Pittsburgh Shakespeare in the Parks

Directed by Alan Irvine Artistic Director Jennifer Tober | Production Designer Lisa Leibering

SEPTEMBER 2-3, 2PM Frick Park, Squirrel Hill SEPTEMBER 9-10, 2PM Reservoir Drive, Highland Park SEPTEMBER 16-17, 2PM Arsenal Park, Lawrenceville SEPTEMBER 23-24, 2PM Frick Park, Squirrel Hill



# "O for a Muse of fire, that would ascend the brightest heaven of invention..."

-William Shakespeare, Henry V



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## Pittsburgh Shakespeare in the Parks presents

## HENRY V

#### by William Shakespeare

#### **Directed by Alan Irvine**

#### The Cast

Chorus/Hostess Quickly/Mountjoy, a Herald Tonya Lynn

King Henry V Lamar K. Cheston\*

Duke of Exeter/Pistol Charles David Richards\*

Duke of Bedford/ Jamy/Princess Katherine/Bates Amy Dick

Earl of Westmoreland/Nym/Governor of Harfluer/

French Soldier Sarah Carleton

Constable of France/Earl of Cambridge/

Gower/Alice Nick Benninger
Bardolph/MacMorris/Louis, the Dauphin Ryan Bergman
Lord Scroop/Charles VI of France/Fluellen Bob Colbert

Soldiers Company:

Soldiers/Guards/Messengers/Attendants/Boys Simone Barnett, Joshua Demi,

Benjamin Godley-Fisher,

Lauren Scheller-Wolf, Rebecca Seaman,

Zoë Soteres

\*Member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers, appearing under a special agreement with the Actors' Equity Association.

#### **Artistic & Production Team**

Artistic Director
Stage Director
Alan Irvine
Production Designer
Assistant Director/Fight Director
Production Manager
Stage Manager
Sophia Marshall
French Dialect Coaching
Stage Manager
Jennifer Tober
Alan Irvine
Lisa Leibering
Tonya Lynn
Kevin McConville
Sophia Marshall

#### **Promotion and Patron Services**

Front of House Rebecca O'Connell Production Photographer Catherine Aceto Graphic Designer Sara-Anne Lee Public Relations Yvonne Hudson Webmaster Stephen Doerfler

Run time approximately 1 hour and 35 minutes with no intermission.

#### Pre-Show Schedule

Alan Irvine Storytelling: September 2, 3, 10, 16, 23, 24 PSIP pre-shows start around 10 minutes to curtain and last no more than 8 minutes.



#### Welcome From the Artistic Director

Welcome to our 13th year of providing free Shakespeare in Pittsburgh's city parks! We are delighted to be sharing this timely history play, HENRY V, with you. Enjoy being transported to England and to the vasty fields of France.

Thank you for taking this journey with us, and for your continued support of free theatre in your city parks. Don't forget about our Fiesta at Mad Mex on Tuesday, September 26! Enjoy the show. —Jennifer Tober, Founder and Artistic Director

# Pittsburgh Shakespeare in the Parks MISSION

To bring accessible, high-quality, free Shakespeare to Pittsburgh citizens, and to encourage the enjoyment and preservation of our natural public places and parks.

PSIP is a 501(c)(3) non-profit. All donations are tax deductible. Thank you for supporting Pittsburgh Shakespeare in the Parks, offering FREE performances of Shakespeare within the city limits and beyond!

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Or mail your donation made payable to: Pittsburgh Shakespeare in the Parks, P.O. Box 81775, Pittsburgh PA 15217

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#### Director's Note

Welcome to Chapter 4 of the story of England's King Henry V.

