

Shakespearean Plays Ready for Series

FOURTH ANNUAL FESTIVAL IS SET

With a statewide organization lending support to the productions, the fourth annual Oregon Shakespearean Festival approaches its opening August 5 with every promise of an overwhelming success.

Last year's production tripled the box office receipts of the year before and this year's shows promise to double last year's attendance. While the festival is strictly non-professional, a healthy box office is gratifying to its sponsors since it permits them to make such modest expenditures as are necessary to the artistic success of the plays.

The festival actually started four years ago when "The Merchant of Venice" was presented on a specially constructed portable stage at the Southern Oregon Normal school and later at Klamath Falls.

The following year, the first Shakespearean festival was produced with "Merchant of Venice" and "Twelfth Night" as the plays and with fireworks and a carnival to help draw a crowd. The second year festival found the organization definitely growing in popularity with the guest register showing visitors from many parts of the United States, and the repertoire was enlarged.

Last year's festival, with three plays presented, brought out record crowds, and by popular demand this year's list of plays has been broadened to include four favorites—two of them comedies and the other two more serious in nature.

Although an association has been formed to promote the interests of the festival, the plays are still an important summer feature of the Southern Oregon Normal school and Dr. Walter H. Redford, president of the normal school, is president of the Shakespearean Festival association.

Outdoor Theatre Is Elizabethan Model

Theatre-goers attending the Oregon Shakespearean festival will be seeing plays staged on the only outdoor theatre stage of its kind in the world.

The faithful reproduction of the stage on which Shakespeare's plays were originally produced is the only civic Elizabethan stage in the world and the only one of its type in the United States except for the one in the Smithsonian institute in Washington, D. C. That stage, however, is never used in actual play production.

Kitty Ingle, of Ashland, who made a great hit as Juliet in "Romeo and Juliet" last year, returns this season as Maria in "Twelfth Night," a part she also played last season. "Romeo and Juliet" is not included in this season's repertoire.



Rates that assure modest monthly bills

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FOUNDER and director of the annual Shakespearean festival is Angus L. Bowmer, drama professor at the Southern Oregon Normal school, seen above as Hamlet.

'MERCHANT' IS BACK THIS YEAR

"The Merchant of Venice," perennial favorite of Shakespeare enthusiasts, will appear twice on this year's festival program, the first time on Saturday evening, August 6, and the last time on Thursday evening, August 11.

A brilliant cast will bring to life the characters in this immortal play. Although several parts stand out as featured roles, the well balanced group of players have made of each character a little classic. It is doubtful if there has ever been a better-balanced "Merchant" cast than the following:

Duke of Venice.....	Tom Fairchild
Prince of Aragon.....	Leroy Lindner
Antonio.....	Hagen Moore
Bassanio.....	Angus Moore
Salanio.....	John Reischer
Salario.....	Gordon Davis
Gratiano.....	Robert Stedman
Lorenzo.....	Harry Priestly
Shylock.....	Angus L. Bowmer
Tubal.....	Jimmy Baughman
Launcelot Gabbio.....	Wm. Cottrell
Old Gabbio.....	Jimmy Baughman
Leonardo.....	Arden Hall
Stefano.....	Leroy Lindner
Portia.....	Grace Forsythe
Nerissa.....	Doreen Leverette
Jessica.....	Ann Kos

'TWELFTH NIGHT' TO BE REPEATED

For real, down-to-earth comedy, few plays have ever surpassed "The Twelfth Night," which has been brought back this year for one performance. For the past two seasons it has proved one of the most popular plays on the Shakespearean repertoire, and Director Angus Bowmer capitulated to popular demand again this season and returned "Twelfth Night" to the list.

