

# USF/SUU Shakespeare COMPETITION

Dear Coaches,

The Utah Shakespeare Festival and the Southern Utah University Theatre Arts and Dance Department are pleased to host the thirty-ninth annual Shakespeare Competition on Friday, October 7 and Saturday, October 8, 2016.

In the enclosed packet you will find the following information to help you register:

- A tentative agenda. Each division's acting ensembles and dance ensembles will occur on the same day. Each division's acting mono/scenes and dance duo/trio will occur on the same day.
- Rules and regulations governing all areas of the competition.

As part of your experience here, we invite you to attend the Utah Shakespeare Festival's fall season productions of *The Cocomanuts* and *The Odd Couple* in the Randall L. Jones Theatre, and *Julius Caesar* and *Murder for Two* in the Eileen and Allen Anes Studio Theatre, as well as the Southern Utah University production of *Twelfth Night* performed in the Adams Shakespearean Theatre. School groups can receive tickets to the plays for half price. We recommend that students and teachers make informed choices when selecting plays. Please refer to the Festival and SUU websites in regards to content.

Please remember these important dates.

- September 23: Registration deadline, 5 p.m. Mountain Time. You may register online at [www.bard.org/competition](http://www.bard.org/competition) starting September 1; please fill out the form carefully, and double-check the spelling of all names.

A confirmation e-mail will be sent once we receive your registration. **No late registrations will be accepted.** A packet of final schedules will be e-mailed after registration deadline.

*Please share all schedules with dance, music, and theatre instructors in your school.*

- September 19: Deadline for group ticket reservations. Call 1-800-PLAYTIX.
- Unfortunately because of limited space and the large number of students we cannot accommodate rehearsal space or time. Find places in a gym, a parking lot, the lawn or other open areas so your students can adjust to various performance spaces. As a teacher I enjoyed these rehearsals that prepared my students for performances in different venues.
- Remember to book your hotel accommodations as soon as possible.

I look forward to seeing you and continuing this great tradition of theatre, dance, and music.

All the world's a stage,



Michael Bahr  
Education Director  
Utah Shakespeare Festival

# USF/SUU Shakespeare COMPETITION

## At a Glance

- **What are the dates of the competition?**

October 6–8, 2016.

- **How do we register?**

Entry forms must be submitted online at [www.bard.org/competition](http://www.bard.org/competition) no later than 5 p.m. Friday, September 23, 2016. No changes of entries will be allowed after that date.

- **How much does it cost to compete?**

The base registration fee for each participating school is \$200. Each additional competitive event is \$75. Additional non-competing students are \$5. (Example: If school is competing in acting, tech, and music, the fee is \$350. If school is competing in dance and music, with 5 non-competing students, the fee is \$300.)

The Ye Olde Improv Competition is separate and has its own registration process and fees.

- **What division should I register my school for?**

Divisions are based on studentbody size, as follows:

<u>Students</u>	<u>Division</u>
2,001 or more	Buckingham
1,501-2,000	Oxford
801-1,500	Cambridge
800 or less	Westminister
Junior or middle school	Stratford
Not a member of state middle or high school associations	Essex

- **What Utah Shakespeare Festival performances will take place during the competition?**

*The Cocoanuts, The Odd Couple, Julius Caesar, and Murder for Two.*

- **What Southern Utah University performances will take place during the competition?**

*Twelfth Night.* Call 435-586-7872 for the SUU Ticket Office.

- **Will my group be able to attend Festival shows if they are performing?**

Yes, but you must plan on attending plays when your students are not performing (refer to the performance schedule).

- **Is there a discount for group tickets?**

Yes. Anyone associated with the Shakespeare Competition will get \$10 off in the Anes Theatre and 50% off in the Randall Theatre. Call the Ticket Office for more information: 1-800-PLAYTIX.

- **When is the deadline for registering?**

You must register by 5 p.m., Friday, September 23, 2016.

- **Can my team rehearse on the stage before the performance?**

No. Unfortunately because of limited space and the large number of students we cannot accommodate rehearsal space or time.

- **What time and where can I check-in at the event?**

Competition check-in occurs at the Auditorium Theatre, room AU108. Check-in begins at 8 a.m. October 7. To minimize crowding *please* have students wait outside of theatre!

- **What is the sweepstakes award?**

The sweepstakes award is an overall acting award and is tabulated based on acting monologues, duo/trio and ensemble scenes.

