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Your tax-deductible gift to CYS today could change the life of a Chicago area teenager forever. Please consider giving what you can. Donate online at: bit.ly/CYSDonate

And help spread the word for free by following @CYShakes on social media!



SAVE THE DATE!
12.30.19

KING LEAR

A STAGED READING

Featuring some of Chicago's most beloved professional Shakespeare actors, alongside student alums of the CYS Ensemble program

ONE NIGHT ONLY
(AND IT'S GOING TO BE EPIC!)

William Shakespeare's

Twelfth Night

or What You Will

CHICAGO
youth SHAKESPEARE

be not afraid of greatness

The Players

Ruth Andrews, **Valentine/Fabian**

Siah Berlatsky, **Malvolio**

Levi Donnell, **Sir Andrew Aguecheek**

Casey Kosmach, **Sebastian**

Dalya Lessem Elneave, **Captain/Antonio**

Midge Makowski, **Maria**

Daniel Newgarden, **Duke Orsino**

Olivia Pastor, **Viola**

Esther Segal, **Olivia**

Luke Steadman, **Sir Toby Belch**

Israel Terrell, **Feste**

Kevin Johnson and Henry McCammond-Watts, **Musicians/Officers**

The Ringleaders Summer Shakes Interns & Staff

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Artistic Intern, Choreographer

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Artistic Apprentice, Alumni
Relations Coordinator

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Artistic Intern
Production Manager

Katie Fournier
Design Intern, (Costumes)

Schuyler Harris
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Services Intern

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Artistic Staff

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Founding Artistic Director

*CYS PROGRAM ALUM

About the Play

A (director-less) Director's Note

William Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night, or What You Will* follows the story of twins, Viola and Sebastian, who lose each other when they are shipwrecked on the island of Illyria. This separation sparks some new relationships, love at first sight, and plenty of surprises!

The play was written sometime between 1601 and 1602 as entertainment for the annual Twelfth Night celebration at the end of the Christmas season. The title, *Twelfth Night or What You Will* refers to the date and celebratory mood of the event for which it was written, rather than the action of the play itself. It even invites the audience to come up with their own title, (i.e., *or What You Will*).

Much like Shakespeare's Forest of Arden in *As You Like It* or the fairy forest in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Twelfth Night's* Illyria represents a place where the characters in the story find each other, and discover their true selves in the process.

At CYS, our process functions in much the same way. One of our students aptly described it as "organized chaos" - a space where young adults can discover Shakespeare on their own terms, where ideas are shared spontaneously, and where community is created organically through collaborative art-making and shared discovery. For these reasons, you won't find a "Director" listed in your program. Instead, CYS productions are developed collaboratively by the ensemble members themselves, with guidance and support from CYS artistic staff.

About CYS

Chicago Youth Shakespeare [CYS] is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to putting Shakespeare's timeless works into the hands of 21st-century teenagers. CYS provides innovative educational outreach programs and performances that connect young adults across Chicagoland with Shakespeare and with each other.

Board of Directors

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