

# CLASSICAL · ACTORS · ENSEMBLE



Minnesota  
Humanities  
Center

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PRESS IMAGE (available late May): [classicalactorsensemble.org/press/](https://classicalactorsensemble.org/press/)

## **Classical Actors Ensemble returns to parks this summer with *All's Well That Ends Well***

**Free, Family-Friendly Performances June 13 – July 13**

(Minneapolis, MN)—Classical Actors Ensemble (CAE) announces an 11th season of Shakespeare in Our Parks with a new production of *All's Well That Ends Well*. Directed by Producing Artistic Director Joseph Papke, this comedy will be performed in parks across the Twin Cities, June 13 – July 13, 2025, including partnership performances with Franconia Sculpture Park and the MN Humanities Center.

"*All's Well That Ends Well* has long intrigued scholars with its fairy tale structure and seemingly immature characters," said Joseph Papke. "Our production will explore the universal humanity behind the characters' actions, while embracing the ridiculous lengths to which love can drive us."

Written circa 1605-6, *All's Well* is a dark comedy and one of Shakespeare's less-commonly performed plays. The plot centers on Helena, a young commoner who loves the high born Count Bertram. When he leaves home to join the army, she takes matters into her own hands, following him to Paris and shaping events around her to create her own happy ending. CAE last staged *All's Well* in 2011, at the old Walker Church in south Minneapolis.

CAE honors Shakespeare's work by making high-quality entertainment available for all at no charge through its annual Shakespeare in Our Parks program. CAE encourages audiences to bring a picnic to enjoy this free outdoor entertainment for the entire family. In keeping with CAE's aesthetic, this production will include live, modern music performed by the cast.

Previous Shakespeare in Our Parks productions: *Twelfth Night* (2024), *Much Ado About Nothing* (2023), *Love's Labors Lost* (2022, 2014), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (2021, 2016), *The Merry Wives of Windsor* (2019), *Romeo & Juliet* (2018), *The Comedy of Errors* (2017), and *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* (2015).

### **THE ARTISTS**

The cast features several current or graduating U of M/Guthrie BFA students: Catherine Podlesak stars as Helena, Henry Zavos as Bertram, as well as George Kleven, Isaac Leer, Shannon O'Sullivan, Maya Pantanowitz, and Nate Turcotte. In addition, Tinne Rosenmeier plays the Countess, John Goodrich, the King, newcomer Tom Burr is featured as Parolles, and CAE stalwart Alan Tilson plays Lafew. Completing the cast are J. Emily Peabody and Jeremy Williams.

Scenic design is by Justin Hooper and costumes by Molly Smith. The production is directed by Joseph Papke.

(continued)

## PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

Friday, June 13, 7pm: [Lyndale Park Rose Garden, 4124 Roseway Rd, Mpls, MN 55409](#)  
Saturday, June 14, 7pm: [Lake of the Isles \(Newton Ave. S. and W. Lake of the Isles Pkwy, Mpls\)](#)  
Sunday, June 15, 7pm: [Matthews Park, 2318 29th Ave S, Mpls, MN 55406](#)  
Thursday, June 19, 7pm: [Tony Schmidt Park, 3500 Lake Johanna Blvd, Arden Hills, MN 55112](#)  
Friday, June 20, 7pm: [Newell Park, 900 Fairview Ave N, St Paul, MN 55104](#)  
Saturday, June 21, 7pm: [Lake of the Isles \(Newton Ave. S. and W. Lake of the Isles Pkwy, Mpls\)](#)  
Sunday, June 22, **3pm**: [Cedar Lake East Beach, 2000 S Upton Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55405](#)  
Thursday, June 26, 7pm: [Franconia Sculpture Park, 29836 St Croix Trail N, Shafer, MN 55074](#)  
Friday, June 27, 7pm: [Como Park Lakeside Pavilion, 1360 Lexington Pkwy N, St. Paul, MN 55103](#)  
Saturday, June 28, 7pm: [Lake of the Isles \(Newton Ave. S. and W. Lake of the Isles Pkwy, Mpls\)](#)  
Sunday, June 29, 7pm: [Jaycee Park, 474 Lock and Dam Road, Hastings, MN 55033](#)  
Thursday, July 3, 7pm: [North Loop Green, 350 North 5th St, Minneapolis, MN 55401](#)  
Friday, July 4, 7pm: [Highland Bridge Civic Plaza, 2219 Bohland Ave, St Paul, MN 55105](#)  
Saturday, July 5, 7pm: [Lake of the Isles \(Newton Ave. S. and W. Lake of the Isles Pkwy, Mpls\)](#)  
Sunday, July 6, **4pm**: [Normandale Lake Bandshell, 5901 W 84th St, Bloomington, MN 55438](#)  
Thursday, July 10, 7pm: [St. Clement's Church, 901 Portland Ave, St. Paul, MN 55104](#)  
Friday, July 11, 7pm: [Wolfe Park Amphitheater, 3700 Monterey Dr, St. Louis Park, MN 55416](#)  
Saturday, July 12, 7pm: [Lake of the Isles \(Newton Ave. S. and W. Lake of the Isles Pkwy, Mpls\)](#)  
Sunday, July 13, 7pm: [MN Humanities Center, 987 Ivy Ave E, St. Paul, MN 55106](#)

Runtime: ~two hours

## TICKETS

FREE and non-ticketed

Online pre-registration recommended for weather updates. Donations encouraged.

More information is available at [classicalactorsensemble.org](http://classicalactorsensemble.org).

Questions may be directed to the box office at [boxoffice@classicalactorsensemble.org](mailto:boxoffice@classicalactorsensemble.org) or 651.321.4024.

## ACCESSIBILITY

Contact the box office at [boxoffice@classicalactorsensemble.org](mailto:boxoffice@classicalactorsensemble.org) or 651.321.4024.

## ABOUT CLASSICAL ACTORS ENSEMBLE

Classical Actors Ensemble is a Twin Cities theater company that performs plays of the English Renaissance as they were originally intended: as popular entertainment for everyone. Since its founding by Producing Artistic Director Joseph Papke in 2009, CAE has presented 27 works by Shakespeare, Ford, Middleton, Dekker, Webster, Jonson, and Marlowe. CAE has produced Shakespeare in Our Schools tours to secondary schools across the region and mounted indoor productions at several Twin Cities spaces, but their current focus is the annual free Shakespeare in Our Parks summer tour. CAE's goal is to demonstrate why these works of art are considered classics and to freshly prove their relevance in today's world.

To learn more about the company, please visit [classicalactorsensemble.org](http://classicalactorsensemble.org).

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