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Shakespeare Festival Will Bring Education Tour to Campus

3/7/2008

The St. Louis Shakespeare Festival will bring its 2008 Education Tour to Lindenwood University for two performances on Saturday, April 12, in the university's Cultural Center at 400 N. Kingshighway in St. Charles; the performances are free and open to the public. Seating will be on a first-come, first-served basis. The first performance is at 1 p.m. and the second at 2:20 p.m.

Each performance consists of condensed versions of two of Shakespeare's plays. "Me and Richard 3" is a new adaptation of "The Tragedy of King Richard III," and "A Midsummer Night's Dream ... in the Wink of an Eye" is a treatment of Shakespeare's classic comedy.

In "Me and Richard 3," three high school friends audition for roles in their school's spring production of "Richard III." Stuttering sophomore Reggie wants not only the lead, but the girl, and with the help of Shakespeare's nefarious title character, he might just succeed. The 50-minute production will be followed by a question-and-answer session with the actors. A second production, an abbreviated adaptation of "A Midsummer Night's Dream," will follow.

"This is our second year hosting the Shakespeare Festival education tour," said Ted Gregory, director of theatre at Lindenwood. "We are very pleased to help bring this wonderful program to St. Charles."

The tour visits 120 schools and five public venues from Feb. 19 through May 17. Lindenwood University is the only public venue in St. Charles County on the tour schedule.

The tour leads up to the Shakespeare Festival's annual performance schedule in Forest Park; the 2008 production is "The Tragedy of King Richard III," which will be performed at 8 p.m. nightly (except Tuesdays) May 21 through June 15.