

# See Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet in an outdoor area nearby

Bag&Baggage Productions, Hillsboro's first professional theatre company, has announced plans for another first for the city: Hillsboro's first professional outdoor Shakespeare performance.

The company will perform an adaptation of Shakespeare's greatest tragedy, Romeo and Juliet, Thursday through Sun-

day from July 17 – August 2 at the Tom Hughes Civic Center Plaza in downtown Hillsboro. Performances take place at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$18 for general admission, \$15 for students, seniors, veterans and active military personnel, and groups of 10 or more will pay \$12 per ticket. This adaptation is somewhat darker and more

mature than some versions and may not be suitable for children under the age of 12.

Opening night, July 16, will be a special Gala Fundraising and Auction event, including dinner, wines from throughout Washington County, and a small auction and paddle raise to support the company's 2009-2010 Venetian Theatre Sea-

son.

"The Plaza is a truly unique venue for outdoor performances," said Maggie Chapin, a Bag&Baggage company member who will be working behind the scenes as Assistant Director and Voice Coach on Romeo and Juliet. "The Plaza steps provide a perfect seating area for our audiences, there is a balcony already in place for Juliet, and a massive playing space that is ideal for sword fights and stage combat. It is

going to be stunning."

Audiences are asked to bring cushions, low lawn chairs, blankets or other seating options as no seating is provided. There will be food and beverage vendors each evening, including a beer and wine garden, so no outside food and beverages will be allowed in the performance.

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