

**THE CIVIC**  
*YOUTH*  
**THEATRE**  
BIGGER. BOLDER.

**AN EXCITING NEW EVENT!** Our Civic Shakespeare Festival will feature a youth theatre and adult production at the same venue. Both Shakespeare productions will be run in repertory, alternating performance nights and both shows in one day on Saturdays.

# AUDITIONS



By William Shakespeare

## Oct. 20 – Oct. 28

**THE CIVIC AUDITORIUM • COMEDY  
CIVIC SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL**

Magic, action, love and humor are the ingredients for the spell *A Midsummer Night's Dream* will cast on you! Join our Civic Youth Theatre as they journey to mythical Athens and an enchanted forest for a hilarious farce where the action is centered on the adventures of four young star-crossed lovers and their escapades with fairies and sprites in a moonlit forest. Meanwhile, a group of amateur actors rehearse a badly written play in the woods, and soon all find their lives changed by the doings of Oberon and Titania - the warring king of the fairies and his wife. In the end, it's all about love - but as Puck the fairy knows - falling in love can make fools of us all!

To register or for more information visit

**KazooCivic.com**

or email **Volunteer@KazooCivic.com**

or call the Director of Volunteers at

**269-343-2280 x1013**

**ADVANCE  
REGISTRATION  
IS REQUIRED**

### AUDITION DATES

Sunday, August 20th at 4:00pm  
Monday, August 21st at 4:00pm

### CALLBACKS

Wednesday, August 23rd at 4:00pm

### LOCATION

The Carver Center - Carver Studio - 426 S Park St.

*(Those auditioning are encouraged to arrive thirty minutes prior to audition time.)*

### CASTING

Seeking a Company (actors and production crew) of approximately 40 youth (for onstage roles and production crew opportunities which may include Props, Costumes/Makeup, Paint, Lighting, Sound, and a Scenery Building crew) ages 9 through a Senior in High School. Students must have turned 9 on or before the day of the first rehearsal. (Monday, September 11th)

### REQUIREMENTS

Those wishing to audition are required to register in advance for either the **Sunday, August 20th** or **Monday, August 21st** audition date. By registering in advance you will receive your audition paperwork, as well as, all pertinent information via email prior to the auditions.

- A parent or guardian is required to attend the first half hour of auditions.
- Those auditioning for onstage roles will be asked to read from the script.
- Those auditioning for crew positions will be asked to listen to designer presentations, speak to designers/technicians, and indicate interest for specific crews.

### REHEARSAL / CREW SCHEDULE

Rehearsals will be held Monday through Friday from 4:00pm – 6:00pm beginning **September 11th – October 19th**

### PERFORMANCES

**October 20th – October 28th, 2017**

### AUDITION PREP

**FREE** Inside the Civic Youth Workshops  
**Saturday, August 12th, 2017**

**ADVANCED REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED**

### DIRECTOR

Mychelle Hopkins

### GENERAL INFORMATION

Scripts are available and may be checked out of the Business Office with a \$5.00 (cash only) refundable deposit.



# WE ASKED THE DIRECTOR

**MYCHELLE HOPKINS**

Director of

## *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

### BIOGRAPHY



**MYCHELLE HOPKINS**  
Director

Mychelle Hopkins holds her Master's Degree from the prestigious Shakespeare Institute in Stratford-upon-Avon, England where she studied as a Fulbright Scholar. Mychelle has received critical acclaim as a Director and Actress both regionally and internationally. Her theatrical background is extensive with nearly forty years of professional experience. Mychelle joined the equity company of The Barn Theatre in Augusta, Michigan in 2005 after 15 years at the Kalamazoo Civic Theatre

where she served as the organization's Associate Director. Serving as an Adjunct Professor in the Western Michigan University's Theatre Department from 2001-2007, Mychelle introduced thousands of students to the joy and challenge of Theatre. A native of Northern Michigan, she now resides in Traverse City with her husband, Steve Smith, their 12 year old son, Macready and 9 year old daughter, Molly. Mychelle is beyond excited to be directing Shakespeare again at her former home-away-from-home. It's been too long my friends!

#### 1. What is the importance of youth participating in Shakespeare?

*"There is no better way to learn about oneself than to do a Shakespeare play. (Some of my favorite adults were CYT kids once and did every Shakespeare play that they could get themselves cast in.)"*

#### 2. In our production how will the three distinct groups of characters (Upper class group, working class group, fairies of the forest) be depicted and how does this contribute to the play?

*"The overall concept was determined by the Civic designers and when I came onboard I discovered that their setting was colorful, clever, and*

*accessible. The play will take place in a private school. The "adults" are the staff – teachers, principal, etc. – and the four lovers are students at the school. Our "rude mechanicals" will be the lunch ladies and janitorial staff. The fairies represent the kids on the fringes, those who don't necessarily fit in to the mandatory dress code. These distinct groups will help to tell the story and at the same time, present the material in a way that is hip, fun, and completely relatable."*

#### 3. What are the available crew opportunities associated with the production?

*"There are many production crew opportunities available in this production including a light board operator, and a sound board operator both of whom will be part of the Tech Week and run of the production. There will be a Front of House Crew who will work with the Box Office Manager and Front of House Manager. This crew will learn about ticket sales, ushering, house management, concessions, and even help with marketing the show. The Costume Crew will be a combined crew helping to build the costumes then they will assist with quick changes and make-up during the run. If you are looking for an even bigger challenge, you might want to consider being an Assistant Stage Manager. This position is at all rehearsals and performances helping the Stage Manager by taking blocking, props tracking, and ensuring that the entire production runs smoothly."*

#### 4. How should youth prepare for the audition?

*"If possible, read the whole play. At minimum be aware of the basic plot and the major characters. You will need to do some movement, so make sure you are dressed for that. Really, just be yourself and show the director what is unique and interesting about YOU."*

#### 5. Any tips for acting Shakespeare?

*"It helps to know exactly what you are saying and why you are saying it. This is true for all acting, not just Shakespeare. Speak clearly and loudly. Don't stop at the end of the line; stop at the end of the sentence. Trust the text to tell you how you feel and how to act in the moment."*

#### 6. What are three traits you are looking for at auditions from volunteers?

*"Trusting, Trustworthy, Fearless."*

#### 7. Are there any film versions of the play you'd recommend?

*"The Kevin Kline film is pretty fun but there is not one version I would specifically recommend."*

#### 8. What do you hope volunteers will learn from participating in 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'?

*"I want them to learn about Shakespeare and his work. I hope they will walk away from the experience thinking "I really like Shakespeare; I want to read more of his plays..."*