Oregon Shakespeare Festival

"THE PLAY’S THE THING" AT ASHLAND

August 20 to 27, 2012
Travel/Study is perhaps best known for our exotic trips to faraway lands. Some may be surprised to learn that a perennial favorite of Stanford travelers takes place much closer to home in a small northwestern town just a few hours’ drive from the Stanford campus. Year after year, scores of Stanford travelers join us at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival in Ashland—taking advantage of Stanford’s many connections to Festival experts, behind-the-scenes access, and personal interactions with the actors, producers and directors that make this festival a world-class event. Be there when the curtain goes up this year!

BRETT S. THOMPSON, ’83, DIRECTOR, STANFORD TRAVEL/STUDY

Highlights

ATTEND seven plays—both Elizabethan and contemporary—and get to attend performances on all three of Ashland’s very distinctive stages.

ENJOY special insider access at exclusive events, including dinners, meetings and panel discussions, with actors, directors, theater scholars and artistic staff.

TAKE a unique backstage tour to better understand what is required to produce 11 plays in continuously rotating repertory each season.
MONDAY, AUGUST 20
Arrive independently via air or ground transportation in Ashland, Oregon, and check in to our historic lodgings on Main Street, just around the corner from the Festival theaters. This evening meet fellow theater-goers at a welcome reception and dinner at our hotel.
ASHLAND SPRINGS HOTEL (D)

TUESDAY, AUGUST 21
After a continental breakfast at our hotel and a lecture, enjoy lunch at a local restaurant with some of the actors and other members of the Company. This evening attend a performance of Romeo and Juliet.
ASHLAND SPRINGS HOTEL (B,L)

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22
ASHLAND SPRINGS HOTEL (B,D)

THURSDAY, AUGUST 23
Take a backstage tour of the three Festival theater houses—the Angus Bowmer Theatre, the New Theatre and the Elizabethan Stage—with a member of the Company. Learn how the theaters were designed and how modern-day innovations help bring plays to life. Attend a lecture this afternoon before seeing As You Like It on the open-air Elizabethan Stage, modeled after London’s 16th-century Fortune Playhouse, a contemporary of the original Globe Theatre.
ASHLAND SPRINGS HOTEL (B)

FRIDAY, AUGUST 24
After a morning lecture, sample the local viticulture on a southern Oregon wine-tasting tour and lunch. This evening see a performance of Henry V on the Elizabethan Stage.
ASHLAND SPRINGS HOTEL (B,L)

SATURDAY, AUGUST 25
This morning join Festival actors for a lively discussion. Learn how key characters and scenes are developed and hear about life in one of the nation’s most dynamic and oldest theater companies. Following a reception with local Stanford alumni this evening, attend another performance, The Very Merry Wives of Windsor, Iowa, on the Elizabethan Stage.
ASHLAND SPRINGS HOTEL (B)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 26
Following a morning panel discussion with Festival staff members, gather for a farewell lunch at a local restaurant. Attend a final lecture this afternoon followed by our last play, an evening performance of Medea/Macbeth/Cinderella at the Bowmer Theatre.
ASHLAND SPRINGS HOTEL (B,L)
MONDAY, AUGUST 27
After breakfast, depart by ground or transfer to the Medford airport for flights home.

ABOUT THE PLAYS

Romeo and Juliet
By William Shakespeare
Shakespeare’s consummate tragedy about young lovers swept up in a catastrophic vortex of misunderstandings, secrets and fate is set in 1840s Alta California. Romeo and Juliet, the son and daughter of two landed families locked in an old feud, are irresistibly drawn to each other. Defying the hatred and distrust surrounding them, they dare to believe they can, and must, be together. When one is passionately, purely in love, nothing else matters—not even life itself.
Troilus and Cressida

By William Shakespeare

The war has lasted seven long years. Few illusions remain about the glory of armed conflict. Caught in the chaos is a traitor’s daughter whose romance with a prince is doomed as a casualty of wartime politics. Set during the Trojan War, Shakespeare’s cynical and bitterly funny indictment of the futility of war is made more immediate in OSF’s production, placed against the backdrop of conflict in the contemporary Middle East.