You didn't realize this was part of a series? Then let us fill you in: In Richard II, Henry Bolingbroke staged a coup against King Richard II to become King Henry IV. Though Richard was killed, his supporters still remember his cause. Henry's status as King is a little shaky. He faces the possibility of rebellion by Richard's people. Henry needs the people to see him as the legitimate ruler. And so, in Henry IV, Part 1, he is frustrated when his own son, Henry (also known as Harry or Hal) refuses to act like a proper crown prince, instead spending his time with a dissolute knight named Falstaff and assorted thieves, brigands, and prostitutes. Meanwhile, Richard's supporters do rebel, led by a commander who acts the part of a true prince. Hal finally realizes the error of his ways, renounces his former companions and life, takes to the field and defeats the rebels. In the next chapter, Henry IV, Part 2, Hal continues to transform himself into Henry, commanding troops against another rebellion and firmly repudiating his ties to Falstaff and his old friends. At the end of that play, Henry IV dies and Hal is crowned King Henry V, setting the stage for the final chapter of the story, the chapter you are here to see today.

In the previous plays, we saw Hal's personal transformation. Now our attention turns to his public role. Will he be a strong king? From the start, he faces a crisis. While England has been consumed by this internal fighting, England's old enemy France has taken advantage and has conquered most of the English lands on the Continent. Henry demands the French restore the territory they have unlawfully seized. Knowing of Henry's dissolute past the Dauphin, or prince of France, basically tells Henry to go back to playing games and leave affairs of state to the grown-ups. Henry cannot back down for that will leave England weak. So Henry invades France to reclaim the lost lands.

The invasion does not start well. The English need to capture the port of Harfluer as a staging ground. The city holds out longer than anticipated. By the time it falls, it is too late in the year to continue major operations. (In those days, armies could not fight in the winter.) Henry decides to march through the countryside to the English city of Calais as a way of demonstrating his claim to be the rightful ruler. Unfortunately, near the castle of Agincourt, the tiny, exhausted English army is cornered by a vastly superior French force and has no choice but to fight.

In Shakespeare's day, everyone looked at Henry as the very model of a great king. Over the course of these plays, Shakespeare has examined that, asking what made Henry so great. In *Henry* V, those threads come together. Henry is shaped by his early days. His time spent in Eastcheap allows him to connect with common people, inclines him to show mercy, to worry about the effects of his decisions about common people. At the same time, however, he has learned that a king must be resolute, and place the good of the nation above personal ties. Shakespeare includes Hal's old companions in the army to provide this contrast, to force Henry to choose between the personal and the public, and to confront the consequences of the King's decisions.

So, welcome to the final chapter of Henry's story. Join us as courtiers in Henry's palace, march with us across the fields of France, and worry with us through the night, contemplating the battle we all face come morning. And through it all, ask what makes Henry a great leader. - *Alan Irvine* 

#### The Players



Nick Benninger (Constable of France/Earl of Cambridge/Gower/Alice) has appeared in As You Like It (Sylvius/Le Beau), King Lear (Cordelia/Fool), and Comedy of Errors (Dromio of Syracuse) for PSIP. Other recent acting credits include Much Ado About Nothing (Claudio), A Midsummer Night's Dream (Puck), Romeo and Juliet (Romeo), The Taming of the Shrew (Hortensio), and Macbeth (Banquo) for the Unrehearsed Shakespeare Project, The Tempest or The Enchanted Isle (Hippolito) with The Unseam'd Shakespeare Co., he performed in the 2016 Future Tenant play festival and the 2015

Pittsburgh Fringe Festival. Nick graduated from Slippery Rock University in 2013 with a degree in theatre.



Ryan Bergman (Bardolph/MacMorris/Louis, the Dauphin), a Pittsburgh-based actor who graduated from Penn State in 2010, is happy to make his PSIP debut. Recent credits include: Steel City Shakespeare, The Tempest; Gemini Theater, Snow White; Front Porch Theatricals, Floyd Collins; Off The Wall Theater, Kimono; Guthrie Theater, Pride and Prejudice; Othello; The National Theatre for Children, Hot Pursuit; South Park Theater, As You Like it; Pittsburgh Classic Players, Macbeth; Phoenix Theater, A Common Night; Workhouse Theatre Company, Para Bellum, The Aleph

Complex; The Music Loft, *The Fantasticks*; CLIMB Theatre, 2012-13 Tour, *The Elders Project*; and Throughline Theatre Company, *Julius Caesar*.



