2020 Season Summer Auditions

Ohio Shakes, located in Akron, will cast a summer company to perform in both outdoor productions of

**A MIDSUMMER NIGHT’S DREAM** and 
**OTHELLO**

Up to three AEA contracts available for each production. All non union actors paid a stipend determined by size of role, length of commitment, and number of years spent with the company.

Open Auditions will be held at Greystone Hall (103 S High Street, Akron) on **Sunday March 29th, 12:00-4:00pm** and **Monday March 30, 6:00-10:00pm**.

No walk ins, please.

Actors may request an audition time by submitting a headshot and resume to tess@ohioshakespeare.com, and please include in the subject line: **Ohio Shakes Summer Season Auditions**. Actors may request a particular time frame, and will be scheduled in the closest available slot. Video auditions, though not encouraged, may be submitted to tess@ohioshakespeare.com.

Prepare 2 contrasting Shakespeare monologues, no longer than 3 minutes in total length OR a scene to read from MIDSUMMER or OTHHELLO. (Reader provided, scene need not be memorized.)

Invited callbacks will be held April 5 (12-4pm) and April 6 (6-10pm)

Ohio Shakespeare Festival operates with an informal resident acting company. Ohio Shakespeare company members who have worked with the Festival within the past two seasons do not need to come to open auditions. All said company members must submit their interest to tess@ohioshakespeare.com, including roles they wish to read for and their preferred time/date of callback. All company members must email their interest to be invited to callbacks, no exceptions.

*When indicating genders of characters in descriptions below, please know that Ohio Shakespeare is open to all the ways a person can identify on the gender spectrum.*
A MIDSUMMER NIGHT’S DREAM

By William Shakespeare

Directed by Tess Burgler

Rehearsals begin: June 9

Performances: July 2 - July 19

Description: Performed outdoors at Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens, Shakespeare’s comic masterpiece. Particularly interested in a racially diverse cast, actors who can play instruments, and actors with strong movement skills (dancing, tumbling, contortion, etc.)

The roles of Helena, Bottom, and Philostrate have been cast from our resident acting company.

AVAILABLE ROLES:

- Available roles for females (traditionally male characters will be played as pants roles), all ages and ethnicities:
  - Titania - The formidable queen of the fairies, at odds with husband Oberon
  - Hermia - Egeus’s daughter, a young woman of Athens. Hermia is in love with Lysander and is a childhood friend of Helena.
  - Hippolyta - The legendary queen of the Amazons, engaged to Theseus.

- Available roles for males, all ages and ethnicities:
  - Oberon - The king of the fairies, Oberon is initially at odds with his wife, Titania.
  - Lysander - A young man of Athens, in love with Hermia.
  - Demetrius - A young man of Athens, initially in love with Hermia and ultimately in love with Helena.
  - Francis Flute - The bellows-mender chosen to play Thisbe in the craftsmen’s play for Theseus’s marriage celebration.
Available roles for males or females, all ages and ethnicities:

- Puck - Also known as Robin Goodfellow, Puck is Oberon’s jester, a mischievous fairy who delights in playing pranks on mortals
- Egeus - Hermia’s father, who brings a complaint against his daughter to Theseus
- Theseus - The heroic duke of Athens, engaged to Hippolyta.
- Peter Quince - A carpenter and the nominal leader of the craftsmen’s attempt to put on a play for Theseus’s marriage celebration.
- Robin Starveling - The tailor chosen to play Thisbe’s mother in the craftsmen’s play for Theseus’s marriage celebration. He ends up playing the part of Moonshine.
- Tom Snout - The tinker chosen to play Pyramus’s father in the craftsmen’s play for Theseus’s marriage celebration. He ends up playing the part of Wall, dividing the two lovers.
- Snug - The joiner chosen to play the lion in the craftsmen’s play for Theseus’s marriage celebration. Snug worries that his roaring will frighten the ladies in the audience.
- Peaseblossom - in this production, the Puck counterpart to Titania
- Cobweb, Moth, Mustardseed - faeries of Titania’s court.
- Faeries, courtiers - seeking actors who can play instruments, and actors with strong movement skills (dancing, tumbling, contortion, etc.)

OTHELLO

By William Shakespeare

Directed by Terry Burgler

Rehearsals begin: week of June 30

Performances: July 30 - August 16
Description: Performed outdoors at Stan Hywet Hall & Garden, the classic tragedy of the moor of Venice.

The role of Iago has been cast from our resident company.

AVAILABLE ROLES:

- Available roles for females, all ages, and ethnicities:
  - Desdemona - The daughter of the Venetian senator Brabanzio. Desdemona and Othello are secretly married before the play begins. While in many ways pure and meek, Desdemona is also determined and self-possessed.
  - Emelia - Iago’s wife and Desdemona’s attendant. A cynical, worldly woman,
  - Bianca - A courtesan, or prostitute, in Cyprus. Bianca’s favorite customer is Cassio, who teases her with promises of marriage.

- Available roles for males, all ages, and ethnicities:
  - Othello - The play’s protagonist and hero. A Christian Moor and general of the armies of Venice, Othello is an eloquent and physically powerful figure,
  - Michael Cassio - Othello’s lieutenant. Cassio is a young and inexperienced soldier, whose high position is much resented by Iago.

- Seeking all ages, genders, and ethnicities for the following roles.
  - Roderigo - A jealous suitor of Desdemona. Young, rich, and foolish.
  - Brabanzio - Desdemona’s father, a somewhat blustering and self-important Venetian senator
  - Duke Of Venice - The official authority in Venice, the duke has great respect for Othello as a public and military servant.
  - Montano - The governor of Cyprus before Othello.
  - Lodovico - One of Brabanzio’s kinsmen, Lodovico acts as a messenger from Venice to Cyprus.
  - Graziano - Brabanzio’s kinsman who accompanies Lodovico to Cyprus.
• Clown - Othello’s servant

• Courtiers, merchants, soldiers - a variety of acting types.