

# SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARKING LOT

Produced by



**DENVER CENTER** FOR  
THE PERFORMING ARTS  
Education & Community Engagement

Shakespeare in the Parking Lot presents an abridged performance of *Romeo & Juliet*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* or *Macbeth* that takes place in and around a pick-up truck "set" in your school's parking lot. In addition to the performance, the cast facilitates in-class, interactive workshops with your students that encourage them to connect the themes of the play to issues that still impact teenagers. When booking this program please choose either *Romeo & Juliet*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, or *Macbeth*.





## TOUR DATES & COST

Shakespeare in the Parking Lot is available twice a year in fall and spring.

- **Fall Tour** – September to mid-October
- **Spring Tour** – April to mid-May

The cost of Shakespeare in the Parking Lot starts at \$800 for the first performance, \$300 for each additional performances and \$100 for each post-show workshop. **Full and partial scholarships are available. We will work within your school's budget to make this program possible for your students.**

## FAQS

### I'm not a theatre teacher. Can my classes still participate?

Yes! Although this program is presented by the Denver Center for the Performing Arts, it is not exclusively for theatre classes. It's a unique theatrical experience that both introduces your students to live Shakespearean performance and deepens their engagement with the material through critical discourse, text analysis, and individual and communal reflection. Shakespeare in the Parking Lot is ideal for Language Arts, Social Studies or History classrooms. The program aligns with Colorado Model Content Standards in Social Science, Drama and Theatre Arts, and Reading, Writing and Communicating.

### How many students can participate in the program?

Each performance can comfortably seat up to 225 students on our tarps and blankets. More students are welcome to attend, but they might need to stand or sit on uncovered ground. Workshops serve an average class size, with a limit of 35 students per class.

*The Shakespeare in the Parking Lot team will work with each school to be in partnership on any health procedures and guidelines.*

### What are the benefits of the classroom workshop?

Led by cast members, the classroom-based workshop expands on the play by moving students from being an audience into roles of active engagement. The workshop is not a 'master class' in Shakespearean performance, Shakespearean text, or the historical background of Shakespeare or his plays. Rather, the workshop furthers students' experience of the play within absorbing theatre-based learning activities.

- **Workshop for *Romeo and Juliet*** – Through discussion and debate, students examine the play's relevancy to modern culture: parental responsibility, privacy, and the expectations and limitations on both loyalty and friendship.

- **Workshop for *A Midsummer Night's Dream*** – Incorporating favorite theatre games with quotes and characters from the play, students explore the genre of comedy by working within the various comedic structures found in the play: solo, duet, and quartet.

- **Workshop for *Macbeth*** – *Macbeth's* themes of blind ambition, personal morality, and how destiny may be fated or self-created become entry points for the post-show workshop's exploration of the culture of violence. The workshop, kinesthetic and activity-rich, models the power of inquiry and examines Shakespeare's contemporary relevance as students are asked to reflect on the challenges to, and alignments with, their own understandings of matters of power, violence, and bystander/upstander in *Macbeth* and their own lives.





## PERFORMANCE INFORMATION AND GUIDELINES

- Each performance is 50 minutes and typically starts 5 minutes into a class period to allow students to get from their classroom to the outside performance area.
- The performance will occupy 10 parking spaces — (6 spaces by 4 spaces). Canvas seating and blankets are placed on three sides to delineate the performance space.
- Students should be made aware that they will be seated on the ground and can bring sunglasses, sunscreen, hats and jackets.
- The cast can perform up to three performances in one school day.
- After two performances, the cast requires a break of at least 30 minutes.
- Because of the distraction of busses and cars arriving for drop-off and pick-up, the performance is not available during the first and last period of the school day.
- A site visit will be scheduled before the performance at which the Technical Director will identify the performance space.

### PLEASE BE AWARE:

- The production uses amplified sound and music through body mics on the actors and speakers, all of which come with the tour.
- *Romeo and Juliet* and *Macbeth* features several scenes containing stage violence. Actors will have prop knives on stage. When an actor is not using the prop, it is locked up with stage management.

## WORKSHOP INFORMATION AND GUIDELINES

- Each workshop fits into a standard class period (40–50 min).
- Post-show workshops are scheduled after students have seen a performance, typically on the next day.
- Performances and workshops can be scheduled for the same school day, with some scheduling restrictions.
- There are three teaching teams, allowing workshops to happen in three classrooms during the same class period.
- Each teaching team can lead up to five workshops per school day, so a maximum of 15 classrooms could have workshops during the day.
- After three workshops, teaching teams require a break of at least 30 minutes.
- Workshops are highly participatory and have a minimum of 15 students and a maximum of 35, allowing every student a chance to have their voice heard.
- Classroom teachers must remain in the room while the teaching team is leading a workshop, and are encouraged to participate.





## BOOKING SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARKING LOT

- 1) **Submit initial inquiry**, including your name and contact information to [education@dcpa.org](mailto:education@dcpa.org).
- 2) The DCPA Education Shakespeare Manager Justin Walvoord will contact you with a **questionnaire**. This form will help the Manager start to finalize all details of our visit to your school including all contact info and exact location of your school, start and end times for all performances and workshops, along with the cost of the program.
- 3) When your details are finalized, the DCPA Technical Director Stuart Barr will contact you to arrange a **site visit to your school**.
- 4) After the performance, the DCPA Education Business Manager will send an invoice for the agreed upon fee, if any.

### HERE ARE SOME THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND PRIOR TO YOUR SITE VISIT:

#### Outdoor performance space requirements:

- Parking lot or black-top is ideal
- 60 ft x 60 ft space that is accessible by the show truck and trailer unit, needing to avoid grass fields and sprinkler systems with room to park and turn the trailer unit around.
- Away from traffic flow (student drop-off and pick-up)
- Preferably away from noisy HVAC units, metal buildings and steep slopes
- The best space is a parking lot but basketball courts and outdoor play areas will also work
- Need to be aware of garbage truck/dumpster pick-up schedule and delivery truck areas
- Any gates need to be unlocked up to 2 hours before first performance for access of the truck and trailer.
- Access to restrooms for the cast and crew

### BOOK TODAY!

We look forward to bringing this exciting program to your school. If you'd like to begin the booking process, please submit the Inquiry Form - [CLICK HERE](#) or email us at [education@dcpa.org](mailto:education@dcpa.org).

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