Sarah Carleton (Earl of Westmoreland/Nym/Governor of Harfluer/French Soldier) is excited to join Pittsburgh Shakespeare in the Parks for *Henry* V. Previous work has included writing and performing with soprano Lara Lynn McGill and harpist Marissa Avon in *The Heart of Shahrazad* which included original music composed by Eliana Aberdam and had its world premiere in Pittsburgh in 2015. Other adapted pieces performed and created with Ms. McGill include *Song of Songs* and *Shakespeare's Women*. Film credits include performances in several award winning shorts

directed by Maple Films. Sarah 's varied artistic collaborations include co-creating an online interactive story performance for the 2015 Story Gathering conference. Sarah received an MFA in performance from the University of Louisville. *Sarahbcarleton.com* 



**Bob Colbert** (Lord Scroop/Charles VI of France/Fluellen) is a 2016 graduate of Messiah College with a BFA in musical theater. While at Messiah, he performed in such shows as *The Fantasticks* (Mortimer), *Hot Mikado* (Koko), and *The Taming of the Shrew* (Gremio). Bob has also been appeared in productions with Pittsburgh CLO and Saltworks Theater Company.



Amy Dick (Duke of Bedford/ Jamy/Princess Katherine/Bates) is excited to make her PSIP debut. She is an MA student in the English department at Duquesne University, where she earned her BA in English literature and her BM in music performance. Amy's past roles include Benedick in Much Ado About Nothing (Steel City Shakespeare Center), Jaques in As You Like It (South Park Theatre), and Perdita in The Winter's Tale (Ohio Shakespeare Festival). She sends her love to Sean.



Lamar K. Cheston (King Henry V) is honored to be in his first production with PSIP. He is a New York City native, and graduate of Hofstra University where he received his Bachelor of the Arts in theater. He is spiritually grounded at New Life Cathedral under Archbishop Robert Rochford, and a firm believer in the statement "if there is no struggle there is no progress." Credits: Black Angels over Tuskegee (Off-Broadway), Hercules Didn't Wade in the Water (Pittsburgh Playwrights), Josh: The Black Babe Ruth (New Horizons Theatre), Much Ado About Nothing (Shakesperience Productions),

TOPDOG/UNDERDOG, Othello, and The Great White Hope. He thanks his family, mentor, and fraternity brothers for their continued support, and leaves you with the scripture, "the Lord will perfect that which concerneth me." www.LamarKCheston.com



Tonya Lynn (Chorus, Hostess Quickly, Montjoy), an actor, director, fight director and teaching artist based in Pittsburgh, returns for her 11th season with PSIP. Her previous credits include Dromio of Ephesus in *The Comedy of Errors*, Kent in *King Lear*, Caliban in *The Tempest*, and various roles in PSIP's spring educational program (Supernatural Shakespeare) for the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust, as well as serving as PSIP's resident fight director. Recent projects include: *Henry IV. Part 2* with Poor Yorick's Players: *Taming of the* 

Shrew and Macbeth with the Unrehearsed Shakespeare Project; and directing and teaching theatre classes for the CCAC South Campus Theatre department. Tonya is active throughout the area as a teaching artist, working with Hope Academy for Music and the Arts, City Theatre, and Pittsburgh Public Theatre. She received her MA in theatre from the University of Pittsburgh, and has trained with both the International Stuntmens' Association and the Society of American Fight Directors, where she is recognized as an Advanced Actor-Combatant.



Charles David Richards (Duke of Exeter/Pistol) is glad to make his debut with PSIP. Off-Broadway he reprised the role of Gillen, in Practice which he created in Washington D.C.at New Playwrights Theatre. Recently he created the role of the Doctor in Arlene Weiner's world premiere of *Findings at* Pittsburgh Playwrights Theatre and appeared as John B.Keatings *Sive* with PICT Classic Theatre Company where he is now a company member. Last summer he appeared as Dubik in Unseam'd Shakespeare's *Out of This Furnace*. In Los Angeles he did *Hamlet* with James Cromwell at

the Olympic Arts Festival at the Pilot Theatre LA, and On the Razzle and 39 Goodbyes as a member of the West Coast Ensemble. On film he's been in Predator 2, Punchline, Three

Men and a Little Lady, Six Souls with Julianne Moore and Out of the Furnace, among others. TV includes Judge Lenzner in The Outsiders, Judge Haller in Banshee, The Guardian, The War That Made America, and Steve Posnick in the Emmy award winning series St. Elsewhere. He is a proud member of Actors Equity and SAG-AFTRA.

