



MISSION: Grounded in the works of Shakespeare, we enrich communities through accessible, inclusive, professional theatre experiences that educate, inspire, and entertain diverse audiences.

VISION: To use Shakespeare's truths and the power of the arts to transform lives. Shakespeare belongs to everyone.

70,681 SERVED THIS SEASON



FESTIVAL

- 25,391 audience members served at no charge in Central Park
- 11 weeks, 7 productions, 53 performances
- Expanded Access – 4th year of Kids' Globe interactive tent; 3rd year of TARC to the Park free bus voucher distributed to community centers in West and South Louisville; additional ASL Interpreters; new braille playbook
- Guest productions from Louisville Ballet, Louisville Improvisors, and Louisville Fringe Festival
- Continued Community Creates program with Down Syndrome of Louisville, LaNita Rocknettes, and LGBTQ+ teen group
- 40+ nightly community pre-show performances including Flamenco Louisville, AMPED, Red Lotus Lion Dance, Eyakkam Dance, Redline Performing Arts, and many others
- Celebrated Producing Artistic Director Matt Wallace's 10th season at the helm of Kentucky Shakespeare



EDUCATION

- 40,479 served. 81 counties. (72 Kentucky, 7 Indiana, 1 Ohio, 1 Tennessee – up 47% from 55 last year)
- Organizations: 175 schools (up 33%), 33 libraries (up 57%), 21 community organizations (up 17%)
- Performance & Workshop Hours: 741 (up 9%)
- Record 228 campers (up 12%) served through Camp Shakespeare; 42 scholarship (18% of total)
- 16 college students participated in Bekki Jo Schneider Intern Company for summer season
- Shakespeare Off the Page continued
- Year-long residency with incarcerated youth at the Clark Regional Detention Center
- Awarded Shakespeare in American Communities Grants from Arts Midwest and NEA plus new project grant
- Tours to flood-impacted areas of Eastern Kentucky, made possible by Arts for All Kentucky



COMMUNITY

- Indoor ticketed season included sold-out runs of world premiere of *Enter Ghost. an immersive haunted Hamlet experience* by Diana Grisanti and Steve Moulds and Louisville premiere of *Pride and Prejudice* by Kate Hamill at the Kentucky Center.
- Shakespeare in the Parks *Hamlet* toured to a record 36 parks in spring 2023
- Shakespeare in the Libraries *Twelfth Night* toured to 5 Louisville Free Public Library branches
- Eighth year of Shakespeare with Veterans program culminated with performance of *Shakespeare's Soldiers* on the Central Park stage
- Arts residencies with Down Syndrome of Louisville, Dreams with Wings, and Gilda's Club made possible by Arts for All Kentucky
- Supported KY Shakespeare intern Tajleed Hardy in creating *UNCHAINED*, which premiered on our stage on Juneteenth



A Midsummer Night's Dream



Macbeth



Love's Labor's Lost



The Globe Players' The Two Gentlemen of Verona

Kentucky Shakespeare Festival in Central Park

"Our Kentucky Shakespeare Festival is one of the crown jewels of the city." —Kevin

"Absolutely amazing production! Very professional, superb acting and a bit of light humor made this quite the enjoyable evening in Old Louisville!" —Jeanette

"Kentucky Shakespeare is one of the best things about summer in the Ohio Valley. I always feel at home when we come back to take in one of your plays. Keep Will Free!" —Mary

"This production is one you have to allow yourself to get fully swept away in. It is wicked and decadent—a feast for the eyes, with sumptuous costumes and spine-tingling effects. It feels like a descent into madness." —Tory Parker, Arts-Louisville

"THANK YOU, for contributing to the education, enrichment, entertainment and INSPIRATION of my family, our community and our world. Sincerely, THANK YOU. We moved away, and drive 1.5 hrs to Louisville to see your performances each summer. We moved away, and drive 1.5 hrs to Louisville to see your performances each summer. They are such a gift!" —Laura

"Absolutely gorgeous!!! Every minute I was transported to a place of fun, beauty and wonderland!" —Rebecca



Matt Wallace's 10th Season as Producing Artistic Director



Shakespeare in Dance: Lady M

Enter Ghost

"If you don't have a ticket to Ghost from @kyshakespeare, you missed out! Experimental, fun, modern. I kept thinking, this is something I would see in New York. So happy that Louisville has this. As always with KY Shakes, amazing actors" —@abbydlong

