

# *Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream*

Spring Show 2024

Chisago Lakes Community Education & CLHS Theater

[www.clhstheater.weebly.com](http://www.clhstheater.weebly.com)

@clhstheater (instagram & Facebook)

## AUDITION INFORMATION

You will have to register through Chisago Lakes Community Education (as the spring show is a partnership with them). **Register [HERE](#) The fee is \$75.**

Auditions will be held **February 20 and February 22, 2024, 6:00pm -8:00 PM** at Chisago Lake High School in the PAC (door 33). Participants should prepare one of the monologues (at the end of the packet) to present. You will also be asked to read with another scene partner or two at auditions.

Once the show is cast you will receive a more detailed rehearsal schedule after the table read. We do our best to work around participant conflicts. **All actors will be expected to attend all assigned rehearsals.** *Please bring with you any conflicts to auditions.*

## COMMUNICATION THROUGHOUT THE SHOW

Production information will be emailed out every weekend. Please be on the lookout for weekly rehearsal emails (we use whatever email is on your audition form). Any communication done should be through emails.

## IMPORTANT DATES

<b>Prior To Auditions</b>	Register through Community ED, fill out the online questionnaire.
<b>Tues. Feb 20</b>	Auditions in PAC (6:00 PM-8:00 PM)
<b>Thurs. Feb 22</b>	Auditions in PAC (6:00 PM-8:00 PM)
<b>Tues. Feb 27</b>	First Cast meeting & table read! 6:00-8:00- Wildcat Center
<b>Mon. March 11</b>	First stage rehearsal (6:00 PM- PAC)
<b>Fri. April 25</b>	TECH WEEK begins- Mandatory rehearsals until 9:00 PM/ <b>NO EXCEPTIONS</b>
<b>Wed. May 1</b>	Dress Rehearsal
<b>Th. May 2</b>	Family & Friend Preview
<b>Fri. May 3</b>	Show #1-7:00 PM
<b>Sat. May 4</b>	Show #2-7:00 PM
<b>Sun. May 5</b>	Show #3-2:00 PM
<b>Sun. May 5</b>	Stage Strike (following final performance, dinner provided)

**\*\* SET BUILD DAYS TBD**

## CONTACT INFO

Rachel Lexvold  
Ian Lexvold

[rlexvold@isd2144.org](mailto:rlexvold@isd2144.org)  
[ilexvold@2144.org](mailto:ilexvold@2144.org)

Artistic Director  
Technical Director

## WHAT TO EXPECT

### AUDITIONS (FEBRUARY)

Participants will be asked to give any conflicts they have for the rehearsal time. They will then have their photo taken and present their monologue in front of spring play staff. They will then be put with a scene partner or into a small group to perform another side from the show. You will be emailed by staff by Feb. 23 of your role, please accept via email. Once all roles are accepted the cast list will be posted on [www.clhstheater.weebly.com](http://www.clhstheater.weebly.com) @clshtheater on Instagram and on Facebook Via CLHS theater & Community Ed.

- In auditions we are really looking for expression, creativity, preparedness and understanding of this Shakespearean text. Have fun with your monologue and don't be afraid to try something different.

### REHEARSALS (FEB-APRIL)

At the beginning of rehearsal we will have a couple days of table reads to become familiar with the text and do some activities to get SHakespeare on its feet. Rehearsals will run from 6:00-8:00, make sure to look at the calendar closely as sometimes you may only be called for part of the evening.

There will be a small break for Spring Break, a great time to memorize those lines, paraphrase our text, do some research and really become immersed and familiar with your role.

**Rehearsal resume March 11. Dates are set for March 11-May 5, M-F, 6:00-8:00 PM (no rehearsal: March 29)** Most people will not be called to rehearsal everyday, we start working with groups through scenes, the specific calendar will be handed out at the table read. Set builds will be worked into these dates, with one or two Saturday set build days if needed. Full cast rehearsal will tentatively begin around April 15, 2024.