#### **Soldiers Company**



**Simone Barnett**, a sophomore at Franklin Regional High School, is excited to explore more of Shakespeare's great works and perform in another classical play. She plans to pursue a career in musical theatre, and loves singing, dancing and acting. Recent shows include A Midsummer Night's Dream and Annie.



Joshua Demi is a graduate student at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary in East Liberty and a local United Methodist pastor. This is his first show in the Pittsburgh area. Prior to his recent move to Pittsburgh, he has appeared in *Les Miserables*, *Monty Python's Spamalot* and *Arthur Miller's The Crucible* at the historic Mishler Theatre in Altoona.



Benjamin Godley Fisher is enthusiastic to make his PSIP debut. He is a student of the PMT Richard E. Rauh Conservatory and CLO Academy. Recent credits include: Oliver! (Oliver), Tarzan (Young Terk), Peter Pan (Michael Darling), Newsies (Blink, Brooklyn Newsie), and Jekyll and Hyde (Newsboy/Ensemble). In 2015, he was a Shakespeare Monologue and Scene contest winner. He appears as Charlie Henning in the upcoming film The Great One. Ben would like

to thank his family, friends, and all of PSIP for this great opportunity.



Lauren Scheller-Wolf is thrilled to be in her second show with PSIP. She previously appeared in The Tempest as an ensemble member and Juno. She has also appeared in plays around the Pittsburgh area with Prime Stage Theater, Gemini Children's Theater, Saltworks Theater company and Hope Academy. Lauren would like to thank her parents, Alan, Sophia, Rebekah and everyone who made this show possible. She hopes you enjoy the show.



Rebecca Seaman (Captain) is a rising senior in the acting department at Pittsburgh's Creative and Performing Arts High School where she was recently featured as a director and an actor in the annual Ten Minute Play festival. Sometimes seen wearing a kilt, Rebecca is a student of the bagpipes and can be found playing with The Balmoral Pipes and Drums across the greater Pittsburgh area. Frequently with the Shakespeare troupe Poor Yorick's Players, Rebecca is pleased to work with PSIP this year.



**Zoë Soteres** is a sophomore at Winchester Thurston who hopes to pursue musical theater for a career. Some of her favorite credits include *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *Jr.* as Millie and *Smile* as Sandra-Kay MacAfee at the JCC, *High School Musical*, *Jr.* as Sharpay with PMT, and the *Little Mermaid*, *Jr.*, as Ursula with WT. Some of her professional credits include *Les Miserables* (Young Eponine) and Children of Eden (Ensemble). This summer, she attended Oklahoma City University's

pre-college program for five weeks, and performed in *Urinetown* (Mrs. Millenium). She founded her own concert series to help showcase fellow artists and raise money for the YWCA's music program, and is also on the road to opening a chapter of Hungry for Music in Pittsburgh. She can't wait to perform more in the future, and hopes she gets to perform with PSiP again soon.

#### Artistic and Production Team



Alan Irvine (Director) directed *The Tempest* for PSIP in 2008, and is the host for PSIP's Bring Your Own Bard monthly reading series. Alan is also the co-founder of Brawling Bard Theater, for whom he has written and directed *The Compleat Guide to Murder and Mayhem by Will Shakespeare* (winner of the Audience Choice award, 2014 Pittsburgh Fringe Festival), *The Murder of* Gonzago (Spirit of the Fringe award, 2015 Pittsburgh Fringe), *A Dream of Midsummer* (Best Ensemble, 2016 Pittsburgh Fringe), and *Elizabeth Wants a Sword Fight*. He directed

Pride and Prejudice for Steel City Shakespeare Center (2016). As an instructor for Pitt's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, he teaches various courses on Shakespeare's works including "The History of England According to Shakespeare." Alan is also a professional storyteller, performing at schools, libraries, and festivals, such as the Pittsburgh Irish Festival. He serves as PSIP's resident storyteller, regularly performing short, comic tales based on each season's play before select shows.



