

# CLASSICAL · ACTORS · ENSEMBLE



Minnesota  
Humanities  
Center

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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

## **Classical Actors Ensemble returns to parks this summer with *Love's Labor's Lost***

**Free, Family-Friendly Performances June 17 – July 17**

(Minneapolis, MN)—Classical Actors Ensemble (CAE) announces an 8th season of Shakespeare in Our Parks with a new production of *Love's Labor's Lost*. Co-directed by Hannah Steblay and Samantha V. Papke, this comedy will be performed in parks across the Twin Cities, June 17 – July 17, 2022, including partnership performances with Hennepin Theater Trust, Franconia Sculpture Park, Old Log Theater, and the MN Humanities Center.

"It's our favorite time of the year, when we get to share these plays with thousands of Minnesotans in their local parks," said Producing Artistic Director, Joseph Papke. "For many of them it will be their only Shakespeare in the year, and for some, their only play." He added, "we're particularly excited to work with our esteemed partnering organizations to help spread the word about these performances."

A comedy from early in Shakespeare's career, *Love's Labor's Lost* centers on the young King of Navarre and his three friends who swear off all worldly pleasures for three years in order to better themselves through study. Their plan is immediately put to the test when the Princess of France and her three ladies-in-waiting arrive on a diplomatic mission and the priorities of head and heart go to war!

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. The production is supported, in part, by the City of Saint Paul Cultural Sales Tax Revitalization Program (STAR grant).

Previous Shakespeare in Our Parks productions: *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (2021, 2016), *The Merry Wives of Windsor* (2019), *Romeo & Juliet* (2018), *The Comedy of Errors* (2017), *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* (2015), and *Love's Labors Lost* (2014).

### **THE ARTISTS**

The skilled cast is led by CAE stalwarts Tom Conry, Lucas Gerstner, Dominic Rodgers, and Alan Tilson; recent U of M/Guthrie BFA grads Cody Carlson, Garrett Hildebrandt, and current student Olivia Kemp; as well as Evan Bowen, Jackson Hoemann, Maddy LaRoche, Mia Martinez, Adri Mehra, Hadley Evans Nash, Katrina Stelk, and Twin Cities newcomer, Brandon Herring, as Berowne.

Scenic design is by Justin Hooper, costumes by Lolly Foy. The production is co-directed by Hannah Steblay and Samantha V. Papke. **(continued)**

## PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

Friday, June 17, 7pm: [Lyndale Park Rose Garden, 4124 Roseway Rd, Mpls, MN 55409](#)  
Saturday, June 18, 7pm: [Lake of the Isles \(Newton Ave. S. and W. Lake of the Isles Pkwy, Mpls\)](#)  
Sunday, June 19, 7pm: [Matthews Park, 2318 29th Ave S, Mpls, MN 55406](#)  
Thursday, June 23, 7pm: ["The Hennepin" rooftop, 900 Hennepin Ave S, Mpls, MN 55403](#)  
Friday, June 24, 7pm: [Normandale Lake Bandshell, 5901 W 84th St, Bloomington, MN 55438](#)  
Saturday, June 25, 7pm: [Lake of the Isles \(Newton Ave. S. and W. Lake of the Isles Pkwy, Mpls\)](#)  
Sunday, June 26, **3pm**: [Cedar Lake East Beach, 2000 S Upton Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55405](#)  
Thursday, June 30, 7pm: [Franconia Sculpture Park, 29836 St Croix Trail N, Shafer, MN 55074](#)  
Friday, July 1, 7pm: [Como Park Lakeside Pavilion, 1360 Lexington Pkwy N, St. Paul, MN 55103](#)  
Saturday, June 2, 7pm: [Lake of the Isles \(Newton Ave. S. and W. Lake of the Isles Pkwy, Mpls\)](#)  
Sunday, June 3, 7pm: [Harriet Island Target Stage, 110 Harriet Island Rd, St. Paul, MN 55107](#)  
Thursday, July 7, 7pm: [Tony Schmidt Park, 3500 Lake Johanna Blvd, Arden Hills, MN 55112](#)  
Friday, July 8, 7pm: [Newell Park, 900 Fairview Ave N, St Paul, MN 55104](#)  
Saturday, July 9, 7pm: [Lake of the Isles \(Newton Ave. S. and W. Lake of the Isles Pkwy, Mpls\)](#)  
Sunday, July 10, 7pm: [Old Log Theater, 5185 Meadville St, Excelsior, MN 55331](#)  
Thursday, July 14, 7pm: [St. Clement's Church, 901 Portland Ave, St. Paul, MN 55104](#)  
Friday, July 15, 7pm: [Wolfe Park Amphitheater, 3700 Monterey Dr, St. Louis Park, MN 55416](#)  
Saturday, July 16, 7pm: [Lake of the Isles \(Newton Ave. S. and W. Lake of the Isles Pkwy, Mpls\)](#)  
Sunday, July 17, 7pm: [MN Humanities Center, 987 Ivy Ave E, St. Paul, MN 55106](#)

Runtime: ~two hours

## TICKETS

FREE and non-ticketed (*except June 23, which is a ticketed fundraiser performance*).

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 26 works by Shakespeare, Ford, Middleton, Dekker, Webster, Jonson, and Marlowe. CAE annually produces a Shakespeare in Our Schools tour to secondary schools and the free Shakespeare in Our Parks summer tour. Recent indoor productions include *Hamlet* at Elision Playhouse in fall 2021. 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).