Children's Shakespeare Theatre



William Shakespeare's famous work

Hamlet, Prince of Denmark is a tragedy
set across five acts written around
the year 1600.

More than just a revenge play, *Hamlet* deals with questions of life and existence, sanity, love, death, and betrayal.

It is one of the most quoted works of literature in the world, and since 1960 it has been translated into 75 languages (including Klingon).

"TO BE OR NOT TO BE."
-HAMLET, ACT III, SCENE I



For the first time in two years, Children's Shakespeare Theatre is proud to present a full production. The Rogues, our teen company, have worked together with our staff to create something very special in this production of *Hamlet*. Tonight you will hear a ghost story, and later in our Season of the Supernatural, we will hear a fairy story, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

It is wonderful to watch the joy and passion with which the children in our company embrace the work of Shakespeare, theatre techniques, and building an ensemble. It is especially rewarding for our directors to see the eyes and spirits of our young actors light up during in-person rehearsal after our two-year hiatus.

Many things have changed during these past two years, just as many things have changed for Hamlet in the world of the play. Our world is not as it was. We are grateful to carry on.

We are continuing to build a wonderful company, first envisioned by our founder Diana Green. Our team is excitedly planning many more productions for you, your children, and your families.

Thank you for joining us tonight and playing the important part of our audience.

-Brady Amoonclark (Artistic Director) ੳ The Board of Directors

"DOUBT THOU THE STARS ARE FIRE, DOUBT THAT
THE SUN DOTH MOVE, DOUBT TRUTH TO BE A
LIAR, BUT NEVER DOUBT I LOVE."
-HAMLET'S LETTER TO OPHELIA. ACT II, SCENE II.





We find our hero in Denmark, where his father, Hamlet Sr., has just died, and his mother, Gertrude, has married his uncle, Claudius.

His best friend, Horatio, and some soldiers are keeping watch because Fortinbras of Norway has just raised an army, ready to invade Denmark.

Soon Hamlet sees his father's ghost and contemplates revenge, life, and death. Hamlet's old friends, Rosencrantz and Guildenstern, are summoned to help the King & Queen discover what is wrong with Hamlet. He seems to have gone mad.

Meanwhile, Hamlet has written love letters to Ophelia. Her father Polonius thinks that the cause of Hamlet's madness is their love. Rosencrantz and Guildenstern bring some Players to the castle and Hamlet hatches a plan.

After Polonius' death, Ophelia goes mad, and Laertes returns from France with an army of his own. Claudius convinces Laertes to challenge Hamlet to a fencing match. Almost everyone dies.

"THIS ABOVE ALL: TO THINE OWN SELF BE TRUE."

-POLONIUS (ACT 1, SCENE 3)



COOPER ROSEN/hamlet GRAPHIC/POSTER DESIGN

Hi, I'm Cooper. I've been in loads of CST productions since 5th grade and am super excited to be finishing off my senior year with *Hamlet*! I'm super grateful to have been a part of this company for so long. Much thanks to Brady, Thia, and Grey for everything.



JULIA SCIORRA/gertrude COSTUME DESIGNER

Hi, my name is Julia, I am playing Queen Gertrude, and this is my 10th and final year with Children's Shakespeare Theatre. I am a senior at Tappan Zee High School and will be attending The George Washington University next year. I enjoy cooking, music, being outside, and hanging out with friends. I hope you enjoy the show!



ALEXANDER BARSANTI/claudius GRAPHIC/POSTER DESIGN

Alex is a junior at Tappan Zee High School, and this is his 8th year with Children's Shakespeare Theatre. In his free time, he enjoys animation, photography, taking care of his plants, saving the world from zombie invasions, being under the sea in the octopus's garden, and writing in the third person. I hope you enjoy the show!



JASPER MACRI/polonius, captain

Hi, I'm Jasper. This is my 6th year with CST, and I'm a junior at Ramsey High School. I enjoy writing fiction, tennis, sports, bowling, Model UN and hanging out with my friends. Thanks to Brady, Grey, Thia, and the entire cast for all of their fantastic work.



SHAY BAKER/ophelia

Shay has been with CST since 2016. Ophelia is one of their favorite roles, thanks to their castmates' enthusiasm and commitment. They are taking classes at Rockland Community College as part of their high school. Upon graduation, they will return to Camp Ramapo for Children as a high ropes course facilitator, and then they will be working on a host family's farm in Switzerland.



LOGAN BOBROW/horatio

I've been with CST for 9 years and I'm excited to play Horatio, my final role. Past roles include Mark Antony in *Julius Caesar*, Silvestre in *Scapin*, and old dudes in a large assortment of plays. When I'm off stage, you'll find me on search and rescue training missions, teaching leadership lessons as cadet commander of the Rockland Cadet Squadron in the Civil Air Patrol, working on my private pilot's license, and reffing/fencing.



