



2026-2027 EDUCATION & OUTREACH PROGRAMS

**KENTUCKY'S
LARGEST
IN-SCHOOL
TOURING ARTS
PROVIDER!**

Hear it. See it. Do it!



(502) 574-9900
kyshakespeare.com



Kentucky Shakespeare Education & Outreach Programs

Who we are

Kentucky Shakespeare is a non-profit, professional theatre company designated as the Official Shakespeare Festival of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

We are the largest in-school arts education and outreach provider in the Commonwealth. Since 1990, we have served over 1,500,000 students in all 120 Kentucky counties and beyond.

What we do

- Interactive Performances
- Touring Productions
- Arts Workshops and Extended Residencies
- Community Outreach
- Professional Development for Educators

Our mission is to enrich communities through accessible, inclusive, professional theatre experiences that educate, inspire, and entertain diverse audiences. Our vision is to use Shakespeare's truths and the power of the arts to transform lives. Shakespeare belongs to everyone.

How we can serve you

Give us a call at **502-574-9900** or send us an email at: education@kyshakespeare.com.

Find more information, the latest news, and our interactive study guides on our website: kyshakespeare.com.

All our best to you,

Kyle Ware

*Director of
Education*

Hannah Pruitt

*Director of Creative
Engagement*

Table of Contents

Arts Education.....	2
Education Performances.....	3
Bard Buddies and Fairy Tales.....	6
Workshops and Residencies.....	7
Program Pricing.....	9
Educator Resources.....	10

PROFESSIONAL ACTORS AND ARTIST EDUCATORS

INTERACTIVE PROGRAMS AND STUDY GUIDES

FULLY CUSTOMIZABLE WORKSHOPS AND RESIDENCIES

PROGRAMS MEET ACADEMIC AND NATIONAL STANDARDS

DIGITAL PROGRAMS AND WORKSHOPS AVAILABLE



(502) 574-9900

kyshakespeare.com



Arts Education Matters

A new report released last year by the National Endowment for the Arts corroborates what so many prior studies have shown us: arts education leads to positive academic, social, and emotional outcomes. Researchers tracked children from early childhood through high school and discovered access to arts experiences played a positive role across age ranges, including higher GPAs in core content areas, higher graduation rates, and even higher GPAs in the first year of college.

According to the University of Florida, arts education:

- Provides greater social tolerance and civic engagement
- Contributes to higher academic performance
- Improves social and emotional growth
- Strengthens engagement for students with diverse learning styles

Theatre and drama education in particular promoted academic achievement, according to the American Alliance for Theatre Education, citing improvements in attendance, engagement, and higher test scores. Additionally, participants in drama showed greater communication skills as well as improved levels of confidence and self-esteem.

We know how important providing high-quality, professional arts experience is to you and your students and Kentucky Shakespeare continues to bring you the highest quality professional arts experiences at the best value for your dollar.

We look forward to serving you! Call us at 502-574-9900 today.

"I wanted to extend a huge THANK YOU for the work of your incredible actors. They were absolutely wonderful! The professionalism with which they conducted themselves was such a fantastic model for our students, and they presented the play in such a way as to truly engage all of our students watching. Our students now have a much better foundation for Shakespeare, and we are truly grateful. Thank you for the work you do."

—Teacher, East Oldham Middle

.....

"Another AMAZING production...our students and teachers were very pleased and inspired by their performance. YOUR company is WONDERFUL!"

—Teacher, Boyle County Middle

.....

"Thank you Kentucky Shakespeare for your most excellent performance. Our students loved it and welcome you back anytime!"

—Teacher, Bloom Elementary

.....

"Great play and even greater actors"

— Student, Muhlenberg County High School

PERFORMANCES



SHAKESPEARE PERFORMANCES

Much Ado About Nothing: Two-Actor Tour

GRADES: K-8

Maximum # of Students: 250

\$450

Duration: 50 minutes

“There was a star danced, and under that was I born.” Shakespeare’s comedy follows quick-witted sparring partners Beatrice and Benedick and the young Hero and Claudio, who hope to marry, though a deceitful plot threatens to keep them apart. *Much Ado About Nothing* explores healthy relationships, the cost of spreading rumors, and self-worth.

- Conflict Resolution and Healthy Relationships
- Empathy and Forgiveness
- Interactive/Audience Participation
- Relatable Themes
- Dangers of Spreading False Information
- In-Depth Guided Q&A

Romeo and Juliet: Winter/Spring Tour

GRADES: 6-12

Maximum # of Students: 1,000

\$1,000

Duration: 90 minutes

“That which we call a rose by any other word would smell as sweet.” Shakespeare’s timeless story of the star-crossed Romeo and Juliet. A short post-performance discussion, included in the runtime, provides students the opportunity to analyze and interpret the play.