Following is the cast of "Twelfth Night":

Twelfth Night	Angus Moore
Orsino.....	Angus Moore
Sebastian.....	Jim Parsons
Antonio.....	Hagen Moore
Valentine.....	Don Sloane
Curio.....	Norman Hamilton
Sir Toby Belch.....	Angus L. Bowmer
Sir Andrew Aguecheek.....	Angus Moore
Malvolio.....	Tom Fairchild
Fabian.....	George F. Smith
Feste.....	William Cottrell
Viola.....	Robert Stedman
Olivia.....	Melba Day
Maria.....	Sallie Geary
Priest.....	Kitty Ingle
Officer.....	Don Sloane
Arden Hall.....	Arden Hall

TRAINED STAFF HANDLES DETAILS OF PRODUCTIONS

Behind the actors who appear on the stage and interpret the lines of Shakespeare's immortal plays stand a corps of workers whose part in the productions are less spectacular but equally important. They are the people who have charge of the lighting, the wardrobes, the sound, the makeup and the various other features without which the festival would not be a complete success.

Following are the members of the technical staff who take part in this year's plays:

Bookholders: Frances Schilling, Dorothy Grossman, Lucille Lambert; electrician: Tarvis Wertz; wardrobe mistress: Maxine Gearhart, assistants: Marcella Rawe, Lois Brown, Louise Du Boise, Jean Du Bois; properties: Lydia Smith, Margaret Molitor, Alda Luebe.

Sound control: Don Halfhill, Dick Putney; makeup: Marion Ady; programs: Dorothy Pruitt; musical director: John Reischer; publicity: Gordon Davis, Roy Craft, L. C. Fox; fencing director: Harry Priestly; official photographer: Bushnell studio; costumes and properties constructed by workshop classes.

The newly planted grass within the amphitheatre is growing nicely and adds a fresh touch to the festival setting.

FOUR PLAYS TO BE PRESENTED

The fourth annual Oregon Shakespearean festival, staged in the world's only civic Elizabethan theatre, will open in Ashland August 5 and will continue through August 13.

Under a cool Oregon sky, with Ashland's beautiful Lithia park as a backdrop, Shakespeare's immortal plays will be produced just as Shakespeare knew them.

Four of his most popular plays will be produced during the eight nights of production. They include "Hamlet," "The Merchant of Venice," "Twelfth Night" and "Taming of the Shrew."

To the student of Shakespeare as well as to the casual theatre-goer who wants to be entertained, the festival productions mark a high spot in the summer program. Directed by Angus L. Bowmer, the Pacific coast's leading authority on Shakespeare, and with leading actors from all over the United States taking part, the productions offer something unique in entertainment.

Following is the schedule of plays:

Friday, August 5, "Hamlet."
Saturday, August 6, "Merchant of Venice."
Sunday, August 7, no play.
Monday, August 8, "Taming of the Shrew."
Tuesday, August 9, "Hamlet."
Wednesday, August 10, "Twelfth Night."
Thursday, August 11, "Merchant of Venice."
Friday, August 12, "Taming of the Shrew."
Saturday, August 13, "Hamlet."

'HAMLET' TO BE SERIES FEATURE

"Hamlet," with Angus L. Bowmer in the title role, will be featured on this year's Shakespearean festival program. Three of the eight festival nights have been set aside for the production, which will open the series Friday evening, August 5, will again be presented Tuesday evening, August 9, and will close the festival Saturday evening, August 13.

Elaborately costumed, and with every characterization brilliantly played, the production has been well chosen to lead this year's festival attractions. The cast of characters:

Hamlet	Angus L. Bowmer
Claudius.....	Tom Fairchild
Polonius.....	Wm. Cottrell
Horatio.....	Gordon Davis
Laertes.....	Harry Priestly
Ophelia.....	Dorothy Pruitt
Queen Gertrude.....	Grace Forsythe
Voltemand.....	Leroy Lindner
Gildenshtern.....	Norman Hamilton
Rosencrantz.....	Angus Moore
Osric.....	Jimmy Baughman
Priest.....	Norman Hamilton
Marcellus.....	Angus Moore
Bernardo.....	Robert Stedman
Francisco.....	Norman Hamilton
Renaldo.....	John Reischer
Player King.....	Don Sloane
Player Queen.....	Alda Luebe
Lucianus.....	Robert Stedman
First Gravedigger.....	Wm. Cottrell
Second Gravedigger.....	John Reischer
Fortinbras.....	Robert Stedman
Captain.....	Leroy Lindner
The Ghost.....	Hagen Moore

Players Come From All Over Country

From all over the United States have come the players who take part in this year's Shakespearean festival.

