Thank you for your interest in the Apprentice Program of the Notre Dame Shakespeare Festival! Please read the following information carefully as you consider applying to the program. We look forward to working with you!

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

The Apprentice Program (AP) is a key component of the Notre Dame Shakespeare Festival (NDSF), providing exceptional educational opportunities in a theatrical setting to gifted students from our home campuses of the University of Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s College and other universities and colleges across the United States. Many former Apprentices enjoy careers in acting, design, production, and administration.

Invitations to join the Apprentice Program are issued once applicants have completed auditions or interviews to gauge their skills and interests. Accepted students participate simultaneously in a traveling outdoor production, performed in area green spaces, and in a professional production performed in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. In both of these, Apprentices enjoy working alongside nationally and internationally renowned professionals in a variety of ways. Apprentices also receive training in the practical arts of theatrical production including voice and speech, stage combat, production management and set and costume construction.

The ongoing development of the Apprentice Program through the season is shared by the NDSF Producing Artistic Director, the director of a given production, and noted local and national guest artists and instructors. Apprentices are also personally mentored by selected artists and production team members from the professional company production.

**2020 SEASON PRODUCTIONS**

COMMUNITY COMPANY – *ShakeScenes / Shakespeare After Hours* July 17 / 18, 2020
PROFESSIONAL COMPANY – *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, August 20-30, 2020
TOURING COMPANY – *The Two Noble Kinsmen*, July 19 - August 24, 2020
APPRENTICE PROGRAM ROLES AND POSITIONS

Apprentice Program positions include, but are not limited to:

   Actor, Costume Designer, Asst. Production Mgr., Arts Admin. Asst., Asst. Director, Scenic
   Designer, Scenic Artist, Sound Operator, Stage Manager, Properties Designer, Master
   Electrician, Light Operator, Asst. Stage Mgr., Wardrobe Head, Costume Stitcher, Asst.
   Technical Director

IMPORTANT 2020 DATES

   AP and Pro Auditions at DePaul University, Wed/Thurs Jan 7/8
   AP and Pro Auditions at Notre Dame Friday, January 24/25
   Scene Shop Opens Monday, June 22
   AP Actor Arrivals Sunday/Monday, June 28/29
   AP Welcome BBQ (limited day activities) Monday, June 29
   AP First Day of Classes and Touring Co. Rehearsals: Tuesday, June 30
   AP Touring Company Preview Saturday, July 18
   AP Touring Co. Performances: Sunday, July 19 - Monday, August 24 (See schedule)

   First day of Professional Company Rehearsals: Tuesday, July 20
   PC Previews Tues/Wed, August 18 and 19 at 7:30PM
   PC Season Gala Performance: Thursday, August 20 at 7:30PM
   PC Performances continue: Friday, August 21 through Sunday, August 30. (Strike)
   You must be available for all class, rehearsal, performance, and strike times.

HEADSHOT

   Please upload a headshot with your resume via the Audition Google form. If you do not
   have a headshot, we may take a digital photograph of you during your audition/interview.
   Please contact the office with any questions via NDSFAuditions@nd.edu or 574-631-2273.

ACTING AUDITION INFORMATION

   1. Actors will need to prepare one classical monologue* – preferably Shakespeare – that
      is 2 minutes or shorter. Your monologue should be memorized.

      What monologue should I perform? Ideally, a Shakespeare monologue you know well
      enough to receive adjustments, and be able to play with these quickly without worrying
      about lines. Other classical or early-modern playwrights also are acceptable, as is
2. Strong **actor-musicians** should prepare 16-32 bars of a song of any genre that showcases your range and abilities. Your song should be memorized. Please bring your instrument if available.

3. Strong **actor-singers** should prepare 16-32 bars of a song of any genre that showcases your range and abilities. Your song should be memorized and will be sung a capella. (No accompanist is provided)

4. Prepare for your audition as completely as possible. Auditions are like a job interview where you want to be knowledgeable, flexible, and eager to be part of the company.

5. Please note that your apprenticeship audition is for both the Professional and Touring Company productions.

6. Grant Mudge, NDSF’s Ryan Producing Artistic Director, will lead the auditions. Additional NDSF colleagues may attend, as well, including Deb Gasper, General Manager, and Scott Jackson, Executive Director of Shakespeare at Notre Dame.

**TECHNICAL AND PRODUCTION INTERVIEW INFORMATION**

1. Resumes may be sent to NDSFAuditions@nd.edu. If selected to interview, you may elect to show your portfolio to demonstrate your work and experience.

2. You will most likely meet with Jen Kazmierczak, NDSF Production Manager, and/or the professional stage manager to discuss your area of interest and experience and to look over your materials. You’re more than welcome to ask any questions about the program and the organization.

4. We will contact you with the results of casting and placement by **February 10, 2020.**

**STIPENDS**

Most apprentice stipends total approximately $1,000 to cover your incidental living expenses.

**HOUSING**

NDSF will provide housing for all students involved in the program, or if you reside in your own housing you may receive a $500 housing stipend.