- Audience Connection and Relevance
- Self-Worth and Self-Care
- Conflict Resolution and Healthy Relationships
- Relatable Themes
- Anti-Bullying and Peer Pressure
- In-Depth Guided Q&A

Shakespeare Alive!

GRADES: 4-12

Maximum # of Students: 450

\$450

Duration: 50 minutes

Kentucky Shakespeare actors perform three selections from three plays—a comedy, tragedy, and history. Our actors engage the audience with active discussion between each scene, unpacking students’ discoveries while exploring content, structure, relationships, comprehension, language, and theme.

- Guided Discussion Throughout Performance
- Interactive/Audience Participation
- Elements of Plot, Story and Character
- Themes Tied to Issues of Today
- Conflict Resolution and Healthy Relationships

• Curriculum Connections: Key Ideas and Details, Craft and Structure, Integration of Knowledge and Ideas, Comprehension and Collaboration, Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas, Vocabulary Acquisition and Use.

• Study Guides with pre- and post-show activities available for all performances.

LIVING HISTORY PERFORMANCES

Living History: We the People

GRADES: 4-12

Maximum # of Students: 250

\$450

Duration: 50 minutes

Recipient of an America250 grant! Our professional actors use primary source documents to bring key events from United States history to life, focusing on our rights and responsibilities as citizens in a democratic society today. *We the People* asks students to reflect on America's formation, consider important questions, and discover their role for creating civic action in their own communities.

• **Content/Events/Eras Covered:** *Road to the Revolutionary War, Formation of a New Government, Westward Expansion, Social Reforms, Abolition, Civil War, Amendments 13-15, Progressive Movement, WWII, The Red Scare, Civil Rights Movement, Social Media and First Amendment Rights*

Living History: Kentucky History

GRADES: 4-12

Maximum # of Students: 250

\$450

Duration: 50 minutes

Journey through time with our actors as they uncover the impressive history of the Commonwealth of Kentucky! Through primary source documents, we'll meet some famous names who shaped our state as we explore Kentucky's rich oral traditions, diverse geography, and vast contributions to the nation.

• **Content/Events/Eras Covered:** *Prehistoric Periods, The Great Dying, The Men & Women of Frontier Kentucky, Daniel Boone, Lewis and Clark and York, Abraham Lincoln, The Civil War, The Hatfields & McCoys, Stephen Foster, the Kentucky Derby, Muhammad Ali, Kentucky State Facts*

Voice of Social Change: Ira Aldridge

Pre-recorded digital-only program

GRADES: 4-12

Maximum # of Students: N/A

\$450

Duration: 35 minutes

The perfect blend of history and Shakespeare! Against the backdrop of racial injustice in the 1800s, Ira Aldridge persevered to become the first Black man to perform Shakespeare's leading men. This one-man show follows Aldridge's quest to carve his own path, inspiring students to utilize their own power and sense of purpose to overcome life's obstacles.

• **Content/Events/Eras Covered:** *African American History, Reconstruction Era, Historical Perspective, Cultures and Societies, Humanities, Language, Comprehension and Collaboration, Speaking and Listening, College and Career Readiness in Literacy*

CLASSROOM PERFORMANCES



- Curriculum Connections: Key Ideas and Details, Craft and Structure, Integration of Knowledge and Ideas, Comprehension and Collaboration, Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas, Vocabulary Acquisition and Use.
- Study Guides with pre- and post-workshop activities available for all workshops.

Bard Buddies: Much Ado About Nothing

GRADES: K-5	Maximum # of Students: 30
\$250	Duration: 50 minutes

With the help of our artist educator, your students perform a fun and fast-paced version of *Much Ado About Nothing* both with and for their peers in this fully interactive workshop. Students explore character, dialogue, theme, and technical elements of theatre to build teamwork skills, vocabulary, self-confidence, and a love of Shakespeare.

- Critical Thinking
- Creative Problem Solving
- Story and Drama Elements
- Performance for Peers
- Fully Interactive

Fairy Tales from Around the World

GRADES: PK-3	Maximum # of Students: 30
\$250	Duration: 50 minutes

Students explore the history, culture, geography, and oral traditions surrounding fairy tales as they perform three timeless stories from different regions and eras with their classmates. *Fairy Tales from Around the World* is an excellent introduction to drama and storytelling, using performance to build teamwork and self-confidence while simultaneously exploring the many lessons and morals found within folk tales.

