

*Outrageous
Fortune
Theatre
Company*

Preparation for Theatrical Event

Study Guide

TIS SHAKESPEARISH

By Dr. Joel Murray

This production is made possible with the support of the
City of El Paso Museum's and Cultural Affairs Department
The Texas Commission on the Arts
and our generous sponsors

2008- 2009

Outrageous Fortune Theatre Company is committed to the enrichment of community by sharing the wealth of theatre through education and performance inspired by integrity, responsibility, and the words of William Shakespeare.

Outrageous Fortune Theatre Company is sponsored by:



with the support of



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Outrageous Fortune Theatre Company

Teaching/Artist Program: Sharing Shakespeare's wealth through performance and educational support

OFTC's Teaching/Artist Program tours throughout Texas and Southern New Mexico, and collaborates with the Chamizal National Memorial, to give students the opportunity to experience the magic of live theatre. People of all ages can appreciate the lively antics and sweet words of William Shakespeare, the most famous English language playwright of all time. *'TIS SHAKESPEARISH*, written by Dr. Joel Murray, professor of Theatre Arts at the University of Texas at El Paso is a fun (and slightly silly) adaptation of selected Shakespearean plays. This presentation is a compilation of various characters and scenes from well-known Shakespeare plays such as *Macbeth*, *Romeo & Juliet*, *Hamlet*, and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and does require some selected audience participation! Experiencing this performance is a helpful addition to the study of language, history, drama, literature, and the craft of acting. This program aligns with TEKS objectives, a listing of which can be found later in this guide.

Preparing your students

OFTC wants to assist the educator in creating a valuable and fulfilling educational experience for every student. This study guide is designed to assist the teacher in three important areas of preparation:

- 1. Pre-Event Classroom Activities** – Fun Facts, worksheets, and discussion points designed to help you prepare your students for attending this theatrical event.
- 2. The Performance** – *TIS SHAKESPEARISH* – A synopsis of the play, hands on crafts, and key vocabulary to review with your students.
- 3. Post-Event Classroom Activities** – Discussion points, worksheets, and instructions for games from the show to enhance the entire experience. An answer key is provided for the teacher.

Theatre Etiquette - WE LOVE TO HEAR YOUR LAUGHTER!

We request only that students have fun and follow the most basic theatre etiquette which is to listen and react appropriately! Please encourage your students to applaud, laugh, et cetera, but when a student is talking to their neighbor, they are unable to listen to the play which is vital to their understanding and enjoyment.

OFTC knows that kids love to dress up! It is a theatre tradition for the audience to dress nicely when attending a play and dressing differently seems to help prepare the students for the experience.

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TEKS Completed by Watching an OFTC Performance

Grade Level	TEK	
Elementary K-3	1A-1E	
	2A-2B	
	3C-3D	
	4C-4D	
	8B-8C	
	9C	
	10C	
	11B-11C	
	12A	
	13A-13B	
	Elementary 4-6	1A-1C
		2A, 2D
3A-3C		
4A-4B		
5F		
9A-9B		
10D-10H		
14A		
Middle School 6-8	1A-1C	
	2A, 2D	
	3A	
	4A-4B	
	9A	
	10K	
	11A	
	12F	
14A-14C		
High School 9-12	6A-6B	
	7B, 7F-7H	
	8D	
	9A-9B	
	10A-10C	
	11A-11E, 11H	
	13A	
	14A-14D	
16E-16F		

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TEKS Completed by Participating in an OFTC Workshop

Grade Level	TEK
Elementary K-3	1A-1E
	2A-2B
	3C-3D
	4C-4D
	8B-8C
	9C
	10C
	11B-11C
	12A
	13A-13B
Elementary 4-6	1A-1C
	2A, 2D
	3A-3C
	4A-4B
	5F
	9A-9B
	10D-10H
	14A
Middle School 6-8	1A-1C
	2A, 2D
	3A
	4A-4B
	5B-5C
	6A-6C
	7A-7E
	8A-8C
	9A-9B
	10A-H, 10K
	11A-11B, 11D
	12D-12I
	14A-14C
High School 9-12	6A-6B
	7B, 7F-7H
	8D
	9A-9B
	10A-10C
	11A-11E, 11H
	13A
	14A-14D
	16E-16F
	17D
18A-18B	

