



NOTRE DAME SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

2021 APPRENTICE PROGRAM INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS

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, providing exceptional and unparalleled educational opportunities in a professional 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. Apprentices have gone on to enjoy careers in acting, design, administration, and production.

Invitations to join the Apprentice Program are issued once applicants have completed auditions and/or interviews to gauge their skills and interests. Accepted students participate simultaneously in a traveling outdoor production performed in regional green spaces, and in a professional production performed in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. In both cases, 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 that include voice, speech, text, movement, stage combat, production management, and lighting, set, and costume construction.

The ongoing development of the Apprentice Program through the season is shared by the Producing Artistic Director of the Notre Dame Shakespeare Festival, the director of a given production, the Production Manager, and noted local and national figures. Apprentices are also personally mentored by selected artists and production team members from the professional company production.

2021 SEASON PRODUCTIONS

PROFESSIONAL COMPANY – A Midsummer Night's Dream , August 13-29

COMMUNITY COMPANY – ShakeScenes Goes Beyond Zoom

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

Student acting roles for both the Professional and Touring Company productions depend on auditions. Production and administrative staff positions are based upon interviews, specific interest, experience, and the needs of the company.

IMPORTANT 2021 DATES

AP Auditions Live via Zoom (OR submit a video by) May 20, 2021 (12-5pm)

Costume Shop Opens Monday, June 21, 2021

Scene Shop Opens Tuesday, July 6, 2021

Housing Available Sunday, July 17-18, 2021

Acting Company Arrivals Sunday, July 18

First day of Professional Company Rehearsals: Tuesday, July 20

Company Welcome Picnic (limited interaction areas) Monday, June 19

First PC Dress Rehearsal: Wednesday, August 4 (Tentative)

Tech: Thursday, August 5-Saturday, August 7

PC Preview Performances: Thursday, August 12 at 7:30PM

PC Opening Performance: Friday, August 13 at 7:30pm PC

PC Regular Performances:

Saturday, August 14 | 7:30pm

Sunday, August 15 | 7:30pm

WEEK TWO:

Tuesday, August 17 | 7:30pm

Wednesday, August 18 | 7:30pm

Thursday, August 19 | 7:30pm

Friday, August 20 | 7:30pm

Saturday, August 21 | 7:30pm

Sunday, August 22 | 7:30pm

WEEK THREE:

Tuesday, August 24 | 7:30pm

Wednesday, August 25 | 7:30pm

Thursday, August 26 | 7:30pm

Friday, August 27 | 7:30pm

Saturday, August 28 | 7:30pm
Sunday, August 29 | 7:30pm

STRIKE Immediately following the performance until 12:00am.

You must be available for all class, rehearsal, performance, and strike times.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

1. All students must complete an Apprentice Program Application. Fill out the Google form OR bring an application hard copy to the audition/interview. It must be filled out completely. Contact the NDSF offices by phone if you do not have online access.
2. Please include as much information about your experience as possible, whether it be on stage or behind the scenes. There are many opportunities to work with NDSF from acting to building to producing!
3. If you do not have a headshot, we may ask to take a digital photograph of you during your audition/interview. If you have a photo and/or resume, please upload it with your Google Form, OR email to NDSFAuditions@nd.edu.

ACTING AUDITION INFORMATION

1. Actors should prepare one classical monologue* – it need not be Shakespeare – that is 1 minute or shorter. Your monologue should be memorized.

* What monologue should I do?

Ideally, a Shakespeare monologue you know well enough to receive adjustments, to be able to play with these quickly without worrying about lines. Other classical or early-modern playwrights also are great, as is performing a piece from the announced play(s) in the season.

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 auditions as completely as possible. Auditions are like an interview where you want to appear knowledgeable, flexible, and eager to be part of the company.
5. Please know that your apprenticeship audition is for the Professional Company.

Students share the stage with professionals. There is no Touring Company for 2021.

6. Tlaloc Rivas, the director of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, will lead the auditions. Additional NDSF colleagues may attend, as well, including Deb Gasper, General Manager, and Grant Mudge, the Ryan Producing Artistic Director of Notre Dame Shakespeare Festival.

TECHNICAL AND PRODUCTION INTERVIEW INFORMATION

1. You will need to prepare a resume and/or portfolio to demonstrate your work and experience. 2. You will most likely meet with Jen Kazmierczak, Production Manager for the Notre Dame Shakespeare Festival, and/or the professional stage manager. 3. We'll speak with you about your area of interest and your experience and look over your materials. You're more than welcome to ask any questions about the program and the organization.

CASTING AND PLACEMENT

1. Final casting and apprenticeship placement decisions will be made by Producing Artistic Director Grant Mudge, Production Manager Jen Kazmierczak, as well as the directors of the Professional Company production(s), and the professional stage manager. 2. Student acting roles depend on auditions. Production and administrative staff positions will be filled based on expressed interest, experience, and the needs of the company. 3. There are several outcomes of the Apprentice Program audition/placement process:

(a) you are invited to take an acting role in the Professional Company production; or

(b) you are not invited to take a role in Professional Company production, but are invited to take a production position supporting one or more of the shows; or

(c) you are not invited to take a role in the production, but offered a position supporting one or both shows; or

(d) we may not be able to offer you a role or a production position with us this year but would encourage you to audition/interview next season.

3. We will contact you with the results of the casting and placement process prior to **May 24, 2021**.

HIRING PROCEDURES

- All employees may be asked to complete a background check. This is executed online through Human Resources and is necessary for NDSF to hire you for the summer.
- All employees may be asked to personally bring two forms of identification (i.e. Driver's License and Social Security card) to Human Resources for verification of employment eligibility.

STIPENDS

- Most stipends total approximately \$1,350 to cover incidental living expenses.
- If you are a Notre Dame student, you will be paid bi-monthly via direct deposit. You will be furnished with the appropriate forms. **Taxes will be taken out of these deposits.**
- If you are a Notre Dame graduate, you will be hired as a Notre Dame employee and paid bi-weekly via direct deposit. You will be furnished with the appropriate forms. **Taxes will be taken out of these deposits.**
- If you are a Saint Mary's student or another college or university (including recent graduates), you will be hired as a Notre Dame employee and paid bi-monthly via direct deposit. You will be furnished with the appropriate forms. **Taxes will be taken out of these deposits.**

HOUSING

NDSF can provide housing for students involved in the program:

1. Live in specific, multi-bedroom off-campus housing set up by NDSF.
2. Live in alternate housing you find and set up entirely on your own. There are a limited number of additional housing stipends, typically up to \$500, for rent only. If you choose to arrange independent housing, you must apply by email to Debra Gasper for this additional stipend. You will need to furnish NDSF with a copy of your rental agreement signed by both you (or your signatory) and the landlord in order to receive your stipend.