTS HAVE VIOLENT ENDS."

(ROMEO AND JULIET, II.6)

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS PRESENTS



SHAKESPEARE IN AMERICAN COMMUNITIES

PROGRAM MANAGED BY



The National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest presents Shakespeare in American Communities. Nebraska Shakespeare is one of 40 professional theater companies selected to participate in bringing the finest productions of Shakespeare to middle- and high-school students in communities across the United States.



CHLOE ARMAO
- Nurse, Prince; Educator

Chloe is thrilled to be making her return to Shakespeare On Tour, after spending the past three seasons On Tour—where she played Miranda (*The Tempest*), Rosalind (*As You Like It*), and Ophelia (*Hamlet*)—and appearing this summer On The Green as Regan (*King Lear*) and Parson Evans (*Merry Wives*). Originally from Colorado and currently based out of Minneapolis, Chloe has recently appeared in *Trouble in Mind*, *The Crucible*, *While You Were Out*, *Skin Deep Sea*, *The Real Thing*, *Fully Committed*, *Crazy for You*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Rock Bottom*, and *Inconvenient Truths*. She is a graduate of the University of Minnesota/Guthrie Theater BFA Actor Training Program, and a proud teaching artist.



KATIE BECKER COLÓN
- Capulet; Educator

Katie is thrilled to return to Shakespeare On Tour for the second year! She is a member of the Resident Acting Company and Director of Education with Duke City Repertory Theatre in Albuquerque, NM. Katie recently debuted On the Green in *King Lear* (Earl of Kent) and *Merry Wives* (Justice Shallow). Other recent credits: *Hamlet* (Gertrude) with Nebraska Shakespeare On Tour; FROSTY (Jackie) with Barter Encore Players/TheatreWorks USA; and *Twelfth Night* (Olivia), *The Jungle Book* (Shere Khan), *The Drunken City* (Marmie), and *Julius Caesar* (Brutus) with Duke City Rep. Many thanks to Vincent and Sarah for the opportunity to learn and grow with NS and to her husband Ezra for his wisdom and love. B.A. Theatre Arts, Coe College.



VINCENT CARLSON-BROWN
- Tybalt, Peter, Friar; Fight Director; Educator

Vincent is the Artistic Director of Nebraska Shakespeare. As a company member for 18 seasons, Vincent has appeared in 27 productions; favorite roles include Macbeth, Mercutio, Petruccio, Bottom, Jaques, Jack Cade, Dr. Caius, and Prospero. Vincent graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre from the University of Nebraska at Omaha in 2004, and received his MA in British Literature in 2017. Vincent has directed *King Lear*, *The Comedy of Errors*, *Titus Andronicus*, *As You Like It*, and *Macbeth* as well as the On Tour productions of *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Julius Caesar*, *Twelfth Night*, and *Hamlet*. He has directed fights for over 100 productions in the last decade.



MATTHEW R. OLSEN
- Mercutio, Paris; Educator

Matthew is excited to be returning for a third season On Tour after appearing last year as Hamlet. This summer he appeared as the Duke of Cornwall in *King Lear* and Abraham Slender in *Merry Wives*. Other credits include Banquo (*Macbeth*), Bianca (*The Taming of the Shrew*), Rudolph (*The Matchmaker*) and Dell (*Both Your Houses*, dir. Frank Galati), Lee (*True West*), Frank (*The School for Lies*) and John (*Oleanna*). Matthew is an actor/director/educator based out of Minneapolis. He holds an MFA in Acting from Florida State University/Asolo Conservatory. He would like to thank his family for their love and support.

THE COMPANY



SARAH CARLSON-BROWN
- Director of Education,
Director of Romeo and Juliet

Sarah graduated with her Master of Arts in Theatre Education at the University of Northern Colorado and a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Performance from the University of Nebraska at Omaha. She has worked with Nebraska Shakespeare for 16 years as an actor, director and educator and was named Director of Education in 2013. In 2016, Sarah launched a new all-female production program with Nebraska Shakespeare, titled "Juno's Swans." Sarah teaches throughout Omaha, having worked with the Omaha Theatre for Young People, Omaha Community Playhouse, Metro Community College, Omaha Symphony, Omaha Performing Arts, University of Nebraska at Omaha, and Creighton University. Sarah was recently selected for the Nebraska Arts Council's Teaching Artist roster.



