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***Theater at Monmouth's Shakespeare in Maine Communities Tours HENRY V Statewide***

*Monmouth, Maine* – William Shakespeare's dynamic and relentless history, *Henry V*, is TAM's *Shakespeare in Maine Communities* offering for 2015. *Henry V* will tour for three weeks to schools and community centers across the state and run for one weekend only in Cumston Hall October 16-18. This production is supported in part by the Maine Arts Commission and The Betterment Fund.

Theater at Monmouth has provided literature-based education programs in schools and community centers since the Theater's founding. Since 2005, TAM has taken the Bard on the road with *Shakespeare in Maine Communities*—featuring 60 to 90-minute adaptations of Shakespeare with five to eight actors. The target grade levels for this tour are middle and high schools; previous tours have reached more than 6,000 students annually. For more information about TAM's Education Tours visit [www.theateratmonmouth.org/education-tours](http://www.theateratmonmouth.org/education-tours)

A young king makes a rash decision to go to war. Against overwhelming odds, Henry V leads the country to victory, conquering France and winning the hand of the heir to the throne. But there's a terrible cost in human life and ruthless acts of moral ambiguity. In this propulsive, provocative production, Shakespeare's rousing history culminates Henry's complicated three-play journey from disaffected prince to legendary king.

Director Bill Van Horn, Theater at Monmouth company member since 2001, has directed and acted in numerous productions since then. A relocated New Yorker now living in Philadelphia, Bill frequently acts, directs, and writes for the acclaimed Walnut Street Theater. A successful playwright, screenwriter and librettist, Bill's script and narration for the award-winning documentary *Workshop for Peace* appeared on PBS stations throughout the country and is seen by thousands of visitors each day at the United Nations. For *Henry V* Bill looked to a theme prominent in young adult fiction—dystopian worlds in conflict. "We want to demonstrate that Shakespeare's war play still has lessons to teach us today. The story of a ragged band of kindred souls united in a cause, opposed by an overwhelming and powerful enemy, is ubiquitous. This plot—whether it be Harry Potter and his friends opposing "he who must not be named," Frodo and his companions battling Sauron; or Katniss Everdeen defying the Capitol—has the shape and depth that energizes and engages young readers. It is the plot of William Shakespeare's *Henry V*."

*Henry V* features Hannah Daly as Boy/ Alice/ Westmoreland, Ian Kramer as Dauphin/ Jonathan/ Bardolph, Connor McAndrews as Montjoy/ Pistol/ Canterbury, Erica Murphy as King Henry V, Kathleen Nation as Exeter/ Isabel/ Nym, and Amanda Robinson as Fluellen/ King of France. Fight choreography by Leighton Samuels, Set design by Stacey Koloski, costume design by Elizabeth Rocha, and lighting design by Jim Alexander.

Performance Calendar: *Shakespeare in Maine Communities* will tour *Henry V* to schools and performing arts centers October 9-30. Public performances at Cumston Hall in Monmouth: October 16 & 17, 7:30 pm; October 17 & 18, 2:00 pm; Ticket prices: \$20-25. For tickets or booking information call 207.933.9999 or visit [theateratmonmouth.org](http://theateratmonmouth.org)

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Theater at Monmouth, founded in 1970, was named the Shakespearean Theater of Maine by the State Legislature in 1975. The theatre's mission is to present innovative approaches to Shakespeare and other classic plays through professional productions that enrich the lives of people throughout Maine. Since its founding, TAM has produced expertly crafted, engaging productions in its three-month Summer Repertory Season entertaining audiences from 36 states and through Education Tours annually reaching more than 15,000 students statewide.

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