Dance, music, art, and technical entries are not included in tabulation.

- **What are the time limits for mono, duo/trio, group ensembles?**

Mono (one person): two to four minutes

Duo/Trio (two or three characters): three to five minutes

Ensemble (no less than four people): six to ten minutes

Dance Duo/Trio (two or three dancers): three to six minutes

Dance Ensemble (no less than four people): three to six minutes

Music Minstrel (one to four people): three to seven minutes

Music Madrigal (minimum of five people): six to ten minutes

- **Do I need props and costumes?**

Use of props and costumes is optional. Scenes will not be judged based on costumes, make-up, or props.

- **What is Tech Olympics?**

Tech Olympics is a competition in which student teams demonstrate skills in rigging, costumes, hair and make-up, lighting, sound, carpentry and props. Each team has eight members, one for each event. Students will not be told exactly what each event requires until the competition begins.

- **What is the Portfolio Competition?**

The Portfolio Competition is designed to showcase design and technical students' work. Portfolios are three-ring binders focusing on students' tech work. Additional items such as costumes or models can also be displayed.

- **Does my dance piece need a description?**

We require each dance number have a brief paragraph description of the concept.

- **When should I book my hotel?**

ASAP! A list of hotels is located on our website, <http://www.bard.org/visit/lodging.html>. Once Cedar City hotels have been booked, other areas to book with are Parowan, Hurricane, Brian Head, Beaver, and St. George.

- **How can I get more information?**

Visit [www.bard.org/competition](http://www.bard.org/competition) for more information about the competition. Visit [www.bard.org](http://www.bard.org) or call the Ticket Office at 1-800-PLAYTIX for play or ticket information.

- **What is the Music Competition?**

It allows students to explore and develop a relationship with the music of the Renaissance. Details are included in this information packet and available online at [bard.org/competition](http://bard.org/competition).

- **How many competitors can I bring?**

There is no limit to the total size of groups:

Acting Competition/Monologues	Three participants
Acting Competition/Duo/Trio Scenes	Two groups of 2-3 participants
Acting Competition/Ensemble Scenes	One scene of 4 or more participants
Dance Competition/Duo/Trio Dance	One group of 2-3 participants
Dance Competition/Ensemble Dance	One group of 4 or more participants
Music Competition/Minstrel	One group of 1-5 participants
Music Competition/Madrigal	One group of 5 or more participants
Tech Olympics	One team of eight participants
Portfolio Competition	Three participants



### **MISSION STATEMENT**

The Shakespeare Competition cultivates the art of theatre, dance, and music, by providing active observation of peer and professional performance, educational creations based on Shakespeare's plays and poems, and personal evaluation by working theatre and dance professionals.

### **COSTS/NUMBER OF STUDENTS (NOTE CHANGES)**

The base registration fee for each participating school is \$200. Each additional competitive event is \$75. Additional non-competing students are \$5. (Example: If school is competing in acting, tech, and music, the fee is \$350. If school is competing in dance and music, with 5 non-competing students, the fee is \$300.)

**There is no maximum to the number of students each school can bring.**

The Ye Olde Improv Competition is separate and has its own registration process and fees.

### **DIVISIONS (NOTE CHANGES)**

The USF/SUU Shakespeare Competition is divided into six divisions: the Buckingham Division, including high schools with enrollment of 2,001 students or more; the Oxford Division, including high schools with enrollment of 1,701 to 2,000; the Cambridge Division, including high schools with enrollment of 801 to 1,500; the Westminster Division, including high schools with enrollment of 800 or less; the Stratford Division, including any junior high school or middle school, regardless of school enrollment; and the Essex Division, including schools or groups which are not members of state middle or high school associations. Any school, public or private, is eligible to participate in the competition.

### **MATERIAL AND EVENTS**

The USF/SUU Shakespeare Competition is limited to material from William Shakespeare's plays, sonnets, and poems. In each division a full contingency consists of the following: three mono-acts, two duo/trio scenes, and one ensemble scene. Sweepstakes score is calculated based on only these events.

### **ACTING, TECHNICAL, AND DANCE WORKSHOPS**

During the competition period, workshops are offered for the students and coaches. These are taught by professional artists and technicians. Students and coaches are encouraged, but not required to attend. Acting workshops will include text, voice, movement, improvisation, and stage combat. Technical workshops include lighting, sound, set construction, costumes, and portfolio building. Various dance workshops will be taught in conjunction with the Dance Competition.