WESLEY A. HOUSTON
- Director of Production; Stage Manager;
Properties Master

First joining Nebraska Shakespeare in 2004, Wesley has combined his aptitude for theatre management and his interest in dramaturgy to serve in various management and research roles for Nebraska Shakespeare before being hired on as the full-time Director of Production in 2011. Wesley received his bachelor's degree in Theatre from the University of Nebraska at Omaha in 2007 and has served as the stage manager for multiple productions in area theatres including the Omaha Community Playhouse (OCP), SNAP! Productions, NTC Productions, the Qwest Center, Ballet Nebraska, and Offutt Air Force Base. Wesley is currently pursuing his Master's degree and has taught courses in stage management and introduction to theatre at the University of Nebraska at Omaha.



BRENDAN GREENE-WALSH
- Scenic Designer; Scenic Charge Artist

This is Brendan's second season designing for Shakespeare On Tour. Brendan started with Nebraska Shakespeare in 2003, and most recently acted as the Technical Director and Head of Electrics for Shakespeare On The Green. Brendan is currently an MFA candidate in Technical Direction at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln where he also works as a Graduate Teaching Assistant.



LINDSAY PAPE
- Costume Designer

Lindsay has been designing costumes for Nebraska Shakespeare for ten years and continues to be invigorated by the work of William Shakespeare. Favorite designs with Nebraska Shakespeare include: *Romeo and Juliet*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Hamlet*, *Twelfth Night*, and *Macbeth*. Lindsay received her MFA from Carnegie Mellon University and is the Head of Costume Design for the Omaha Community Playhouse. Her work has also been seen at the Great Plains Theatre Festival, SNAP! Productions, Bellevue Little Theatre, Creighton University, and the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

ALEX THROOP - Scenic Foreman

**JOSHUA ACOSTA, ALEX ANDERSEN,
COLIN FALK** - Scenic Carpenters

DALIA SUDAVICIUS - Illustrator

STAFF

Mary Ann Bamber
Executive Director

Vincent Carlson-Brown
Artistic Director

Sarah Carlson-Brown
Director of Education

Wesley A. Houston
Director of Production
Webmaster

nellie sudavicius macCallum
Marketing Director



BIANCA PHIPPS
- Juliet; Educator

Bianca is excited to be returning to Nebraska once again! Bianca is a Chicago based actor, writer, and teaching artist who believes in the importance of storytelling as a tool to combat ignorance and inspire change. You may have seen her in last year's On The Green production of *Macbeth* as Greymalkin. Other credits include Ophelia in *Hamlet* (Midsummer Flight), Asia in *Just Numbers* (Chicago Slam Works), and Portia in *Julius Caesar* (GreatWorks). Bianca would like to thank everyone who had a hand in this production for being so welcoming and encouraging, and Sarah for trusting her with the role of Juliet. Her love to her brothers and to Sam.



JOSH RYAN
- Romeo; Educator

Josh is a graduate of the University of Nebraska Omaha's theatre program with a focus in acting/directing. He is glad to be back on the road this fall and for the opportunity to work with all of the talented individuals involved. A few of his most recent roles include playing Oswald in the Shakespeare On The Green production of *King Lear*, Henry VI in Nebraska Shakespeare's production of *A War of Roses: Foreign Flames*, which performed at UNO, as well as Demetrius in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* performed in collaboration with the Omaha Symphony. He is grateful to his family and friends for all of their love and support and to you for reading this bio. Thanks.



ASHLEY D. SPESSARD
- Benvolio; Educator

Ashley is thrilled to work again with Nebraska Shakespeare! Ashley graduated from the University of Nebraska at Omaha with a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Performance in 2007. Ashley has performed with Nebraska Shakespeare (most recently as Mistress Quickly in the Shakespeare On The Green production of *The Merry Wives of Windsor*), Brigit St. Brigit Theatre Co., and the Blue Barn Theatre. In 2014, Ashley was hired as Director of Audience Relations with The Hypocrites theatre in Chicago, before returning to Omaha.



2018 NEBRASKA SHAKESPEARE
13h ANNUAL ON TOUR
September 24 - October 26
A Midsummer Night's Dream



"NOW THE HUNGRY LION ROARS,
AND THE WOLF BEHOWLS THE MOON."
(A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM, V.2)