Drawn here by the opportunity to take part in productions unlike anything else in the country, and with a real opportunity for studying Shakespeare as Shakespeare himself knew it, the players have made up the strongest company in the history of the festival. Every character, even to minor bits, is played by a skilled and talented actor.

GOVERNOR MARTIN LAUDS FESTIVAL ACCOMPLISHMENT

When Dorothy Pruitt and Doreen Leverette made their good-will visit to update cities in the interests of the Shakespearean festival, one of their most enthusiastic greeters was Governor Charles H. Martin, of Oregon.

Describing the festival as a "definite contribution to the cultural life of the state," Governor Martin assured the young ladies that he and Mrs. Martin are planning to attend the festival again this year.

Governor and Mrs. Martin attended last year and were warm in their praise of the work being accomplished here.

John Reischer, Medford, besides playing several important roles in this year's festival, also has charge of the music for the shows and composed the music for Ophelia's songs in her mad scenes in "Hamlet."



A NEWCOMER to the festival is Ann Kos, above, who plays Jessica in "The Merchant of Venice."

'THE SHREW' IS POPULAR PLAY

"Taming of the Shrew," one of Shakespeare's most popular comedies, will be presented for two nights on this year's festival program.

It will be presented Monday evening, August 8, and again Friday evening, August 12. Katharina, the Shrew, is played by Sallie Geary of the Cornish school, Seattle, and Petruchio is played by Robert Stedman.

The cast follows:

Taming of the Shrew	Leroy Lindner
A Lord.....	Leroy Lindner
Christopher Sly.....	Hagen Moore
Hostess.....	Katherine Denzer
Page.....	Frank Smith
Huntsman.....	Norman Hamilton
Baptista.....	William Cottrell
Vincenzo.....	Leroy Lindner
Lucentio.....	Angus Moore
Petruchio.....	Robert Stedman
Gremio.....	John Reischer
Hortensio.....	Harry Priestly
Tranio.....	Tom Fairchild
Biondello.....	Gordon Davis
Grumio.....	Jim Baughman
Curtis.....	Grace Forsythe
Katharina.....	Sallie Geary
Blanca.....	Doreen Leverette
Widow.....	Alda Luebe

Costume Department Does Wonders With Limited Expenditures

Audiences viewing Oregon Shakespearean festival productions have been amazed at the richness and splendor of the costumes, but should they see the limited budget on which the costume department operates, they would be even more amazed.

With a few stock fabrics purchased at little cost, dyed and painted by the costume department, and with many rich fabrics donated by Shakespeare enthusiasts in the valley—fine velvets, satins and laces from cloaks and frocks which have served their purpose—the costumers fashion many rich garments for the players.

Lois M. Bowmer, costume director, with members of the southern Oregon normal school workshop, has made the costumes for this year's productions. The workers have been busy with thread and needle, and the costumes for "Hamlet," "Merchant of Venice," "Twelfth Night" and "Taming of the Shrew" rival in beauty and design the expensive costumes of more heavily endowed Shakespearean companies.

Mrs. Bowmer's costumes reflect the faithfulness of her recent research work in London and Stratford-Avon, during which time she went to the source of Shakespeare material for her inspiration.

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RESERVED SEATS WILL BE ON SALE

With the completion of the Shakespearean membership drive in southern Oregon August 3, reserved seats will be placed on sale at the Chamber of Commerce in Ashland and Pruitt's Radio-Music center in Medford.

Each membership ticket entitles the holder to six reserved seats to the productions, and those holding tickets may exchange them in either Medford or Ashland for individual reserved seats. The tickets are printed so that they may be punched when the reserved seats are issued.

Seats will be reserved by number, enabling the purchaser to choose the exact location in the theatre from which he would like to see the productions. Paul Luy, of Medford, is in charge of the reserved seat sale. Individual chairs will be available in the reserved seat section, according to Luy.

A number of students of the Cornish school in Seattle, outstanding drama center of the Pacific coast, are here for this year's Shakespeare festival.

If you have bought a festival membership, don't forget to make your seat reservations as soon as the tickets are placed on sale August 3.



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