The Production Portfolio Workshop will teach students how to create portfolios. Using examples from the production portfolio competition, this workshop will cover content, presentation, display, labeling, and resumes.

### **CREDIT**

University credit is available to coaches and students for participating in the USF/SUU Shakespeare Competition. Participants must have completed their sophomore year of high school. Coaches will receive graduate level credit for their participation. Applications for credit and the accompanying \$85 fee will be accepted at the registration desk at check-in.

## ACTING COMPETITION

**Mono-acts:** A mono-act is one person portraying the role of one person. A mono-act may also consist of an interpretation of a sonnet or one of Shakespeare's poems. The time limit is *two to four minutes*, with a fifteen-second allowance. Timing begins after the introduction. Any participant going more than fifteen seconds under time or over time in two of the three rounds will drop one full rating in final tabulation (termed overall effectiveness). He/she will also drop one rank in final tabulation.

**Duo/Trio Scenes:** A duo/trio is a scene between two or three characters with an emphasis on interpretation and relationships. Time limit is *three to five minutes*, with a fifteen-second allowance. Timing begins after the introduction. Any scene going more than fifteen seconds under time or over time in any two of the three rounds will drop one full rating in final tabulation (termed overall effectiveness). Participants will also drop one rank in final tabulation.

**Group Ensemble Scene:** The group ensemble scene will consist of no less than four participants. Scenes may be from any of Shakespeare's plays with an emphasis on interpretation and ensemble work. Time limit for scenes is *six to ten minutes*. Timing begins after the introduction. Any scene deemed thirty seconds under time or over time by the timer will drop one full rating (termed overall effectiveness) in final tabulation. Participants will also drop one rank in final tabulation. Scenes that violate the participant limit of no less than four participants will drop one rating and ranking. The ensemble scenes will be performed once for a panel of adjudicators.

### Regulations

Students may not be entered in both mono-acts and duo/trio scenes, but any student may participate in the ensemble scene, including contestants in either one of the other two events. The ensemble scene performed by the school receiving the first place award will be ineligible for the following year in that particular division.

A participant may not use a cutting in mono or duo/trio scenes from a play or be involved in an ensemble scene from which he or she has already participated in previously at the USF/SUU Shakespeare Competition. No material performed by a participating school can be repeated in any form by that school. He or she may use material from the same play as long as he or she plays a different character from that play.

*Use of props and costumes is optional.* The scoring of the scenes is based on the quality of the scene, and does not include costumes, make-up, and props.

**Entry forms must be submitted online at [www.bard.org/competition](http://www.bard.org/competition) no later than 5 p.m. Friday, September 23, 2016. No changes of entries will be allowed after that date.**

### Evaluation Criteria

Each of the mono and duo/trio scenes will participate in three rounds that will be evaluated by three separate adjudicators. Oral critiques will be given by the adjudicators in each round. (Ratings and rankings will not be disclosed, but running time may be given on request). Any contestant not participating in all three rounds will be disqualified and no sweepstakes points will be awarded. Scenes will be evaluated based on voice (diction and projection), body (physicalization, blocking, and movement), character (motivation, emotion, and objectives), text (language and understanding), and ensemble (interaction, tempo, and atmosphere).

### Scholarships and Awards

The first place senior of a sanctioned high school in the mono acts and the duo/trio scenes will be awarded scholarships from the Southern Utah University Department of Theatre Arts and Dance. **(These will be awarded to top winners in all divisions except the Essex Division.)** A best performance award, the Larry Lott Acting Award, will be given in the ensemble scene, accompanied by a \$1,000 scholarship to winners who are graduating seniors from sanctioned high schools. The awards for best performance in the ensemble scene will be chosen by the panel of adjudicators. There will be a best ensemble scene selected with awards for first, second, and third place in each division. Finally, a first, second, and third place sweepstakes award will be given in each division.

## DANCE/CHOREOGRAPHY COMPETITION

Based on the already established model used for drama, the competition incorporates a dance section limited to choreography inspired by literary text, sonnets, or poems of William Shakespeare. Oral critiques are given by the adjudicators, and dance workshops are offered for teachers and students in technique and composition. It is required that each dance number have a brief paragraph description of the concept.