SAMI KONO/laertes, player

Sami Kono is a freshman at Nyack High School. His previous CST plays include *Henry IV Part 2* (2019) and *Comedy of Errors* (summer 2021). He is playing Laertes and Player 1 in *Hamlet*:)



TESSA LI/ ghost of hamlet's father, gravedigger, player king, voltimand, english ambassador, claudio

Hi, I'm Tessa. This is my 4th year with CST. I'm in the 10th grade, and I attend school in NJ. I enjoy reading (mostly mythology and classical literature and, of course, Shakespeare) and writing (primarily science fiction and fantasy).



JOSIE ROTHMAN/rosencrantz, francisco, cornelius, gravedigger

Fun fact #1: Rosencrantz means "rose wreath". Fun Fact #2: "Rosencrantzed" is a verb (see urbandictionary.com). Josie is in 9th grade at Nyack High School—where she is never Rosencrantzed, lanced, or pantsed. She's happy to be back onstage with CST for her first *Hamlet* and hopes you enjoy the show!



CLEMENTINE MACRI/ guildenstern, marcellus, osric, gentleman

Hi, my name is Clementine. This is my 6th year with Children's Shakespeare Theatre. I am a freshman at Ramsey High School, and I enjoy baking, yoga, skiing, playing with my dog, and hanging out with friends. I'm so happy to be a part of this show!



MAYA BORNSTEIN/bernado, fortinbras, player queen, sailor, priest

Maya Bornstein is a freshman at Green Meadow High School. Past CST roles include Winter's Tale (2018) as the Mariner, Henry IV Part I (2019) as Hostess and Sir Michael, Two Gentlemen of Verona as Giulia (Summer 2019), and Comedy of Errors as Adriana (Summer 2021). This year, she plays Bernardo, Player Queen, Sailor, Priest, and Fortinbras

"WHAT A PIECE OF WORK IS MAN! HOW NOBLE IN REASON! HOW INFINITE IN FACULTY! IN FORM AND MOVING HOW EXPRESS AND ADMIRABLE!"

- HAMLET, ACT II, SCENE, II



BRADY AMOONCLARK ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, DIRECTOR

Brady Amoonclark is the Artistic Director of Children's Shakespeare Theatre. Previous directing credits with CST: Measure for Measure, Henry IV. Previous directing experience includes Helen Hayes Youth Theatre, Closer at Nyack Village Theatre, and The Fantasticks off-off-Broadway. Shakespeare experience includes Judith Shakespeare Company.



GREY JOHNSON
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, MANAGING CONSULTANT

Grey Johnson has been at play in the fields of the Bard since he helped to co-found Boston Shakespeare Company in 1975. He has since directed and produced Shakespeare and other plays Off-Broadway and regionally. He is the parent of a CST alumnus and is very happy to be bringing his skillsets to many aspects of CST's revival.



ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Thia has directed projects for National American Shakespeare, Young Playwrights Festival, Samuel French Festival, and others, and this past fall staged her own 10 actor adaptation of *As You Like It* at Utah State University. Many classical acting credits, including Calphurnia to Patrick Page's *Julius Caesar*. Happy to now be part of CST!

"THE PLAY'S THE THING WHEREIN I'LL CATCH THE CONSCIENCE OF THE KING."
-HAMLET (ACT II, SCENE II)



GISELLE CHATELAIN FIGHT DIRECTOR

Giselle is a Fight Director, Actor, & Audiobook Producer based in Brooklyn, NY. She has choreographed Macbeth, I Hope They Serve Beer on Broadway, Wozeyck Musical Deathmetal, Camelot, & Beauty and the Beast, and has served as Fight Captain for She Kills Monsters and Soul Samurai. Giselle is recognized as an Advanced Actor/Combatant with the SAFD.



BEATRICE GUNTHER

TECH CREW

Hi, I'm Beatrice. I'm in the 7th grade at Nyack Middle School and this is my 6th year with CST. In my spare time, I enjoy playing volleyball, yelling, and eating unhealthy amounts of Goldfish. After two awfully boring years of being offstage, CST is back. Enjoy the show!



COLE MASSARO

TECH CREW

Cole Massaro is 17 years old and a junior at Tappan Zee High School. He's been involved in Children's Shakespeare Theatre for 11 years and it's been one of the best experiences of his life. He wants to thank Brady for her tireless efforts and hopes you enjoy the show.

"THE LADY DOTH PROTEST TOO MUCH, METHINKS."
-GERTRUDE (ACT 3. SCENE 2)





We are proud to be a part of The Phoenix Theatre Ensemble's monthlong Arts Festival in beautiful Nyack coming this fall.

A celebration of arts and culture in the beautiful riverside town of Nyack, NY.

Theater, music, and arts events through the weekends of 9/16-10/16, 2022.

Learn more and get tickets at: nyackartsfestival.com

NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS



Children's Shakespeare Theatre is a proud recipient of a generous grant from the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature.

