



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE CONTACT:

Jordyn Chelf, Marketing Associate
Theater at Monmouth | 207.933.2952
jordyn@theateratmonmouth.org

Theater at Monmouth brings Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing* to Maine Communities

Monmouth, Maine – William Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing* is TAM's *Shakespeare in Maine Communities* production for 2021. *Much Ado About Nothing* will tour for three weeks to schools and community centers across the state from October 5-23 and offer public performances for one weekend only in Cumston Hall October 8 through 10. TAM's production is "Funded in part by a grant from the Maine Arts Commission, an independent state agency supported by the National Endowment for the Arts" and by the Onion Foundation.

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 the 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.

Tender, comic, moving, and shocking, *Much Ado* reveals the worst and best in human nature, the need to find space to breathe after the long trauma of war, and the ability to forgive and find common ground. This highly-celebrated, romantic and razor-witted comedy gives us the battle of the sexes as a delicious war of words, striking hilarious chords and revealing timeless truths about love, change, and acceptance.

Much Ado About Nothing is one of Shakespeare's finest and best-loved comedies. With the battle of wits between Beatrice and Benedick, and the plot involving young lovers Claudio and Hero, the play touches upon sexual jealousy, trust, and the importance of separating illusion from reality. *Much Ado* is one of Shakespeare's more straightforward comedies, in which the plot is simple but the fun is to be had in the skirmishes of wit between the secondary couple, who are far more interesting than the play's nominal hero (no pun intended) and heroine. It's hardly surprising that, for many readers and theatregoers, its unofficial title is 'the Beatrice and Benedick show'.

Adapted by Katie Moshier and directed by Michael Dix Thomas, *Much Ado About Nothing* features Casey Turner as Beatrice & Dogberry, Michael Rosas as Benedick & Verges, Jelani Pitcher as Claudio & Conrade, Brianna Joy Ford as Hero & Sexton, Paul Haley as Leonato & Borachio, Michela Micalizio as Don Pedro/ Margaret/ Seacole, and Thomas Campbell as Balthasar/ Don Jon/ Oatcake/ Friar Francis/ Messenger. Set design by German Cardenas- Alaminos, costume design by Michelle Handley and Elizabeth Rocha, and lighting design by Jim Alexander; stage managed by Jordyn Chelf.

Performance Calendar

Public performances: Take place at Cumston Hall in Monmouth October 8 at 7:30 p.m., October 9 at 1:00 pm and 7:30 pm, October 10 at 1:00 pm. All tickets \$28. Masks required regardless of vaccination status. For tickets or booking information call 207.933.9999 or visit theateratmonmouth.org.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE CONTACT:

Jordyn Chelf, Marketing Associate
Theater at Monmouth | 207.933.2952
jordyn@theateratmonmouth.org

For more information, please contact Box Office at boxoffice@theateratmonmouth.org and 207.933.9999 or visit www.theateratmonmouth.org.

###

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.

<http://twitter.com/TAMonmouth> | <http://www.facebook.com/TAMonmouth> |
<http://theateratmonmouth.org/>