

Dramarama Theater Tours and Aurora Theatre Company presents
Oregon Shakespeare Festival Theater Tour
September 16-21, 2020

WEDNESDAY, September 16	
9:00am	Meet the group at Aurora Theatre to board our bus for Ashland, Oregon. Coffee and breakfast treats will be available in the Aurora lobby and the restrooms will be available.
11:15am-12:30pm	Our first stop will be for lunch (not included) at Granzella’s in Williams. Granzella’s has several areas to eat plus a sandwich counter. It is one funky place!
4:30pm	Arrive at the Ashland Springs Hotel , our home for the next four days. Our hotel is an oasis of gentility and elegance centrally located in the quaint town of Ashland, Oregon. Built in 1925 and lovingly restored, this downtown landmark is a haven of taste reminiscent of small European hotels. Part of the “charm” is the original elevator that can only take five people at a time! Helen will hand out keys and invite you to enjoy refreshments in the lobby while we wait to ascend to our rooms. Check into your room, relax and get ready for our welcome reception.
6:00pm	Welcome buffet at Ashland Springs (included). Please wear your name tag to this event.
8:00pm	Performance: <i>Confederates</i> ~ by Dominique Morisseau ~ directed by Nataki Garrett. Thomas Theatre “A far-from-civil legacy” Sara, an enslaved woman who wants to fight for the Union in the Civil War, plots an increasingly dangerous path to freedom. Sandra, a brilliant modern-day political science professor, is forced to navigate acts of hostility and the undermining of her authority at work. Leaping back and forth between the parallel struggles of two Black women living 160 years apart, MacArthur “Genius” Fellow Dominique Morisseau (<i>Ain’t Too Proud</i>) takes an unflinching and illuminating look at the complicated and ongoing legacies of institutional racism and gender bias in today’s America. This thought-provoking, dynamically engaging, world-premiere American Revolutions co-commission with Penumbra Theatre.

Post-performance	Walk back to the hotel, grab a cookie and join our artistic guide for a discussion of the play we just experienced.
THURSDAY, September 17	
TBA	Breakfast in our hotel.
10:30am	Free Time! Explore the shops of Ashland. NO SALES TAX!
9:30am-10:30am	We will meet in a private room (you can bring your coffee with you) for a chat with an OSF guest artist. Our artistic guide from Aurora will facilitate the discussion and we open the floor for questions.
10:30am-1:30pm	Free time to check out Ashland shops and enjoy lunch on your own at the many restaurants Ashland has to offer.
1:30pm	<p>Optional Performance: <i>Midsummer Nights' Dream</i> ~ by William Shakespeare ~ directed by Directed by Joseph Haj Angus Bowmer Theatre</p> <p>"The course of true love never did run smooth" Hermia loves Lysander, Demetrius loves Hermia, Helena loves Demetrius, Theseus and Hippolyta are almost newlyweds and the already-complex marriage of the immortal queen and king of Fairyland is further complicated when one of them falls for an amateur actor-turned-ass. Intrigued by the theory that Shakespeare wrote this play as a wedding gift, director Joseph Haj (who helmed 2015's much-beloved <i>Pericles</i>) probes the pitfalls and pay-offs of relationships, be they budding or eternal. Seeking out the grace, beauty and delight embedded in the comedy, this joyful, music-laden production invites us to feel as well as laugh. This production of <i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i> is part of Shakespeare in American Communities, a program of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest.</p>
4:00pm	Free time! Dinner on your own – no group dinner tonight!
8:00pm	<p>Performance: <i>The Copper Children</i> ~ by Karen Zacarias ~ Directed by Shariffa Ali World Premiere American Revolutions Angus Bowmer Theatre</p> <p>A new American Revolutions play from the writer of <i>Destiny of Desire</i> Based on the true history of "orphan trains" that transported immigrant children (mostly Irish) to homes in the West, this world-premiere play explores the events that led to the sensational (and now-forgotten) "Trial of the Century" custody case that stirred the nation into a frenzied debate about children, law, race, class and religion. Directed by Shariffa Ali, <i>The Copper Children</i> takes a sharp look at the collision of good intentions and despicable behavior, blending humor, tragedy, joy and unsentimental social commentary.</p>

	Development of <i>The Copper Children</i> was supported by grants from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust.
Post-performance	Walk back to the hotel, grab a cookie and join our artistic guide for a discussion of the play we just experienced.
FRIDAY, September 18	
TBA	Breakfast in our hotel.
10:30am	Board our bus for winetasting in the Applegate wine region and a private luncheon at the beautiful, creek side vineyard and home of former Aurora Board member, Carol Neil and her wine-making husband, Joe. After lunch, on the way home to Ashland, we will stop in the charming town of Jacksonville.
5:15pm	Dinner on your own at the many fine restaurants in Ashland <i>or</i> if you signed up to join the group for a pre-paid dinner, meet in the lobby to walk to our restaurant.
8:00pm	<p>Performance: <i>Bring Down the House – Part 1</i> ~ by William Shakespeare ~ directed & adapted by Rosa Joshi Kate Wisniewski Thomas Theatre</p> <p>Shakespeare's Henry VI trilogy performed in two parts</p> <p>Henry V has died unexpectedly, passing the crown to his young son, Henry VI, and setting off a series of high-stakes political intrigues and battles that result in the loss of England's French territories and spark the War of the Roses. This epic two-part adaptation of Shakespeare's Henry VI trilogy by Rosa Joshi and Kate Wisniewski is also directed by Joshi, who continues the journey she began in her lavishly praised OSF debut production of <i>Henry V</i>, bringing Shakespeare's language to visceral life with a diverse all-female and non-binary cast.</p> <p>This production of <i>Bring Down the House</i> is part of Shakespeare in American Communities, a program of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest.</p>
Post-performance	Walk back to the hotel, grab a cookie and join our artistic guides for a discussion of the play we just experienced.
SATURDAY, September 19	
TBA	Breakfast in our hotel.