**We recommend your student not be in both Acting and Dance Competition.**

### Evaluation Criteria

1. The choreography must be motivated by and integral to a sonnet, poem, or scene written by William Shakespeare.
2. The dance can be in any style; however, it must be concert or performance dance.
3. Schools may enter a duet/trio dance and/or an ensemble piece.
4. The evaluation will be based on the choreography as it is showcased through a quality performance, not only the skill of performers.
5. Music should be appropriately selected to enhance the choreography. It should not be popular music, unless that is part of a strong choreographic choice.
6. **Any recorded music used as accompaniment, must be able to play through a standard 3.5 mm headphone jack.**
7. The dance must provide a theatrical/imaginative experience.
8. Awards will be given in each division, with the best overall entry being awarded a scholarship.

## HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC COMPETITION

The purpose of the Music Competition is to encourage students to explore and develop a relationship with the music of the Renaissance. Students are encouraged to utilize creative combinations of instruments. The use of period instruments is not required.

At this time there will be no divisions in this competition. There are two categories of competition:

### Minstrel:

- Only one entry per school
- A solo or small ensemble of one to five individual parts; Groups may be a mixture of voice and instrument, all instruments, or unaccompanied/accompanied solo
- Performance time is between three and seven minutes
- Repertoire: Please see on-line list and sources to purchase music. NOTE: Repertoire of the period with any instrument combinations is desired. Creativity in combinations is encouraged.
- Clinics: Based on scheduling, we will most likely offer a performance techniques workshop for students in the minstrel category. This would allow the adjudicator/s to interact with potential scholarship recipients.

### Madrigal Group:

- Only one entry per school
- A **choral** group with a minimum of five people
- Any madrigal song up to the year 1650
- Performance time is from six to ten minutes; Groups will have fifteen minute slots including onstage comments from adjudicators

## PRODUCTION SHOWCASE

The Production Showcase features selected performances from all event areas (except Technical Theatre). Production Showcase occurs Saturday afternoon. All invited performances will be notified before hand. Production showcase participants are selected by the judges. They identify work in each round that they believe merits being seen by more students, even if it hasn't been reaked especially high. The Tabulation Room makes the final determination as to which Production Showcase selections are seen in each of the venues.

## TECHNICAL OFFERINGS

### Tech Olympics

One team of eight members per school is allowed. Each school must complete the attached registration form; schools will be registered on a first-come, first-served basis. Only thirty-six teams will be allowed. Each team member completes one of the following events: audio, lighting, props, construction, costumes, stage management, hair and make-up, and rigging. Awards are given to individual event winners as well as overall team winners, based on timing, execution, and accuracy.

### Portfolio Presentation Competition

Students can enter their technical and/or design portfolios for review by professionals at the competition and receive a written evaluation and possible awards. In addition, all the portfolios will be on display for the weekend, so that others can view the work. Visit [www.bard.org/competition](http://www.bard.org/competition) for more specific instructions and expectations regarding the Portfolio Competition.

1. Each school is allowed three entries.
2. Each student will be given one-half of a standard eight-foot banquet table for his or her display, as well as room either behind or in front of the table if needed. The display must fit within a four-feet by four-feet area.
3. The displays must be a portfolio of work showing the student's design/technical skills. It may include a resume, draftings, renderings, models, photos, sketches, and research designs. Three-dimensional items (i.e. costumes, models, etc.) can be displayed as long as the student or school provides the necessary display materials and the items fit within the display area.
4. The displays must be set up by Friday morning at 10 a.m. and taken down Saturday between 3 and 4 p.m.  
The displays will be open and available for viewing during the competition weekend.
5. By entering the Portfolio Presentation Competition students acknowledge that their portfolios may be used during a Portfolio Adjudication and Workshop that will take place on Saturday from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
6. **Students participating in this portion are required to attend a portfolio workshop.**

### Evaluation

1. A panel of judges will review the portfolio displays and judge them based on ease of comprehension, presentation, and overall effect. Written critiques will be provided to each participating student after the competition weekend.
2. The judges will pick the top portfolio per division, and the best overall portfolio will be awarded a scholarship.

### Stage Exposition

#### Friday and Saturday

The Stage Exposition is the must-attend event for teachers and students. The expo showcases theatre products and services of vendors and provides participants the opportunity to see the newest and best on the market today. This years participants include General Theatrical Supply, Oasis Stage Werks, and Utah Shakespeare Festival Event Resources.

## HOSTS AND SPONSORS

The Utah Shakespeare Festival and the College of Visual and Performing Arts host this event on the campus of Southern Utah University. It is sanctioned by the Utah High School Activities Association.