- Critical Thinking
- Creative Problem Solving
- Story and Drama Elements
- Performance for Peers
- Fully Interactive

WORKSHOPS



Workshops & Residencies

GRADES: K-12

Maximum # of Students: 30

\$250

Duration: Customizable

CHOOSE FROM OUR MOST POPULAR SELECTIONS OR BUILD YOUR OWN

If you can dream it, we can build it. Our in-school and after-school workshops and extended residencies provide targeted experiential learning to meet your needs. Choose from any of the workshops in our catalog or have us design one specifically for you!

All workshops include:

- Performance
- Full Interactivity and Engagement
- Collaboration
- Critical Thinking
- Creative Problem Solving

Staging Shakespeare (Grades 4-12)

Our signature workshop introduces elements of Shakespeare and drama while practicing teamwork and problem solving. Students work through the rehearsal process using Shakespeare's text to create their own uniquely staged, student-driven performance piece. Shakespeare selections based on your classroom needs.

Hip-Hop Shakespeare (Grades 4-12)

The great poets of our time pair up with the greatest writer of all time. Students explore Shakespeare's sonnets and verse alongside contemporary music to discover rhythm, poetry and language.

Discovering Shakespeare (Grades 6-12)

Our play study workshop explores Shakespeare's language, key characters and scenes, and major elements and themes. Shakespeare selections based on your classroom needs.

Conflict Resolution & Anti-Bullying (Grades 3-12)

Our trained artist educators lead group activities focusing on affirmation, communication, cooperation, and strategies to deal positively with conflict. Students learn to identify and interrupt bullying behavior without escalation.

Acting Fundamentals (Grades K-12)

Learn the fundamentals of acting through group improvisational exercises led by our artist educator. Explore acting techniques from rehearsal to performance using actor's tools like body, voice, and imagination.

Stage Combat (Grades 4-12)

Students learn how to safely perform a staged fight using hand-to-hand combat and swordplay.

Voices of Youth (Grades 6-12)

A performance workshop featuring strong young women of Shakespeare, filled with active discussion between scenes, focusing on issues affecting young people today.

Renaissance Dance (Grades K-12)

Learn and perform the social dances of Shakespeare's day including the Pavane, Gathering Peascods and more, led by our artist educator.

Professional Development

We bring creative approaches and concepts from the arts and theatre to your team. Workshops can be customized and built from the ground up based on your needs, including: arts implementation into teaching strategies, STEAM concepts and integration, team building, cooperation, creative problem-solving, and improvisation.

2026-2027 Program Pricing

PROGRAM	COST
Much Ado About Nothing: Two-Actor Tour (K-8)	\$450.00
Romeo and Juliet: Winter/Spring Tour (6-12)	\$1,000.00
Shakespeare Alive! (4-12)	\$450.00
Living History: We the People* (4-12)	\$450.00
Living History: Kentucky History (4-12)	\$450.00
Voice of Social Change: Ira Aldridge (Pre-recorded Digital Only) (4-12)	\$250.00
A Midsummer Night's Dream: Spring Tour (Pre-recorded Digital Only) (6-12)	Inquire for price
Macbeth: Spring Tour (Pre-recorded Digital Only) (6-12)	Inquire for price
Bard Buddies (K-5)	\$250.00
Fairy Tales from Around the World (PK-3)	\$250.00
Workshops and Residencies (K-12)	\$250: 1st hour/ \$100: each additional hour

ASK ABOUT OUR MULTI-SHOW AND TITLE I DISCOUNTS!

NOTICE : Schools that are 120+ miles away may be subject to pay additional travel costs such as fuel and/or housing if an overnight stay is required.

**This project was supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts and Arts Midwest. To find out more about how National Endowment for the Arts grants impact individuals and communities, visit www.arts.gov.*

Booking & Contact Info:

(502) 574 -9900

education@kyshakespeare.com

www.kyshakespeare.com



ACADEMIC AND NATIONAL CORE ARTS ANCHOR STANDARDS

Kentucky Shakespeare's educational performances, programs and study guides include National Core Arts Anchor Standards as well as Academic Standards in Visual and Performing Arts, Reading and Writing, Social Studies, and Mathematics.

For a detailed list of all standards, please visit our website at kyshakespeare.com.





616 MYRTLE STREET, LOUISVILLE KY, 40208

(502) 574-9900 KYSHAKESPEARE.COM



OFFICE OF
ARTS AND
CREATIVE INDUSTRIES



2026-2027 Education & Outreach Brochure

Hear it. See it. Do it!