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Suggested 5 Day Planner - Event Attendance Week

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Introduce Fun Facts, pick Quotes, & start Vocabulary	Review Vocabulary, look at Map & discuss Theatre Etiquette	Go to See <i>TIS SHAKE-SPEARISH!</i>	Play Recognition & Matching	Compliments and Insults & Learn to Curtsey & Bow
Make Masks & Balloon Swords	Make Bag Hats or Garlands	Discussion Points, Favorite Scene & Word Search	Make Quartos	Draw Picture & Write Thank You Notes

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Possible Pre-Show Activities

1. Introduce the Fun Facts and Vocabulary words. *
2. Pick a famous quote from Shakespeare (“neither a borrower nor a lender be” / *Hamlet*, “if music be the food of love” / *Twelfth Night*, “the course of true love never did run smooth” / *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*) and translate that particular quote into modern English. Does that seem to change the meaning? Does it stay the same? Which sounds better and why?
3. In this production of “*TIS SHAKESPEARISH*” we will be using masks for the “*Romeo and Juliet*” sequence. Have your students create a mask by cutting out a “face” and gluing it to a Popsicle stick. Feel free to decorate your mask as much as you want using crayons, markers, feathers, anything. Be sure to bring your masks to the show and the actors will tell you when it’s time to put them on! Also fun to make are balloon swords. Use long “bendy” balloons and follow the rules listed in “Age Group Modifications”.
4. Take a look at a globe or map of the world in your classroom and locate the countries of England and the United States. Discuss the similarities and differences of these two countries. Imagine growing up in England during Shakespeare’s time. What would it be like? How are things different for kids today?
5. Discuss Theatre Etiquette. What is it and what is special about going to the theatre? *
6. Have your class make their own bag hats or garlands and wear them to the show! *

Possible Post-Show Activities

1. Discuss the production. What did you like? What did you dislike? What was your favorite Scene? Moment? Line? Compare/contrast the responses and chart the results.
2. Find all the vocabulary words in the word search. *
3. See how many of Shakespeare’s plays you can recognize. Can you match the character/play? *
4. Make your very own Quarto! *
5. See how creative you can get with the Shakespearean Compliments and Insults. *
6. Practice how to properly “curtsey” and “bow”. Switch genders and practice the other. Then choose one student be the King or Queen. How are the curtseys and bows different? (They should be deeper with no eye contact and the Royal can choose to acknowledge the student or not).
7. Pretend to drink some of the magical potion that transports you to Shakespeare’s time. Where are you and what do you see? Once you have a specific idea, draw a picture of yourself in that “special” place. Don’t forget to add lots of color!
8. Write Thank You Notes to the people who sponsored this production. *

* Specific instructions or worksheet later in this study guide

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Fun Facts

Who was William Shakespeare?

1564-1616

In 1585, a poor unknown young playwright and actor moved from a little town in England to try his luck in the professional theaters in and around London. His name was William Shakespeare.

Today many scholars and critics believe him to be the greatest English language playwright that ever lived. His works have been analyzed, criticized, scrutinized, and performed for generations. The man and his work have become immortalized. He is thought of more as a legendary figure than as a real man.

1. William Shakespeare was born in Stratford-upon-Avon, England. Scholars believe he was born and died on the same day: April 23!
2. There are almost no records of William's childhood. It is largely assumed that he attended the local grammar school, where he would have learned the basics of reading, writing, and arithmetic. But his education would have been nothing special; which makes his later achievements even more extraordinary.
3. At the age of 21, Shakespeare left Stratford-upon-Avon and moved to London where he joined the acting troupe known as 'The Lord Chamberlain's Men' and began writing plays.
4. Most scholars give him credit for writing 37 plays. His awesome vocabulary is estimated at 30,000 words (triple that of most people).
5. Shakespeare is most remembered for his use of the English language. He wrote in both prose and verse and perfected the use of iambic pentameter.

Prose – Prose sounds like natural speech. It has no set rhythm.

Verse – Verse has a definite pattern and a set rhythm.

Iambic Pentameter – five units of two syllables with an unstressed/stressed pattern

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Vocabulary

TIS SHAKESPEARISH

by Dr. Joel Murray

Cauldron: A big, black pot.

