

That's a lot of Shakespeare fans!
September 2, 2012, the last night of the summer season
and our largest audience ever: 2,803 people.
Photo: Christopher Tjalsma

Independent Shakespeare Co. is a non-profit, professional theater company.

Our mission is making inventive, entertaining productions of classical plays accessible to all.

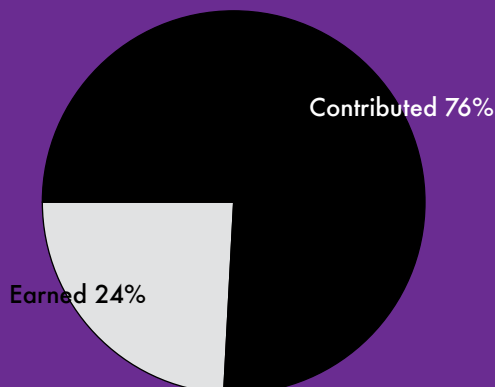
In partnership with the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks, we produce the **Griffith Park Free Shakespeare Festival**, a summer season of outdoor performances that bring together the diverse and vibrant people of Los Angeles to enjoy free, professional productions. Since 2003, it has grown to be the largest Shakespeare festival in the history of Los Angeles.

In our indoor venue, the **Independent Studio**, we present year-round programming, including re-imagined versions of the classics, new works, and readings of rarely produced plays. We also teach classes there, and throw the occasional late-night party.

Our **ongoing outreach efforts** forge collaborations with community entities such as schools, museums, and other arts organizations. We're also available to perform in your home. We take outreach seriously!

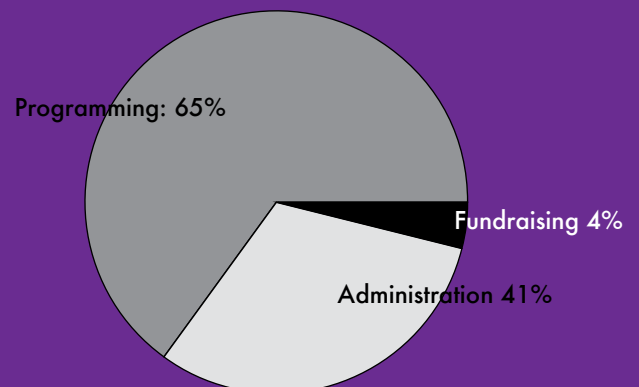
2012 Revenue: \$452,622.56

How did we make it?



2012 Expenditures: \$421,413.47

What did we spend it on?



ISC in the Park: The 2012 Griffith Park Free Shakespeare Festival



Families get into the spirit of the summer shows at a Players in the Park workshop. Photo: Rachael Campanella



Erika Soto gets ready at the park. Note the glamorous dressing room! Photo: Katie Bird

**In 2004, our summer audience was 950.
In 2012, it was 37,849.
We can't believe it, either.**

The 2012 Griffith Park Free Shakespeare Festival included

40 performances of three plays:
The Winter's Tale
A Midsummer Night's Dream
The Comedy of Errors

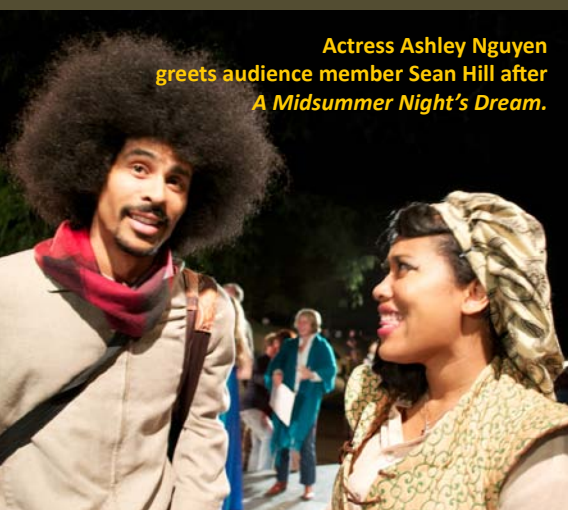
9 pre-show Players in the Park/Teatristas en el parque family workshops
For 80% of workshop attendees, it was their first time seeing live theater.

2 Salon Series lectures:
Shakespeare and the Science of Chaos & Shakespeare Now

11 pre-show performances by our Festival Arts Partners: Invertigo Dance Theatre, Mariachi Los Toros, Jumbo Shrimp Circus & Top Shelf Vocals



A summer ritual backstage. Photo: Ivy Augusta



Actress Ashley Nguyen greets audience member Sean Hill after *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Meet our 2012 summer audience*

ethnicity	
Caucasian	48%
Latino	20%
Asian	15%
African American	4%
Mixed/Other	13%
income	
under \$25,000	42%
\$25,001-\$50,000	21%
\$50,001-\$75,000	16%
\$75,001-\$100,000	9%
\$100,000 +	11%
age	
under 18	38%
19-35	40%
36-65	21%
66+	1%

*Our audience really is different!