<p>9:45am</p>	<p>Backstage Tour – meet in the lobby for the short walk our starting spot. Discover what’s behind the shows on a walking tour with a company member. Begin with a brief talk about the history of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival and the intricacies of operating a theatre in repertory. The tour begins with a 20-minute docent talk in the seating area of the Thomas Theatre. After the talk, we begin the guided walking portion of the tour, including some of the backstage areas of the Elizabethan and Bowmer Theatres. The tour entails approximately 6 flights of stairs! The total time for the tour is about 1 hour 45 minutes and it ends back at the main brick courtyard. Tour stops include theatre spaces as well as backstage, Green Room and other behind-the-scenes areas. Please note: the tour travels through outdoor spaces so please dress accordingly.</p>
<p>12:00pm</p>	<p>Free time to grab a quick lunch and walk to our next performance.</p>
<p>1:30pm</p>	<p>Performance: <i>Bring Down the House – Part II</i> ~ by William Shakespeare ~ directed & adapted by Rosa Joshi Kate Wisniewski Thomas Theatre</p> <p>“How sweet a thing it is to wear a crown” Civil rebellion stirs in England and tensions mount between the Houses of York and Lancaster. The Duke of York makes an open claim to the throne and Queen Margaret takes command of the Lancastrian forces, overriding her husband, King Henry VI. York is drawn into a bloody conflict and his sons rise among the ranks, including the young Richard—soon to be Richard III. In Part Two of this powerful and resonant adaptation of the <i>Henry VI</i> trilogy, we see the development of the man who would become the most infamous tyrant of Shakespeare’s history plays. Produced in association with the upstart crow collective, both parts of <i>Bring Down the House</i> are performed in repertory, sharing the same all-female and non-binary cast.</p>
<p>5:15pm</p>	<p>Dinner on your own at the many fine restaurants in Ashland or if you signed up, join the group for a pre-paid dinner. Meet in the lobby and walk a few blocks to our restaurant.</p>
<p>8:00pm</p>	<p>Performance: <i>Bernhardt/Hamlet</i> ~ by Theresa Rebeck ~ Directed by Dawn Monique Williams Allen Elizabethan Theatre</p> <p>“The greatest part ever written...the greatest actress ever born.” The year is 1897, and the French actress Sarah Bernhardt—a giant of the stage, with a level of celebrity the world has never before seen—is determined to play one of Shakespeare’s most coveted roles: Hamlet, Prince of Denmark. Director Dawn Monique Williams transforms the Allen Elizabethan Theatre into a Belle Epoch playhouse for Theresa Rebeck’s fact-meets-fiction story of a larger-than-life personality. <i>Bernhardt/Hamlet</i> is a profound and profoundly funny comedy about a woman who unabashedly</p>

	shattered society's expectations and glass ceilings on her way to becoming a legend.
Post-performance	Walk back to the hotel, grab a cookie and join our artistic guides for a discussion of the play we just experienced.
SUNDAY, September 20	
6:30-9:00am	Breakfast in our hotel.
9:30am	We will meet in a private room (you can bring your coffee with you) for a chat with an OSF guest artist.
10:30am	Free time for lunch, last chance to bring home the goods and save all those taxes!
1:30pm	<p>Optional Performance: <i>Everything that Never Happened</i> ~ by Sarah B. Mantell ~ Directed by Jessica Kubzansky Thomas Theatre</p> <p>“It’s all about what we leave out” Taking place in the gaps between what Shakespeare made and the realities of Jewish history, this play reveals everything you didn’t see take place in <i>The Merchant of Venice</i>. Jessica, daughter of Shylock, falls in love with Lorenzo, a Christian, and decides she must leave the father she loves, her culture, and her religion in order to marry him. Rich with humor and heartbreak, up-and-coming talent Sarah B. Mantell’s new play plumbs the three-dimensional humanity of some of Shakespeare’s most iconic characters, and the complexity at the heart of all of their actions. Jessica Kubzansky directs this time-bending tale of disguise, assimilation, pomegranates and everything Shakespeare left out.</p>
5:30pm	Farewell dinner with the group at Amuse, Ashland’s finest French restaurant (included).
8:00pm	<p>Performance: <i>The Tempest</i> ~ by William Shakespeare ~ Directed by Nicholas C. Avila Allen Elizabethan Theatre</p> <p>“A sea-change into something rich and strange” Prospero, the exiled duke of Milan, has been raising his daughter on mystical island and using magic to subjugate its natives. Twelve years after banishment, with vengeance weighing heavily on his mind, Prospero turns his powers toward a passing ship carrying his enemies and the king of Naples, causing it to wreck in a storm. As the castaways find themselves at the mercy of his supernatural machinations, Prospero comes face to face with the past, an opportunity to find long-lost justice, and the hope of returning to</p>

	his rightful place in the world. With a cast of familiar OSF actors, Nicholas C. Avila directs an exploration of the good, the bad and the gray areas of human nature.
Post-performance	Join Aurora staff for farewell drinks! Location TBA.
MONDAY, September 21	
TBA	Breakfast in our hotel.
9:30am	Board our bus for departure to Aurora Theatre, Berkeley.
12:30pm	Lunch stop at TBA in Redding.
6:30pm	Arrive at Aurora!