



Dear Teachers and Administrators,

We are looking ahead to an exciting fall Grand Valley Shakespeare Festival, our 24th Season. A big part of our festival is our educational programs. As you finish the 2016-17 Academic Year, we want to inform you about some of our fall plans and give you an opportunity to secure a place to attend and be involved with our events.

First, as usual, we will have matinee performances for our Mainstage production. Enclosed is a letter from our Festival Schools Liaison, Dr. Jo Miller about our Mainstage production of the well-known favorite, *The Tempest*, and the special school matinees. We encourage you to consider our early reservation as these performances do fill up. You can register online or find a form at our website to fax, mail, or email to us. The online registration does not require advanced payment.

Second, *Bard to Go*, features a brand new production for this fall. *Bard to Go* is a touring production that visits West Michigan schools during the fall semester. This year's program, *Bard to Go: The Wonder of Will: This Is Your Afterlife!* will be a fun and entertaining production. Please see the attached *Bard to Go* letter with more information from *Bard to Go* producer Katherine Mayberry. There is the opportunity to request a date with early registration.

Our theatre major program at Grand Valley will be opening new facilities this fall, including a new Blackbox Theatre, new rehearsal and classroom spaces, a new costume shop and costume and design classroom space, and new green room and dressing room facilities. We hope to show off those new facilities with our school matinees. The performance will still be in our main proscenium theatre, the Louis Armstrong Theatre, but we hope to host the lunches afterward in our new facilities and offer tours to schools interested in seeing them. For any students interested in pursuing theatre in college, we are also happy to discuss further our program and facilities. We also always have an admissions counselor available to talk with interested students or schools, and we can also help arrange tours of the Grand Valley campus.

We hope you and your students will join us for our fall festival activities.

Best wishes and Good Will

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Grand Valley

Shakespeare Festival