Scroll: A long roll of paper used for writing.

Pyramus & Thisby: The story of two lovers much like the one told in *Romeo & Juliet* (as told in the ancient Greek poem '*Metamorphoses*' by Ovid).

Tyrant: A brutal dictator.

Lofty: Elevated in character or spirit, noble.

Wandering Knight: A medieval warrior pledged to chivalry*.

Chivalry: A code of honor.

Wherefore: Why.

Doff: To remove or lift.

Soliloquy: A speech that an actor makes to show the audience what is in his mind when he is alone onstage.

Doth: Archaic or old English form of 'to do'.

Ninus' Tomb: The lovers in Ovid's poem meet at the tomb of Ninus, legendary founder of the city of Nineveh.

Adieu: French for 'adios'!

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How to make your very own *Bag Hat*

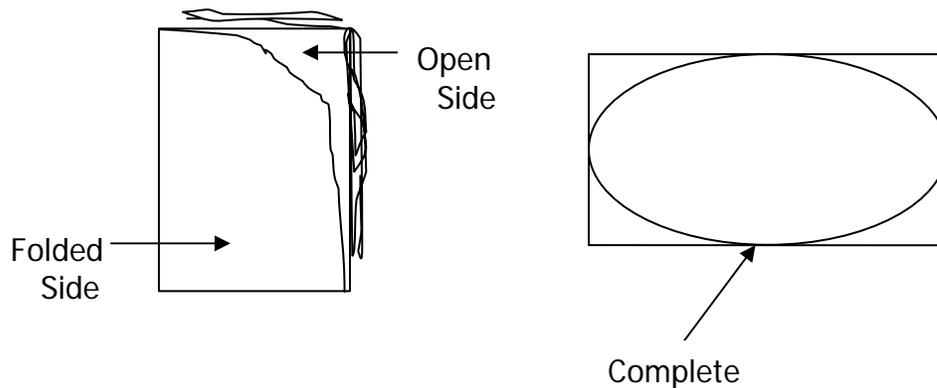
Traditional Renaissance attire always included a hat!
Bag hats were a simple and popular style that is easy to make.

What you will need:

We like to use the most basic and inexpensive of materials: Newspaper and Duct Tape! However, you can be very creative and utilize whatever is available and have fun with decorations and embellishments.

What to do:

Step 1: Fold one full sheet of newspaper into quarters with the open corners on the upper right hand side. Hold onto folded corner on lower left hand side and cut into an oval by rounding off the opposite corner (see diagram below). Set aside.



Step 2: Cut off a piece of duct tape (approximately nose to arm's length) and measure to make sure it will fit around your head, as you measure be sure the sticky side is facing out! Stick duct tape to desk.

Step 3: Fold tape in half from the bottom side towards the top of desk and fold ends to hold in place. Completely unfold newspaper and place the middle fold, with the rounded edges facing out to the sides, and stick center of paper to center of tape.

Step 4: Begin to make 1 - 2 inch pleats in paper and stick to tape (from the center outwards) until half of paper is stuck to half of tape, then go back to center and repeat the process on the other side (you will have to lift the completed tape side as you finish the circle).

Step 5: Remove the tape completely from desk and set hat top side down. Unfold tape around edge of hat and refold towards inside, creating hat band. Leave ends unstuck.

Step 6: Place hat on head and stick ends together to achieve proper hat size. Cut off excess tape. Adjust 'poofy-ness' according to personal taste and decorate.

Possible decorations include: feathers (can be cut from construction paper), ribbons, and stickers (the gold embossed ones look very cool!).

Wear and Enjoy!



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Titles of Shakespeare's Plays

The Comedies

All's Well that Ends Well
As You Like It
The Comedy of Errors
Cymbeline
Love's Labour's Lost
Measure for Measure
The Merchant of Venice
The Merry Wives of Windsor
A Midsummer Night's Dream
Much Ado About Nothing
Pericles, Prince of Tyre
The Taming of the Shrew
The Tempest
Troilus and Cressida
Twelfth Night
The Two Gentlemen of Verona
The Two Noble Kinsmen
The Winter's Tale

The Tragedies

Antony and Cleopatra
Coriolanus
Hamlet, Prince of Denmark
Julius Caesar
King Lear
Macbeth
Othello, the Moor of Venice
Romeo and Juliet
Timon of Athens
Titus Andronicus

The Histories

King John
Richard II
Henry IV, Part I
Henry IV, Part II
Henry V
Henry VI, Part I
Henry VI, Part II
Henry VI, Part III
Richard III
Henry VIII

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Discussion Points

Why do we still perform the works of William Shakespeare?