Lisa Leibering (Production Designer) is a professional theatrical designer, puppeteer, and teaching artist. She holds a BFA in puppetry/children's theatre from West Virginia University, a MA in theatre for youth from University of Wisconsin-Madison, and a MA in theatre from University of Pittsburgh. Her recent, artistic work includes building the Enroll-o-bot mascot, collaborations with Lincoln Park Performing Arts Center, PSIP, and the Children's Museum of Pittsburgh. Outside of Pittsburgh, notable credits include designing and constructing a 25 foot

dragon puppet for Trollwood Performing Arts Center production of Shrek, creating the original mascot for the NFL's Carolina Panthers, managing the Character Shop for Paramount Parks/Production Services, and serving as the Resident Designer/costume shop manager for the Children's Theatre of Charlotte.



Kevin McConville (Production Manager) is grateful to work with PSIP. Kevin is a rising senior theatre arts major with a focus in management at Pitt. Recent credits include the Director in I Can't Go On/I'll Go On for Pitt Stages, as well as a production internship with The Production Exchange of London. Past management credits include work with Pitt Stages, Pitt Dance Ensemble, Kinetic Theatre, Flyspace Productions, among others. He looks forward to a production internship with City Theatre this fall.



Jennifer Tober (Artistic Director) is the Founding Artistic Director of Pittsburgh Shakespeare in the Parks and has overseen the company's growth since 2005. Ms. Tober performed in Supernatural Shakespeare (a PSIP piece commissioned by Pittsburgh Cultural Trust); The Comedy of Errors, King Lear, and As You Like It with PSIP; Out of This Furnace and Macbeth 3 with UnSeam'd Shakespeare Co; Rope and The Queens (Playhouse REP); The Pillowman, Salome (PICT Classic Theatre); Dream of Autumn and The Red Shoes (Quantum Theatre). In the Voodoo Parlour of Marie

Laveau (Pittsburgh Playwrights); poetry and staged readings with Poets Corner, PICT, and Steinway Piano Series. Regional/New York: Macbeth, Comedy of Errors, Two Gentlemen of Verona, Midsummer Night's Dream, As You Like It and Love's Labour's Lost (Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival); As You Like It (NY Classical Theatre), Winter's Tale, Midsummer (The Shakespeare Project); The Christmas Cup (Mill Mountain Playhouse); Richard II, Midsummer, and Julius Caesar (A Crew of Patches, NY - a company of which she was a cofounder); and "DADDY CRUSH" (her award-winning one-woman show, Belt Theater. NY). Ms. Tober also started the organization "Shakespeare Inside," which taught Shakespeare, acting writing to convicted Bronx juveniles. Film and TV includes Sex & the City, Rescue Me, Ed, SNL, commercials/voiceovers and the local Pittsburgh film Progression; she made her professional modern dance debut in the NewMoves Festival in 2015. Ms. Tober holds a BA from Temple University and an MFA from West Virginia University and is a certified yoga instructor and is on the faculty of the Univ. of Pittsburgh Theatre Dept. She is a member of AEA and SAG-AFTRA.

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Watch for Week of Will in April 2018! Don't miss a thing! Sign up for the PSIP elist: info@pittsburghshakespeare.com

Huzzah! Congratulations to PSIP for a 13th season of mirth and magic!

# **Fundraising Fiesta**

## at Mad Mex in Shadyside Tuesday, Sept. 26, 6-9 pm

Keep Will's works free for all in our Parks. Raffle n'at: Basket of Booze, theater tix & more. Tickets: \$45. *All proceeds support PSIP.* 



Our Make Merry Menu: Mad Mex chips, fresh salsa and guacamole, house salad, wings, build your own fajita bar, either one 16oz Dos Equis draft OR a 16oz House Margarita per 21+ person, soft drinks, and Mexican brownies.







Details on events & support: PittsburghShakeseare.org #wehappyfew #freewill