### TECH WEEK (APRIL 25-MAY 3)

"Tech Week" is the final week leading up to the performances. April 23 & 24 will be our final run through in our space before tech week starts (April 25 will be a rehearsal, but in a different space). All participants should be ready to run the show at 6:30 pm, rehearsal these nights are scheduled until 9:00 PM.

### COSTUMES

Joleen is our fabulous costumer and will be taking your measurements at the table read the first week of rehearsals. Most costume pieces will be provided for you, with the exception of some times. But Joleen will be in contact about that.

## ABOUT THE SHOW

Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* is set in ancient Greece and the surrounding woods. We will be putting together a more classic feel of the show. A few subplots centered around love. One that follows four lovers, engaged in an ever changing love triangle. One that follows a group of actors rehearsing a play for a wedding reception. Both groups find themselves in mystical woods where mischievous fairies manipulate them with magic all while trying to help.

## ROLES

*doubling could be an option*

### Four Lovers (Royals)

**Hermia**- In love with Lysander, betrothed to Demetrius. As a result of the fairies' mischief with the love potion, both of the gentlemen suddenly fall in love with Helena, her best friend. Self-conscious about her short stature, Hermia suspects that Helena has wooed the men with her height.

**Lysander**- In love with Hermia, he cannot marry her openly because Egeus, her father, wishes her to wed Demetrius; after running away with Hermia, he becomes the victim of misapplied magic and wakes up in love with Helena.

**Helena**- Hermia's best friend, in love with Demetrius, but he doesn't love her back any more. Lacking confidence in her looks, Helena thinks that Demetrius and Lysander are mocking her when a potion mishap has Lysander and Demetrius to fall in love with her.

**Demetrius**- in love with Hermia & betrothed to her. Eventually he falls back in love with Helena, but his pursuit of Hermia is part of the reason the fairies work their magic on the young lovers.

### The Royals

**Theseus, duke of Athens**- engaged to Hippolyta-Theseus represents power and order throughout the play. He appears only at the beginning and end of the story.

**Hippolyta, queen of the Amazons**- to wed Theseus.

**Egeus, father to Hermia**-His severe insistence that Hermia either respect his wishes or be held accountable to Athenian law places him squarely outside the whimsical dream realm of the forest.

**Philostrate, master of the revels to Theseus**- responsible for organizing the entertainment for the duke's marriage celebration.

**The Mechanicals**- a group of lower class people practicing a play for Theseus' wedding reception. At the end of the show we do see their show within a show.

**Nick Bottom, weaver**- a bit full of himself and overconfident Pyramus in the play for Theseus's marriage celebration. Bottom is full of advice and self-confidence but frequently makes silly

mistakes and misuses language. Puck transforms his head into that of an ass mark the pinnacle of his foolish arrogance, in that state is when Titania falls in “love” with him.

**Peter Quince, carpenter** -lead of the crew. Quince is often shoved aside by the abundantly confident Bottom. During the play within a play, Quince plays the Prologue.

**Francis Flute, bellows-mender**, because he is the youngest of the crew, he is forced to play a young girl in love (similar to traditional Shakespeare), the “bearded” craftsman determined to speak his lines in a high, squeaky voice.

**Tom Snout, tinker**- Chosen to play Pyramus’s father in the craftsmen’s play,he ends up playing the part of Wall, dividing the two lovers.

**Snug**, joiner, who plays the lion in the “play”.

**Robin Starveling, tailor**- in the play within a play he is chosen to play Thisbe’s mother, but he ends up playing the part of Moonshine.

### The Fairies

**Oberon, king of the Fairies**-Oberon is initially at odds with his wife, Titania, because she refuses to relinquish control of a young prince whom he wants for a knight. Oberon’s desire for revenge on Titania leads him to send Puck to obtain the love-potion flower that creates so much of the play’s confusion and farce.