Animal Crackers

Book by George S. Kaufman and Morrie Ryskind, music and lyrics by Bert Kalmar and Harry Ruby, adapted by Henry Wishcamper

High jinks meet high society when the guest of honor at a posh Long Island house party, the skirt-chasing Captain Spaulding and his cronies, mix it up with social climbers. Written for the Marx Brothers, this slapstick musical is ripe with zany songs and lavish dance numbers. Released as a film after the 1929 stock market crash and recently adapted, the play proves that you can’t keep an anarchic comedy full of pungent one-liners down.

As You Like It

By William Shakespeare

Threatened with her life, Rosalind flees court, disguises herself as a young man and takes a walk into self-discovery. In a magical forest she steps into a new world where she comes upon a community of rustics and court exiles—and the man she loves. Navigating some awkward comic twists and turns, Rosalind helps him woo the woman he loves—her! Falling in love and learning who one is by acting the part are at the heart of this sumptuous fantasy set in Victorian times.

Henry V

By William Shakespeare

A young English king makes a rash decision to go to war. Beating overwhelming odds, Henry achieves heroic stature, leading his country to victory, conquering France and winning its princess. But the king’s hands are dirty. There is a terrible cost in human life and ruthless acts of moral ambiguity. In a propulsive, provocative production, Shakespeare’s rousing historical drama crowns Henry’s complicated three-play journey from disaffected prince to legendary king.

The Very Merry Wives of Windsor, Iowa

By Allison Carey, based on the play by William Shakespeare

Senator John Falstaff has lost the Iowa caucus and is deep in debt. Hoping to unload some local purses into his pockets, the politician eyes two women—both married. But in this heartland homeland, hubris gets its comeuppance. In a unique “translation,” playwright Carey blends today’s language with Shakespeare’s words, mirrors his outrageous plot and unleashes a rapid-fire, shamelessly witty twist on the original play.

Medea/Macbeth/Cinderella

Adapted by Bill Rauch and Tracy Young from the plays by Euripides, Shakespeare, and Rogers and Hammerstein

A jealous wife sends an unthinkable message to her cheating husband. A lord, urged by his aggressive lady, murders his king. Magic helps a mistreated stepdaughter find happiness and love. You know these three plays from two millennia of populist theater and will be astonished by how these stories of ambition interweave into one revelatory whole that builds to an unexpected climax.
**Information**

**D A T E S**
August 20 to 27, 2012 (8 days)

**S I Z E**
Limited to 50 participants

**C O S T**
- $3,450 per person, double occupancy
- $4,156 per person, single occupancy
*Association nonmembers add $200 per person

**INCLUDED**
- 7 nights of deluxe hotel accommodations
- 7 breakfasts, 3 lunches and 2 dinners
- Welcome reception
- Tickets to 7 plays
- Tours, discussions and guest speakers as described in the itinerary
- Gratuities to porters and guides for all group activities
- Minimal medical, accident and evacuation insurance
- Educational program with lecture series and pre-departure materials, including recommended reading list, a selected book, play synopses and travel information
- Services of our professional tour manager to assist you throughout the program

**NOT INCLUDED**
- Airfare or other transportation to and from Ashland, Oregon
- Airport transfers
- Meals and beverages other than those specified as included
- Trip-cancellation/interruption and baggage insurance
- Excess-baggage charges
- Personal items such as email, telephone and fax calls, laundry and gratuities for nongroup services

**WHAT TO EXPECT**
This Seminar is designed for theater novices and aficionados alike. Most lunches and dinners are independent, allowing us to explore the many fine dining options in and around Ashland; a list of recommended restaurants will be included in your final documents. Late August is an ideal time of year to visit southern Oregon; temperatures are generally in the mid-60s (°F) during the day and the high 40s in the evenings and early mornings. Although rain occurs during August, the average precipitation is generally lower than at other times of the year. For the backstage tour, participants must be able to walk up and down several flights of stairs and stand for approximately two hours. The Ashland Springs Hotel is within walking distance of the theaters and we will walk to all performances and most group meals. We welcome travelers 15 years of age and older on this program.