- He is considered the greatest English language playwright of all time. (What other playwright can you name? How many of Shakespeare's plays can you name?)
- He wrote about basic human nature. His characters are familiar to us and people we know in our own lives. (How many of you know someone who likes a boy or girl that their parents don't like? What other emotions do Shakespeare's characters feel?)
- He wrote about universal themes. We can understand and relate to his characters and their situations. (What is an example of a universal theme? 'Good triumphs over Evil' is an example. What other examples can you think of?)

What are some of his most famous plays or lines from those plays?

Hamlet, Act 3, Scene 1, "To be or not to be, that is the question."

Romeo & Juliet, Act 2 Scene 2, "What's in a name? That which we call a rose by any other word would smell as sweet."

What are some phrases we still use today that are Shakespearean?

in a pickle, without rhyme or reason, jealousy is a green-eyed monster

Are imagination and dreams important? What is the difference between the two? How can we develop or follow them? What are some examples?

Is Art (any form: music, painting, dance, theatre, poetry, etc.) important?

Why or why not? In what way do *you* express your feelings?

TIS SHAKESPEARISH

E L C B D Y A P F Y W Z D E K
K R N H T O Y E R J U H O R V
T U A F I R F Y B S I H T O Z
M N O E A V A F Y X S Z H F P
E L A M P C A U L D R O N E E
J O U R H S Q L I P V V V R A
G S X Q Y O E P R N C W J E U
J S M A L T E K B Y E I Y H T
T L Z I V H V G A Y O L H W H
E O L R G S Z P I H I L U G G
F O G O V Z Q P H I S I O Z I
S B P O A B J Z T S D A X J N
R H N I N U S O Q Y C M S O K
S E P Q L Q M P O B Q E O M S
J V E F A B Q S W T P S P R W

CAULDRON

DOTH

NINUS

SOLILOQUY

TYRANT

CHIVALRY

KNIGHT

PYRAMUS

THISBY

WHEREFORE

DOFF

LOFTY

SHAKESPEARE

TOMB

WILLIAM

Created by [Puzzlemaker](#) at DiscoveryEducation.com



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Name the character and/or the play:

1. I just met a boy at a party, and I want to marry him. I have sent my nurse to get his name, and she tells me he is the only son of my family's enemy.

2. I have been made a general in the Venetian army, even though it is not the country of my birth. I have a beautiful wife whom I adore, but I fear she is cheating on me!

3. My boyfriend has just arrived home from college for his father's funeral. My brother and father warn me that his love for me is not true. I don't want to believe them, but he has changed so much I think he is going crazy.

4. My servant has told me he saw the trees outside move towards the castle. How can this be? When the witches said I would be king until the woods began to move, I thought I would be king forever! How can trees get up and walk?

5. I warned him not to go to the Senate today. Now people are rioting in the streets! Everyone says the Senators turned on him and that he has been stabbed on the steps of the Roman Capitol.

Match these characters to their plays:

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Rosalind | a. <i>Twelfth Night</i> |
| 2. Kate | b. <i>As You Like It</i> |
| 3. Sir Toby Belch | c. <i>Hamlet</i> |
| 4. Macduff | d. <i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i> |
| 5. Prospero | e. <i>The Tempest</i> |
| 6. Juliet | f. <i>The Taming of the Shrew</i> |
| 7. Desdemona | g. <i>Othello</i> |
| 8. Puck | h. <i>Romeo & Juliet</i> |
| 9. Marc Antony | i. <i>Macbeth</i> |
| 10. Gravedigger | j. <i>Julius Caesar</i> |

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How to “publish” your very own *Quarto*

Quartos were simple, single editions of plays printed during the Renaissance. Making your own version will bring the history to life, give students an experience in creative dramatic writing, and a lovely memento to keep!

