



WASHINGTON STATE THESPIANSSM

AN EDUCATIONAL THEATRE ASSOCIATION AFFILIATE

April 2023 Newsletter

Hello colleagues and friends,

I'm just arriving back at work after a desperately needed Spring Break; and I believe many of you are just now heading into your Spring Break. This is the time when I start dreaming up my plans for next year: which shows I'll be producing, what classes I'll have the opportunity to teach, and how I wish to shape my program. It is always helpful to have the dates for next year set, so everyone can plan accordingly. Below we have the tentative dates and locations for all our events (plus a few others we thought you should know about). They are pretty secure for planning purposes, and if there are any changes, we'll make a note of it in any future newsletters.

I wish you all a restful break and the endurance you need to push through your spring productions, Thespian inductions, and end of the year activities. We are almost there!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS for 2023-2024

Please note these dates are all tentative pending approval of facility use.

We have created a Google Calendar of all our meetings, events, and deadlines.

Feel free to add this to your own Google Calendar.

[WA STATE THESPIANS CALENDAR](#)

May 20, 2023 - Junior Thespian Festival at Nelsen Middle School, Renton

June 19 - 23, 2023 - ITF: International Thespian Festival

August 17 - 18, 2023 - ArtsTime Conference, Yakima

September 28 - 30, 2023 - EdTA Theatre Education Conference, FL

October 13, 2023 - Teacher In-Service, West side location TBD

October 28, 2023 - INTAF, North Central High School, Spokane

January 13, 2024 - East Thespys, Lewis & Clark High School, Spokane

January 13, 2024 - SW Thespys, Capital High School, Olympia

January 20, 2024 - NW Thespys, Nathan Hale High School, Seattle

March 15 - 16, 2024, State Thespian Festival, Central WA University, Ellensburg

March 20 - 23, 2024, USITT Conference, Seattle

5TH AVENUE TICKETS - Discounts

The 5th Avenue has granted a promo code for Thespians to use for tickets to see *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street* (April 21-May 14). The promo code is THESPIAN. It is good for \$29 tickets for any evening performance on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Sunday in zones 3, 4, and 5. Please note: there is a \$9 fee added to web and phone orders, but not on in person box office transactions.

<https://www.5thavenue.org/promo/thespian/>

BROADWAY ACROSS AMERICA & PARAMOUNT Discounts

Please promote these awesome Thespian perks to your theatre students and families!

[Print and post this flyer](#)

JUNIOR THESPIAN FESTIVAL:

Plans for a 2023 Junior Thespian Festival for May 20th are currently in the works. If you are interested in helping to plan the festival—or if you are interested in having your troupe participate—please contact Julie Olsen at jolsen@asbschool.org.

2023 Superintendent's High School Art Show:

This is the 50th Anniversary of the Art Show, and you can attend live at Benaroya Hall on Tuesday, May 30th at 1 p.m.

CLOCK HOURS - TRACKING SYSTEM

Washington Thespians has been added to the EDS PD Tracking System so for anyone who uses that website to track their PD hours (where you enter PD for re-certification) you can add your hours now.

NOTE FROM OUR FORMER CHAPTER DIRECTOR: RUBEN VANKEMPEN

Dear Friends,

I'm back in the directors chair – making my debut directing at Seattle Shakespeare Company. The musical adaptation of Shakespeare's Twelfth Night, which performs in the Center Theatre (Seattle Center lower level of the Armory). The show has a stellar cast and I can't wait for you to see it!

Please find below all the information you need to get tickets to see the show. Most of you know that a director's job is over after opening night, so don't expect to see me at the show unless you come during preview April 26, 27 or on opening night the 28th! If coming to the preview, I would recommend the 27th as we will still be in rehearsals for changes etc. through the end of the afternoon of opening on the 28th. Still come and see the show even if you can't make it on those days.

Hope you can come to have fun with the cast in this vibrant modern setting of Twelfth Night. I'm hoping I can see you. Myrnie and I leave for Paris again on May 3rd.

*As always – Cheers,
Ruben*

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Information:

Join us for friends and family performances of Twelfth Night. Use promo code ILLYRIA during checkout or mention it to the box office to get \$20 tickets for performances on April 26, 27, 29, 30, and May 3, 4.

Plot

Viola and her brother Sebastian are separated in a devastating shipwreck. Naturally, Viola decides to disguise herself as a man in this new land and, now as Cesario, gets a job for Duke Orsino, with whom she instantly falls in love. Duke

Orsino, however, loves the countess Olivia, and sends Viola-as-Cesario to woo her. Olivia, unaware of Viola's disguise, falls in love with Cesario. Meanwhile, unbeknownst to Viola, Sebastian has been rescued and is about to add another angle to this love shape.

Shakespeare's romantic comedy of mistaken identity and self-discovery is given a rousing musical adaptation originally premiered at New York's Public Theatre, featuring an onstage band and a score inspired by jazz, soul, and showtunes from critically acclaimed musician Shaina Taub.

Box/Ticket Office:

Seattle Shakespeare Company are asking that all attendees wear an approved face mask unless actively eating or drinking in the lobby.

<https://www.seattleshakespeare.org/season-and-tickets/see-the-show-safely-in-person/>

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY:

Edmonds Driftwood Players in Edmond offers a scholarship opportunity for high school seniors pursuing theatre arts. The scholarship is available to students in Snohomish and King Counties.

The application deadline is April 30.

[FLYER with more information](#)

VISIT OUR WEBSITE!

Our fantastic board member, Bryan Sullivan continues to maintain our website to be user friendly. You can find an abundance of information by visiting: <https://www.wathespians.org/>

WANT TO BE A PART OF THIS TEAM?

If you are interested in joining our State Thespian Board, you can apply to be a part of the Working Board, supporting our efforts and events! [APPLY HERE](#)

QUOTE OF THE MONTH:

*The greatest glory in living lies not in never falling,
but in rising every time we fall.*

Nelson Mandela

Sincerely,

Kristina Cummins
Co-Chapter Director
WA State Thespians
<https://www.wathespians.org/>

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