

SYNOPSIS

IN SCOTLAND, MACBETH, A GREAT WARRIOR, MEETS THREE WEIRD SISTERS ON THE HEATH. THEY TELL HIM THAT HE WILL BE CROWNED KING, SETTING IN MOTION A TERRIBLE CHAIN OF EVENTS. MACBETH IS THE ULTIMATE STORY OF AMBITION, MAGIC, MADNESS, AND BLOOD. IN THE WORLD OF THIS PLAY, 'FAIR IS FOUL AND FOUL IS FAIR.'

MISSION

THE MISSION OF THE CYS YOUTH COMPANY PROGRAM IS TO BUILD COMMUNITY AMONG HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ACROSS DIVERSE BACKGROUNDS THROUGH THEIR WORK AS AN ARTISTIC ENSEMBLE. YOUTH COMPANY ACTORS REPRESENT 13 DIFFERENT COMMUNITIES THROUGHOUT THE CHICAGOLAND AREA, AND A VERITABLE MELTING POT OF ETHNICITIES, CULTURES, AND LIFE EXPERIENCES. THEY ARE BROUGHT TOGETHER THROUGH THE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE, WHO'S UNIVERSAL STORIES AND CHARACTERS TRANSCEND TIME AND CULTURAL BOUNDARIES.

YOUTH COMPANY DIRECTOR JEREMY OHRINGER

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR MANON SPADARO

FIGHT CHOREOGRAPHER SARAH FORNACE

TECHNICAL ASSISTANT MICHELE STINE

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON CHICAGO YOUTH SHAKESPEARE, PLEASE
VISIT US ON THE WEB AT

WWW.CHICAGOYOUTHSHAKESPEARE.ORG

ON THEMES, TEENS, AND THE ARTISTIC PROCESS...

EXPLORING THE JUXTAPOSITION BETWEEN LITERAL SYMBOLS AND THE OFTEN AMBIGUOUS, ANTITHETICAL WORLD OF THE PLAY WAS THE LAUNCHING POINT FOR OUR WORK. MACBETH IS "A TALE OF BLOOD": BLOOD IS THE PRIMARY SYMBOL OF THE PLAY, AND THE MOST SPOKEN WORD IN THE TEXT. MACBETH IS ALSO A PLAY OF OPPOSITES WHERE THINGS ARE NOT WHAT THEY SEEM: "FAIR IS FOUL AND FOUL IS FAIR", "THERE'S DAGGERS IN MEN'S SMILES". THESE IDEAS WERE NOT UNFAMILIAR TO OUR HIGH SCHOOL ACTORS. NO LONGER CHILDREN, BUT NOT YET FULLY GROWN, THE LIFE OF A TEENAGER IS OFTEN AMBIGUOUS, FILLED WITH ANTITHESIS, AND OPERATES 24/7 AT A HIGH LEVEL OF INTENSITY. THROUGHOUT OUR REHEARSAL PROCESS CYS STUDENTS EXPLORED THE LITERAL VS. METAPHOR, WHILE HEIGHTENING THE ANTITHESIS FOUND IN THE LANGUAGE, IN THE ACTION OF THE PLAY, AND IN THE ARC OF THEIR CHARACTERS' STORIES.

AT CYS, PROCESS BEGINS AND ENDS WITH ENSEMBLE. WORKING COLLECTIVELY TO TAKE CREATIVE RISKS AND MAKE STRONG CHOICES ON STAGE REQUIRES A SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE CREATIVE FOUNDATION, FUELED BY COLLABORATION, INNOVATION, AND DIVERSITY OF APPROACHES AND IDEAS. WE USED A VARIETY OF TRAINING METHODS TO HELP OUR YOUNG ACTORS GET AT THE HEART OF THE TEXT, THEIR CHARACTERS, AND THE STORY. THESE METHODS INCLUDE VIEWPOINTS TRAINING WHICH DECONSTRUCTS ELEMENTS OF SPACE AND TIME, SUZUKI TO DEVELOP PRECISION, STILLNESS AND ENERGY IN THE BODY, AND EXERCISES FROM MEISNER TECHNIQUE TO HELP STUDENTS WORK OFF OF ONE ANOTHER AND REACT SPONTANEOUSLY IN THE MOMENT. THROUGHOUT THIS PROCESS WE ENCOURAGED 'PLAY' OR BEING PRESENT AND REACTIVE IN THE MOMENT, WHILE LETTING THE TEXT GUIDE US TO THE HEART OF THE STORY.

SPECIAL THANKS

**SARAH FORNACE
THE LINCOLN PARK CULTURAL CENTER
JOHN SCHMITZ
STACY CANTOR
HARRIET RABINOWITZ
DANIELLA ZIMMERMAN**

**MARILYN HALPERIN
BACKROOM SHAKESPEARE
THE ATHENAEUM
JENNIFER QUINN
MARTIE AND BOB SACHS
DAVID MICHEL**

AND TO ALL OF YOU!

WHAT'S NEXT FOR CYS?

We are also excited to announce our Summer Youth Company Program – a six-week intensive to mount a play that will tour to different parks and schools throughout the Chicagoland area!

June 23rd – July 25th

Monday-Friday 11am-4pm

Performances: July 26th – August 4th, 2014

Tuition: \$1500*

***Selection for the 2014 Summer Youth Company is based upon audition only, and auditions are need-blind. No student accepted into the program can be turned away based on their ability to pay tuition, and tuition waivers are available to all students demonstrating financial need. CYSC auditions are open to all high school students, grades 9-12, throughout the Chicago metropolitan and suburban areas.**

AUDITIONS WILL BE MARCH 15TH – 22ND BY APPOINTMENT

TO SCHEDULE AN AUDITION EMAIL

INFO@CHICAGOYOUTHSHAKESPEARE.ORG

The Battle of the Bard
Team Shakespeare Competition

April 26, 2014

hosted by
Francis W. Parker School
The Diane and David B. Heller Auditorium
330 W. Webster
Chicago, IL 60614



www.chicagoyouthshakespeare.org

773.675.9592



March 1st – March 8th, 2014

**At the Lincoln Park Cultural Center
2045 N. Lincoln Park West, Chicago, IL**