Note: All three of the theaters are handicap-accessible, although advance notice is required to reserve these seats; handicap-accessible rooms at the hotel are limited. Please contact Stanford Travel/Study if you have special needs.

Deposit & Final Payment
A $1,000 deposit is required to hold space for this program. Complete and return the attached reservation form or place your deposit online. Final payment is due 120 days prior to departure. As a condition of participation, all confirmed participants are required to sign a Release of Liability.

Cancellations & Refunds
Deposits and any payments are fully refundable, less a $500-per-person cancellation fee, until 120 days prior to departure. After that date, refunds can be made only if the program is sold out and your place(s) can be resold, in which case a $1,000-per-person cancellation fee will apply. We recommend trip-cancellation insurance; applications will be sent to you.

Insurance
Stanford Travel/Study provides all travelers who are U.S. or Canadian citizens with minimal medical, accident and evacuation coverage under our group-travel insurance policy. Our group policy is intended to provide minimal levels of protection while you are traveling on this program. We strongly recommend that you subscribe to optional baggage and trip-cancellation insurance. A brochure offering such insurance will be mailed with your confirmation about one week after we receive your deposit. The product offered in this brochure includes a special Waiver of Pre-Existing Conditions and coverage for Financial Insolvency and Terrorist Acts if you postmark your insurance payment within 15 days of the date listed on the confirmation letter.

Eligibility
We encourage membership in the Alumni Association as the program cost for nonmembers is $200 more than the members’ price. Parents and their children under 21 may travel on one membership. For more information or to purchase a membership, visit alumni.stanford.edu/goto/membership or call (650) 725-0692.

Responsibility
The Stanford Alumni Association, Stanford University and our operators act only as agents for the passenger with respect to transportation and exercise every care possible in doing so. However, we can assume no liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity in connection with the service of any automobile, motorcoach, launch or any other conveyance used in carrying out this program or for the acts or defaults of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the program. We cannot accept any responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, force majeure or other causes beyond our control. All such losses or expenses will have to be borne by the passenger as tour rates provide arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to make such alterations to this published itinerary as may be deemed necessary. The right is reserved to cancel any program prior to departure in which case the entire payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the program. No refund will be made for an unused portion of any tour unless arrangements are made in sufficient time to avoid penalties. Baggage is carried at the owner’s risk entirely. The airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time passengers are not onboard their plane or conveyance. Neither the Alumni Association, Stanford University nor our operators accept liability for any carrier’s cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable ticket in connection with the tour. Program price is based on rates in effect in February 2012 and is subject to change without notice to reflect fluctuations in exchange rates, tariffs or fuel charges.
JEAN NYLAND is director of the evening psychology program at Notre Dame de Namur University. After receiving a dual degree in English and psychology, she focused on clinical psychology, obtaining an MA and PhD in that discipline. In 1990, Professor Nyland attended a production of The Winter’s Tale at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, which inspired her to pursue an MA in English. For two seasons she was dramaturge at the California Shakespeare Festival and now teaches courses on Shakespeare and psychology at Notre Dame de Namur.

ABBAS MILANI is the Hamid and Christina Moghadam Director of Iranian Studies at Stanford and co-director of the Iran Democracy Project at the Hoover Institution. Formerly a history professor and department chair of political science at Notre Dame de Namur University and teacher at Tehran University’s Faculty of Law and Political Science, Professor Milani’s interest in Shakespeare began when he was a foreign student in high school and memorized the monologue Mark Antony gives during the funeral scene of Julius Caesar for extra credit.

Husband-and-wife faculty team Nyland and Milani have led numerous Travel/Study programs and have attended the Oregon Shakespeare Festival three times a year for more than 20 years.
“The trip was an amazing and worthwhile experience. The venue is marvelous. The plays are outstanding, and the two Stanford professors made this experience far more fulfilling than [one’s] simply attending the plays.”

MALIN DOLLINGER, ’57, OREGON SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL SEMINAR, 2010