

Audition Notice

**CHURLISH
CHIDING
OF WINTER
WINDS:**
A SHAKESPEARIMENT

Important Dates

Auditions

November 4 & 5

4:30-6:30p

[CALLBACK LIST posted Nov 6 by 12p]

Callbacks

November 7, 4:30-7:30p

[CAST LIST posted November 13 by 6p]

Rehearsals

1st Rehearsal Tues Nov 19, 4:30-7p

Nov 19 - Jan 3, Mon-Fri 4:30-7p

No rehearsals: Nov 25-29,

Dec 5-6, Dec 23-27, Jan 1, 2025

Tech & Dress Rehearsals

Sun Jan 5, 12-6p

Mon Jan 6 - Wed Jan 8, 4:30-9p

Thurs Jan 9, 6-9:30p

Performances

Fri Jan 10, 6p Call / 7p GO

Sat Jan 11, 1p Call / 2p GO

Sun Jan 12, 1p Call / 2p GO

Fri Jan 17, 6p Call / 7p GO

Sat Jan 18, 1p Call / 2p GO

Sun Jan 19, 1p Call / 2p GO

School Day Matinees

Wed Jan 15

8:00a Call/ 9:30a GO/ 12p GO

Audition Info

- Auditions are by appointment only and are held in thirty minute increment groups. Appointments can be made by calling 619-239-1311.
- Please arrive at least 15 mins early to your assigned time slot with your Audition Form completely filled out, front and back with a current headshot. Parent/Guardian section must be completed and signed prior to submitting form.
- Students should prepare a 1 minute monologue and be prepared to share a brief, informal personal reflection on something they associate with the winter season.
- Please wear comfortable clothing you can move in and secure, closed-toe shoes to both Auditions and Callbacks.

Eligibility

- Students must be enrolled in a WINTER CLASS prior to auditioning. Students not registered will not be allowed to audition.
- Students must be age 8-18 by Opening Night [Jan 10], and have their crew credit up to date, prior to scheduling an audition slot.

Production Info

Production Fee

- There is a \$125 Production Fee for Cast Members and a \$75 Fee for Crew Members. Production Fees are due by Opening Night.
- Included with this fee, students will receive a production t-shirt, pizza dinner on opening, a headshot button (logo button for crew), 1 admittance to strike dinner, memory book and digital access to production photos

Parent Volunteers

- No production here at JT would be possible without the time and assistance of our parent volunteers. As such, we do require each student's parents or guardians to sign up for a minimum number of volunteer slots over the course of the production. Details on volunteer opportunities will be shared by your Parent Chair(s) at the start of rehearsals.

Conflicts

- It is very important that you list ALL conflicts on the audition form. This includes JT Classes/Camps, school events, sports, appointments, vacations, etc. Any conflicts that arise that were not listed prior to casting may not be approved or may result in student being dismissed from the production.
- Students cannot have any conflicts during Tech Rehearsals or for any Performance dates to be eligible for casting.



CHURLISH CHIDING OF WINTER WINDS: A SHAKESPEARIMENT

From Director, David Goodwin

Churlish Chiding of the Winter Winds: A Shakespeariment is a devised performance piece that will be created by San Diego Junior Theatre students under the guidance and collaboration of myself, David Goodwin. The show will explore a number of Shakespeare's writings on themes related to the winter season: the cycles of death and rebirth observed in the seasons, reckoning with time's power to both heal and destroy, and our relationship with (or estrangement from) the natural world. Shakespeare's work will serve as inspiration and provide a point of departure from which students will weave a performance incorporating their own experiences, reflections, and imaginings. They will open a dialogue with Shakespeare's language and imagery that spans over four-hundred years of human experience and collides contemporary performance with the birth of the English language.

To create the show the cast will be immersed in a devising process that involves elements of playwriting, songwriting, improvisation, physical theatre, and dance. One of the most exciting aspects of the devising process is that it allows individual performers to pursue what interests them most and serve the ensemble in the ways that best accommodates their talents and passions. I could not be more excited to be leading the development of this project which weaves together the two main threads of my work as a theater artist and educator over the past twenty years: creating original work and Shakespearean performance.

A Contemporary Winter Pastoral

Any consideration of Shakespeare and the seasons leads directly through his pastoral plays. Pastoral is a genre that was an idealized fantasy of rural life: shepherds and shepherdesses living lives of simplicity and purity, passing endless happy hours in perfect communion with the natural world. This was largely a response to the quality of urban life during much of the Elizabethan era. Life in the city was often crowded, dirty, noisy, and dangerous. As a young man who had left the small town of Stratford-Upon-Avon to seek his fortune in London, the contrast between city and country was one Shakespeare would have been deeply familiar with. That Shakespeare would have explored the dramatic possibilities of this contrast seems inevitable. However, when Shakespeare works within the genre of pastoral, he rarely provides an escapist fantasy of shepherds living simple, carefree lives. Shakespeare often employed pastoral to explore our relationship to the natural world, but he tended to satirize or even upend the form while embracing the elements that appealed to him.

Plays we will be drawing upon in crafting the show include **As You Like It**, **A Midsummer Night's Dream**, **The Winter's Tale**, and even **King Lear**. All of these plays collide traditional pastoral escapism with stark evocations of the reality of a life lived close to nature. The pattern that emerges in these works is one where a character is expelled from urban society through some form of injustice or disturbance, must assume some form of disguise in a rural or wilderness setting, and through embracing the rhythms of the natural world is eventually healed and restored. It was in these works that we find Shakespeare's most compelling treatment of the seasons, as they all involve characters who leave the comforts and protections of their homes to "out-face the winds and persecutions of the sky" in transformative confrontations with nature. And in Shakespearean pastoral, winter is the time of year when that confrontation is sharpest and most fierce.