What you will need:

Lined paper to write out your story, unlined paper for Quarto, a writing utensil (a quill pen would be super awesome, but a pencil will do), scissors (supervised), and string, ribbon, or staples and cloth tape, to bind the quarto.

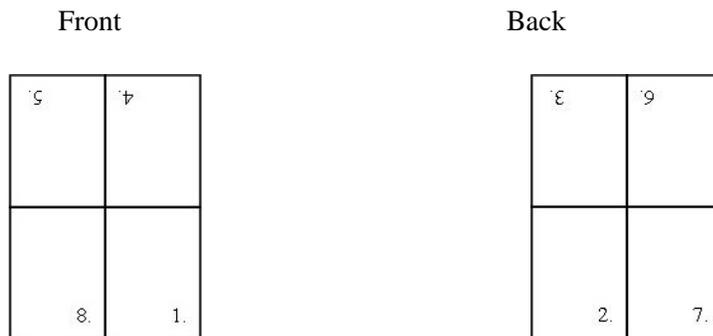
What to do:

Step 1: Write a short story or poem which is 6 - 30 lines in length or even write your very own play with 6 - 30 lines of dialogue.

Step 2: Break lines into 6 equal parts and number each part 2 - 7.

Step 3: Fold the unlined paper into quarters like a side-fold greeting card and press down hard (so the divisions will be clearly seen) and unfold paper.

Step 4: Label each quarter (front and back) according to the model shown below:



Step 5: Write each line portion on the paper with matching number, being careful not to write too closely to the edges. Remember to follow the proper orientation - numbers that are upside down must be written upside down. Turn the paper around to make writing easier (it’s very hard to write upside down...). If you have 6 lines, there will be one per page, 12 lines will be 2 per page, etc.

Step 6: Fold the paper again with page 1 facing up. Decorate page one as the Title Page and page 8 as the Dedication Page (still careful not to get too close to the edge).

Step 7: Carefully (with supervision if necessary) cut off the top fold.

Step 8: Run a string or ribbon through the left hand edge, or staple it and cover with cloth tape for a professional looking binding.

*Now you can enjoy reading & sharing your very own Quarto,
made very much the same way Mr. Shakespeare’s plays were first printed!*

Kids' SHAKESPEAREAN COMPLIMENTS

Combine one word from each of the columns below. Add "**Thou**" to the beginning, and you've created a sweet compliment for a friend.

Column A

rare
sweet
fruitful
brave
sugared
flowering
precious
gallant
delicate
celestial

Column B

honey-tongued
well-wishing
fair-faced
best-tempered
tender-hearted
tiger-booted
smooth-faced
thunder-darting
sweet-suggesting
young-eyed

Column C

smilet
toast
cukoo-bud
nose-herb
wafer-cake
pigeon-egg
welsh cheese
song
true-penny
valentine

Kids' SHAKESPEAREAN INSULTS

Barbs from the Bard! Combine one word from each of the columns below. Add "thou" to the beginning and create the perfect insult. (Example: "Thou rank rump-fed hedge-pig!!")

Column A

peevish
grizzled
greasy
jaded
waggish
purpled
rank
saucy
vacant
yeasty

Column B

clay-brained
dog-hearted
evil-eyed
lily-livered
mad-bred
onion-eyed
paper-faced
rump-fed
shag-eared
white-livered

Column C

canker blossom
clot pole
hedge-pig
dogfish
egg-shell
nut-hook
pantaloon
rabbit-sucker
snipe
younker

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Answer Key

Name the character and/or the play

1. Clue: I say “A rose by any other word would smell as sweet...”.
Answer: Juliet
Clue: The most famous scene from this play takes place on a balcony.
Answer: Romeo & Juliet
2. Clue: I’m sorry to say it, but I smother my wife with a pillow.
Answer: Othello
Clue: ‘Jealousy...the green eyed monster’ comes from this play.
Answer: Othello, the Moor of Venice
3. Clue: My name rhymes with Amelia Bedelia!
Answer: Ophelia
Clue: The most famous line from this play begins “To be or not to be...”
Answer: Hamlet, Prince of Denmark
4. Clue: I have a very ambitious wife who is the Lady of my house.
Answer: Macbeth
Clue: This is known as ‘The Scottish Play’.
Answer: The Tragedy of Macbeth
5. Clue: I say “Beware the Ides of March”
Answer: Soothsayer
Clue: I have a salad named after me.
Answer: Julius Caesar