According to the 2012 LA Stage Arts Census, 70% of Southern CA's arts attendees are Caucasian, 80% make over \$100,000, and 65% are over 45.

We put out a cd of our original compositions for Shakespeare's songs, THE CUCKOO AND THE OWL. You can find it on itunes.



Sean Pritchett's Puck on the run in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Photo: Grettel Cortes

Independent Studio: Year-round programming 2012



Dana Pollak and Claudia de Vasco lace up their corsets for a show in the Independent Studio. Photo: Grettel Cortes

In 2012, we produced five plays in the Studio, including our first original musical, RED BARN. Download the title song for free at redbarnmusical.com.



Aisha Kabia and Matthew Michael Hurley in *Red Barn*. Photo: David Reynolds

The 2012 Independent Studio productions were

Hamlet
A Midsummer Night's Dream
Nicholas Nickleby at Mr. Squeers's School
Red Barn
A Christmas Carol with Charles Dickens

Classes offered

Lyrical Verse Speaking,
Shakespeare Scene Study

"*Red Barn* has the capacity to turn an exotic and macabre local folk tale into a legend."
LA Weekly 2012

"Over the 10 years of its existence, the Independent Shakespeare Co. has developed a reliable house style: brisk, athletic, no-nonsense productions, with a contemporary sensibility, a Brechtian objectivity and a talent for unlocking the plays' comic potential. All of these virtues are present in... *Hamlet*." LA Weekly 2012

ISC in the community: Outreach in 2012

We conducted workshops, or gave free Studio tickets and programming support, to these schools:

Glenfeliz Elementary
Archer School for Girls
Harvard Westlake
Walter Reed Middle School
Esteban Torres High School
CHIME Charter School
Washington Prep High School

We created and implemented original curriculum for school workshops based on these plays:

Romeo & Juliet
Hamlet
Macbeth
A Midsummer Night's Dream

We collaborated with the following organizations:



ISC on the move.
Photo: Ivy Augusta

The Huntington Library & Museum
Disney Animation Studios
Bell Canyon Community Center

In the spring of 2012, we partnered with the Huntington Library & Museum in an educational residency at Esteban Torres High School, culminating in a student performance at the Huntington.

2012 Funders Included:

The James Irvine Foundation
The Annenberg Foundation
Department of Cultural Affairs, City of Los Angeles
Los Angeles County Arts Commission
The Dew Foundation
The Biller Family Foundation
Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council
East Hollywood Neighborhood Council
Atwater Village Neighborhood Council
Hollywood Studio District Neighborhood Council
Council District Four, Councilman Tom LaBonge
Over 750 recorded individual donors, with many thousands more contributing at performances

Independent Shakespeare Co.

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Artistic Director: Melissa Chalsma
Managing Director: David Melville
Development & Communications Manager: Marisa Johnston
Business Manager: Mary Williams
Community Outreach Coordinator: Xavi Moreno
Administrative Assistant: Sarah Cronk
Volunteer Archival Consultant: Mia Picerno

Board of Directors: John Bauman (Chairman),
Shannon Allbright, Jason Cahill, Elizabeth Gill Brauer,
Richard Creese, Janice Feinstein, Luis Galindo,
Rita Hollingsworth, María Margarita López, Bonnie Mark,
David Melville, Robert Otey, Maggie Rotter, Dika Ryan

"ISC's production possessed a combination of scrappiness and spontaneity, as though some of the incidental characters were charging down to some 20-yard line of a football field, diving to catch a pass - a line, an insult, a quip - thrown from midfield. When the line was received, it felt like a kind of miracle."

LA Weekly 2011

"The company employs a distinctive style of diction that preserves line endings in the verse, bucking the trend toward more prosaic delivery that glides over the breaks to bridge overlapping thoughts. Surprisingly, in the hands of capable actors this actually makes the meaning more comprehensible - who'd have guessed that Shakespeare knew what he was doing?"

LA Times 2010

"The mantle of free and fully professional Shakespeare is now solidly on the shoulders of the Independent Shakespeare Co., in its encampment on the lawn near the Old Zoo on the east side of Griffith Park. Not surprisingly, it has quickly become the city's most popular Shakespearean locus."

LA Stage Times 2012

"...these performers are richly coherent, handling Shakespeare's language with an unflagging facility that is a joy to hear."

LA Times 2007

"...the fizzy cast plays like a soda can shaken and sprayed."

LA Times 2012

Bottom and Titania in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* as seen from backstage. It's the best view in the house. Photo: Lovelle Liquigan



The Griffith Park Free Shakespeare Festival + Independent Studio = Independent Shakespeare Co.