"Went to see ENTER GHOST at @kyshakespeare this evening and it was SO TERRIFIC. Really enjoyable, innovative, immersive, spooky. I love that our local Shakespeare company does such cool stuff. Go see it if you can." —@taraEanderson

Pride and Prejudice

"I really can't say enough about how much I loved @kyshakespeare Pride & Prejudice tonight. My friend and I were dying laughing. The cast had incredible chemistry and timing. And someone please hug poor Mary." —@jennakayreads

Education and Outreach

"I wanted to extend a huge THANK YOU for the work of your incredible actors. 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. Thank you for the work you do." —Teacher, East Oldham Middle

"I've tried about everything I can think of to make Shakespeare's language more accessible to the kids, but sometimes it takes someone else and something a little bit different to break through that wall. That definitely happened with my classes. Thank you." —Teacher, Muhlenberg County High School

"What a wonderful community this has been for my daughter! Great people, great training. She is moving on to the next phase but we definitely won't be strangers. Love Kentucky Shakespeare!" —Kate (Globe Players parent)

"I cannot thank you enough for your time here! The kids loved it and talked about it weeks after you came! We heard nothing but good things from students and faculty alike. I have loved working with you all—thank you for making a difference in my classroom and all over the state of Kentucky." —Teacher, Marion County Knight Academy



Shakespeare Alive!



Enter Ghost. an immersive haunted Hamlet experience



Pride and Prejudice



Shakespeare in the Parks: Hamlet



Community Creates with LaNita Rocknettes

Land Acknowledgment

Kentucky Shakespeare acknowledges we are situated on the traditional land of the Adena, Hopewell, Miami, Osage, Shawnee, and **DWJᎠᎹᎠᎿ** Tsalaguwetiye (Cherokee, East) people. We respect their enduring presence and historical stewardship of these lands.

Anti-Racism Statement

As artists and educators, we are committed to holding the “mirror up to nature,” while creating a safe and welcoming space at our performances, in the community, and in the classroom.

We recognize racism and inequality in our community and the country, and we commit ourselves to anti-racism. We believe that Black lives matter.

We commit to outreach and inclusion of people of all abilities, races, creeds, religions, genders, and sexual identities.

We acknowledge that we are a non-profit arts organization grounded in the works of Shakespeare and commit to exploring Shakespeare’s truths while never losing sight of the fact that not all experiences emanate from a white European vantage point.

We commit to deeply listening to our BIPOC community members, within and outside of our organization. We commit to learning, never being satisfied, and creating positive change – proactively committing our efforts and resources to building anti-racist, inclusive, equitable, and empathetic spaces and experiences for all.

Board of Directors

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David James, Emeritus
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AUDIENCE SURVEY RESULTS

- 97% felt the community was positively impacted
- 97% felt Central Park was more energized
- 94% gained a better appreciation for the arts
- 94% felt more comfortable with the arts
- 93% reported increased pride in their community
- 90% felt more connected to the community.

Location

72% from Louisville Metro (All Metro ZIP codes served)
10% from elsewhere in KY
10% from Indiana
8% from 28 other states

Years of Attendance

26% first time
23% 1-3 years
24% 4-10 years
16% 11-25 years
11% 26+ years

Age

15% under 18
11% 18-24
25% 25-39
21% 40-54
20% 55-64
8% 65+

LGBTQ+

21%

Income

13% under \$15k
15% \$15-\$24,999
20% \$25k-\$49,999
31% \$50k-\$100k
22% over \$100k

How Many Times Per Summer

25% first time
20% 2 times
30% 3-4 times
17% 5-6 times
8% 7+ times

Race/Ethnicity

3% Asian/Pacific Islander
18% Black/African American
4% Multi-Racial
2% Other
73% White/Caucasian
7% Hispanic/Latino

Living With a Disability

14%

Education

9% less than high school
15% high school graduate
9% associates/2-year
33% college graduate
34% post graduate

Financial Snapshot

Income: \$1,321,810
Expense:
Program Services - 84.4% (\$1,214,993)
Fundraising expenses - 5.3% (\$77,051)
Management and General - 10.2% (\$146,961)
Ending net assets: \$472,904

Financial statements audited by DMLO

Kentucky Shakespeare

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