Match these characters
to their plays:

1. b
2. f
3. a
4. i
5. e
6. h
7. g
8. d
9. j
10. c

TIS SHAKESPEARISH Word Search Solution

```
E + C + D Y + P + + + + D E +  
+ R + H T O Y + + + + + O R +  
T + A F I R F Y B S I H T O +  
+ N O E A V + F Y + + + H F +  
+ L A M P C A U L D R O N E +  
+ + U R + S Q L + + + + + R +  
+ S + + Y O E + R + + W + E +  
+ + + + L T + K + Y + I + H T  
+ + + I + + + + A + + L + W H  
+ + L + + + + + + H + L + + G  
+ O + + + + + + + + S I + + I  
S + + + + + + + + T + + A + + N  
+ + N I N U S O + + + M + + K  
+ + + + + + M + + + + + + +  
+ + + + + B + + + + + + + +
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Ideas for Age Group Modification

Kinder - 1st Grade:

A court dance will get the young children on their feet! Renaissance music and simple choreography is available from OFTC.

2nd - 3rd Grade:

A civilized sword fight with bendy-balloons can be manageable and fun when following Renaissance 'duel-rules':

Rule #1 - One hand behind the back, please!

Rule #2 - Parry (a blocking move) & Thrust (straight, stabbing motion) only.

Rule #3 - Teacher calls a proper hit; first to reach 3 hits is the winner!

4th - 5th Grade:

Plan a field trip to take students to the theatre! OFTC feels this age is particularly well suited to attend the theatre. Make it an event: plan to dress up, bring (or make) flowers, plan a reception before or a tea afterwards to discuss the play.

6th Grade:

Create your own Coat of Arms, researching family history and symbols to make a lasting keepsake.

7th - 8th Grade:

Stage your own Balcony Scene from Romeo & Juliet. Divide class into Romeo's and Juliet's and assign one line to each for a fun experience.

9th - 12th Grade:

Write a Sonnet! This assignment involves creative writing and poetic structure, and can produce some exciting results!

These are just a few examples of the many ways which you can incorporate fun learning activities into the classroom.

Please call or e-mail OFTC for instructions. We are in the process of making this information available on our website by spring 2009.

Outrageous Fortune Theatre Company

OFTC is passionate about arts education.

We would like to thank you for participating and greatly appreciate your commitment to this project. OFTC's Teaching/Artist Program is funded by our generous sponsors, with the support of the City of El Paso Museums and Cultural Affairs Department, and the Texas Commission on the Arts.

One more fun Post-Show Activity:

TIS SHAKESPEARISH was made possible by our collaboration with Chamizal National Memorial and our wonderful sponsors. We would greatly appreciate it if your students would send a letter thanking any one of our sponsors and letting them know what they liked about the show.

Richard L. Harris, Superintendent
Chamizal National Memorial
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El Paso, Texas 79905

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Thank You!

Outrageous Fortune Theatre Company
Teaching/Artist Program Evaluation

Thank you for taking the time to share your comments.
Forms may be mailed to OFTC or you may choose to complete this evaluation
online at our website beginning in spring 2009.

Performance or Workshop _____

Date _____ Time _____ Total Number of Participants _____ Grade Level(s) _____

Contact Teacher _____ Email _____

Location and/or School Name _____

Please select the appropriate response:

Was the study guide available before the performance? Yes No Don't Know

Did you find the study guide helpful in preparing your students? Yes No N/A

What suggestions would you make to improve our study guide? _____

Did you find the event informative? Yes No

Did the event hold student's attention? Yes No

Did you find the event to be grade level appropriate? Yes No

Did the event help support your work in the classroom? Yes No

Did the event spark some interesting discussion with your students? Yes No

Please elaborate: _____

What were some of your student's comments? _____

Do you feel the event left a positive impression of Shakespeare? Yes No

Would you be interested in OFTC coming/returning to your school? Yes No

If yes, would you like the same event or a different one? Same Different

If you answered No or Different to any of the questions, please elaborate: _____

Any additional comments: _____