**Titania, queen of the Fairies**-Titania resists the attempts of her husband, Oberon, to make a knight of the young Indian prince that she has been given. Titania’s brief, potion-induced love for Nick Bottom is part of Oberon’s way to get the young prince.

**Robin Goodfellow/Puck- under Oberon’s service**- a mischievous fairy who delights in playing pranks on mortals. Puck is the closest thing the play has to a protagonist. His enchanting, mischievous spirit pervades the atmosphere, and his antics are responsible for many of the complications that propel the other main plots.

**Peaseblossom, Cobweb, Moth, Mustardseed**- fairies under the command of Titania, attend to Bottom after she falls in love with him.

## MONOLOGUE CHOICES

**Titania**- queen of the fairies. *What has just happened?* Act 2 Scene 1 is the first time we are introduced to the world of the fairies within the play. Puck has just introduced what is happening, and he has set the scene for the feud between the Titania and “her jealous Oberon – the king of the fairies. These two have fallen out over a changeling boy that Oberon “wants for his henchman”, but Titania will not surrender him.

Set your heart at rest:

The fairy land buys not the child of me.  
His mother was a votaress of my order:  
And, in the spiced Indian air, by night,  
Full often hath she gossip'd by my side,

And sat with me on Neptune's yellow sands,  
Marking the embarked traders on the flood,  
When we have laugh'd to see the sails conceive  
And grow big-bellied with the wanton wind;  
Which she, with pretty and with swimming gait

Following,—her womb then rich with my young squire,—  
Would imitate, and sail upon the land,  
To fetch me trifles, and return again,  
As from a voyage, rich with merchandise.  
But she, being mortal, of that boy did die;

And for her sake do I rear up her boy,  
And for her sake I will not part with him.

**Lysander**- one of the young lovers, at the beginning of the show he is in love with Hermia, but she is betrothed to another. *What has just happened?* He has just woke up under a spell and fallen in love with Helena.

Content with Hermia! No; I do repent

The tedious minutes I with her have spent.  
Not Hermia but Helena I love:  
Who will not change a raven for a dove?  
The will of man is by his reason sway'd;  
And reason says you are the worthier maid.

Things growing are not ripe until their season  
So I, being young, till now ripe not to reason;  
And touching now the point of human skill,  
Reason becomes the marshal to my will  
And leads me to your eyes, where I o'erlook

Love's stories written in love's richest book.

**Bottom**- one of the players rehearsing a play. *What has just happened?* The players are back on stage ready to rehearse again. Bottom, is requesting an addition to the play. Eventually his head is transformed into a donkey's head as part of a joke amongst the fairies.

Nay, you must name his name, and half his face must  
be seen through the lion's neck: and he himself  
must speak through, saying thus, or to the same  
defect,—'Ladies,'—or 'Fair-ladies—I would wish  
You,'—or 'I would request you,'—or 'I would  
entreat you,—not to fear, not to tremble: my life  
for yours. If you think I come hither as a lion, it  
were pity of my life: no I am no such thing; I am a  
man as other men are;' and there indeed let him name  
his name, and tell them plainly he is Snug the joiner.

**Helena**- one of the young lovers. In the beginning she is in love with Demetrius, who at the time does not return her love and is betrothed to another. *What has just happened?* Both young men under the spells of magic, have expressed their love toward her.

O spite! O hell! I see you all are bent  
To set against me for your merriment:  
If you were civil and knew courtesy,

You would not do me thus much injury.  
Can you not hate me, as I know you do,  
But you must join in souls to mock me too?  
If you were men, as men you are in show,  
You would not use a gentle lady so;

To vow, and swear, and superpraise my parts,  
When I am sure you hate me with your hearts.  
You both are rivals, and love Hermia;  
And now both rivals, to mock Helena:  
A trim exploit, a manly enterprise,

To conjure tears up in a poor maid's eyes  
With your derision! none of noble sort  
Would so offend a virgin, and extort  
A poor soul's patience, all to make you sport.