

GWCS Staunton Shakespeare Trip

October 28 – 30, 2016

So, here's the deal. I have been to hundreds of theatre events in my lifetime. I have seen Shakespeare performed on stages from Los Angeles to London. I am an aficionado. I may not be the best judge, but I say this in all sincerity: [The Blackfriars Theatre at the American Shakespeare Center](#) in Staunton Virginia is the home of the finest productions of classical



theatre that I have ever seen. There. I said it.

In addition to performing theatre arts at the highest possible level, it should also be noted that this is a traditional performance troupe. That means that all four plays are performed by the SAME EIGHT PEOPLE! It is a mind-boggling experience! They also pick popular songs from the last fifty years that are reflective of the themes of the plays and then sing and play music LIVE before each show and at intermission!

We will stay at the three-star hotel ('97% of guest recommend' on Expedia.com) attached to the theatre, two blocks away from downtown Staunton. Breakfast is included in the price, and the meals in town are reasonably priced!

We are going down on Friday afternoon this year. We are going to leave around noon, October 28th and stay in Staunton long enough to see ALL FOUR SHOWS!!! On Friday night we will see [Henry VI part 2 \(The Rise of Queen Margaret\)](#), Shakespeare's second chapter in England's War of the Roses. On Saturday we will take in the matinee of [Twelfth Night](#) and Saturday night's show is [Bloody, Bloody Andrew Jackson](#). Then, after seeing a drama, a comedy, and a rock musical, at Sunday's matinee we will see [King Lear](#). Lear is considered one of Shakespeare's supreme masterpieces!

If you like live theatre, this is just about the coolest three-day weekend you could possibly experience! With two students to a room, four tickets to the theatre, two dinners out, two lunches, two breakfasts at the hotel, and a backstage tour of the Blackfriars Theatre (or a class on theatre battle staging), this trip will be amazing! The entire trip will cost \$725.00 per student. The experience, of course, will be priceless!

There are a limited number of spaces reserved for GWCS at the hotel and the theatre. If you want to be included on this trip, please bring a check for \$725.00 (made out to GWCS) and drop it in the 'forms' basket at the front desk. In previous years the spots were all filled quickly. You do not need to bring any other cash on the trip. Every tax, tip, and trip to the snack cart are included!

Questions? Email Mr. Goldie at goldiera@gwcommunityschool.com

With that in mind, I would like to introduce you to the GWCS Fall Trip, 2016, **tentative** schedule:

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Tentative Schedule

Friday 10.28.2016

- Leave school around noon
- Arrive in Staunton around 3:00 PM
- Check-in to the Stonewall Jackson Hotel
- Go to dinner downtown at Baja Bean & Company (three blocks from the hotel)
- 7:30 PM Go to the Blackfriars Playhouse and see [Henry VI part 2 \(The Rise of Queen Margaret\)](#)
- Walk to Banana Split for a nightcap (ice-cream)

Saturday 10.29.2016

- Breakfast at the hotel
- 10:00 AM Stage Combat Workshop at the Blackfriar Studio
- Lunch at hotel (catered by Cranberries Restaurant)
- 2:00 PM see [Twelfth Night](#)
- Swim or relax at the hotel for fifteen minutes
- 5:00 PM walk to dinner at the Mill Street Grill (ALT: Depot Grill)
- 7:30 PM see [Bloody, Bloody Andrew Jackson](#)
- Walk to Split Banana ice-cream downtown!
- Crash at hotel

Sunday 10.30.2016

- Breakfast in hotel
- 9:00 AM check-out (all gear in cars)
- 2:00 PM See [King Lear](#)
- Lunch?
- 4:30 PM Leave for school
- 7:00 PM arrive at school