The New York State
Council on the Arts is
dedicated to
preserving and
expanding the rich
and diverse cultural
resources that are and
will become the
heritage of New York's
citizens.





JEROME ROBBINS FOUNDATION

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Children's Shakespeare Theatre continues to be supported by a generous gift from The Jerome Robbins Foundation. In memory of Dr. Daniel Stern, a dear friend of Jerome Robbins for decades and a long-time director of The Jerome Robbins Foundation.

Like Jerry, Dan shared a fascination for the power of movement and gesture to express humanity.

In particular, Dan's work was invested in the development and creativity of young minds, in how individuals interact with others and their environment.

The Children's Shakespeare Theatre exemplifies this both with playful joy and seriousness, as the actors explore the dynamics and drama of human relationships.

Dan's children and grandchildren have been active participants in CST for many years.



ORANGE AND ROCKLAND UTILITIES



Children's Shakespeare Theatre is a proud recipient of a generous grant from Orange and Rockland Utilities.

Through the Community
Investment Program,
Orange and Rockland
Utilities provide grants for
educational,
environmental, arts and
culture, and public safety
programs.

These grants are funded by shareholders of O&R's parent company, Consolidated Edison, Inc.





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Made in the USA, Wythe Windows, manufactures high performance triple pane tilt-turn windows in Ramsey, NJ for both commercial and residential buildings.

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The Season of the Supernatural is made possible by funding from the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature.

Significant additional funding has been provided by the Jerome Robbins Foundation, Orange and Rockland Utilities, and our many supporters.

New York State Council on the Arts

Jerome Robbins Foundation
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It truly takes a village. With special thanks to:

Diana Green, Elmwood Playhouse, Stage Left Children's Theater, Hickory Dickory Dock, James Sarna, Dr. Michael Stern, Cooper Rosen, Alex Barsanti, Eva Calderone, Julia Sciorra, Marcella Sciorra, Bill Batson, Grey Johnson, Harrington Press, Nyack Farmer's Market, The Obernesser Family, The Rigney Family, Carol Knudson, Kate Bieger, The Falkner Family, The Macri Family, The Palisades Presbyterian Church, ROCA, The Tappan Manse Barn, The Palisades Community Center.

ABOUT CHILDREN'S SHAKESPEARE THEATRE

OUR VISION

As a community-based children's theater company, we are committed to providing a nurturing and enriching environment through the performance of Shakespeare's plays, allowing children to explore, in a safe and supportive educational setting, what it means to be human. We aim to inspire young actors to discover how Shakespeare's truths continue to resonate today.

OUR TEAM

Our Artistic Team, Administrative Team, and Board of Directors represent many backgrounds and perspectives, all united by their passion for Children's Shakespeare Theatre and their commitment to a thriving cultural community. We are deeply grateful to them for their leadership, vision, and generosity.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kim Macri, Co-Chair Daniela Pescher, Co-Chair George Rigney, Treasurer Kate Bieger, Secretary Beth Davidson Carol Knudson

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Brady Amoonclark

MANAGING CONSULTANT

Grey Johnson

PLEASE SIGN UP

for our mailing list to receive notices of all upcoming CST events.





"The passion you have for what you do shows in every little detail, but also in every breathless twinkling of understanding as Shakespeare's words engage something deep in the actors and therefore in us."

— Grey Johnson, actor, director, CST parent



OUR MISSION

Children's Shakespeare Theatre strives to develop confident and creative young people through the performance of Shakespeare's plays.

Since our founding in 1999, we have been dedicated to offering quality educational theater building a community that enriches the lives of our young actors and their families.



We are Children's Shakespeare Theatre Company.

We believe in nurturing talent and fostering a joyful atmosphere of excellence. To best serve the children of Children's Shakespeare Theatre, we rely on a company model. In this way, older and more experienced company members serve as role models to our newer members.

Company Auditions are held annually.

While our Workshops and Summer Sessions are open to all, company auditions are limited to invitation only. You are considered a company member once you have performed in a full production with CST.

We invite those who may wish to join us to see one of our shows or get to know how we work at one of our Workshops or Summer Sessions.

Summer Sessions 2022

will be held August 15th through 26th
All children are welcome.
Please reach out to register
and get more info at:
info@childrensshakespeare.org



"The actors were confident, articulate, engaged, fully professional, and had awesome diction. The direction was tight, exciting, innovative, and fun. My child was utterly inspired and jumped immediately on the idea of joining the company."

— Susan Levin, former CST parent



"These kids will have this treasure inside them, and it will inform their lives and the lives they influence."

-- Cass Luddington, long-time CST supporter

Children's Shakespeare Theatre is a non-profit organization under 501c3.

We rely on the generosity of our supporters to keep our organization alive.

Please consider making a <u>tax-deductible</u> donation to support our work.

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We also accept checks. Please mail to: Children's Shakespeare Theatre P.O. BOX 1001, NYACK, NY 10960