

Hawaii Shakespeare Festival

Birthday Bash

April 26, 2024
Downtown Arts Center
5:30pm - 7:00pm



Performances

Chorus, Henry V

Jason Kanda

Juliet, Romeo & Juliet

Sorcha McCarrey

Act II, Scene 4; Henry IV, Part 1

Shane Chung, Jill Jackson, Presley Wheeler, Chloe Evans*

Hamlet, Hamlet

PJ Souza

Act I, Scene 7, Macbeth

Nicolas Gianforti, Eleanor Jacobson Svaton, Julia Frazier*

Jaques, As You Like It

Emmy Harris

Stephano, The Tempest

Adrian Khactu

Sonnets from a Bonnet

Sorcha McCarrey, Emmy Harris, Carolyn Corley, Adrian Khactu, Sharon Doyle

*Director

Who's Who



Jason Kanda's first appearance with HSF was in the 2003 production of *Twelfth Night* at Palikū Theatre. He will be playing the roles of Belarius and Lord #2 in HSF's upcoming production of *Cymbeline* this July.



Sorcha McCarrey is an actor, singer, and writer from Lā'ie. She was recently seen in Victoria Nalani Kneubuhl's *Aitu Fafine* at Kumu Kahua Theatre and is currently working on an autobiographical musical; she looks forward to playing Rosalind in the upcoming HSF *As You Like It*.



Shane Chung is making their way back into the theater scene! After graduating from AMDA in 2019, they took a brief break from acting. The last show they were scene in was *Measure For Measure* in the 2023 Shakespeare festival. You can expect to see them again in the 2024 Shakespeare Festival as Posthumous in *Cymbeline*.



Jill Jackson is just about finished getting her MFAs in Acting and Theatre for Young Audiences at UHM! Recent favorite credits include *Uncle Vanya* at TAG (Sonya), *Pride and Prejudice* at KOA (Mrs. Bennet & u/s Elizabeth), and creating her own thesis show *{Extra}Ordinary: an extra fun puppet* adventure about ordinary emotions. When she's not performing, Jill loves teaching young artists and talking about fish at the aquarium—not necessarily at the same time;) Jill would like to thank Chloe Evans for inviting her to take part in this fun event!



Presley Wheeler has been elated to perform Shakespeare since returning to the Island from Vassar College. Most recently seen at Manoa Valley Theatre's *Clue* as Yvette and *Dear Evan Hansen* as Connor Murphy. A homegrown actor from Mid-Pacific Institute's School of Art program, he can now add performing on Shakespeare's birthday with HSF to his list of accomplishments.



Chloe Evans is excited to be involved with Hawaii Shakespeare Festival again! She has had the pleasure of assistant directing *Measure for Measure* with HSF and *Clue: Live on Stage* with Manoa Valley Theatre this past year. She looks forward to returning to HSF this summer as the assistant director for *As You Like It!*



PJ Souza has been seen in *Romeo and Juliet & Both Your Houses*, Hawaii Shakespeare Festival 2022, *Wild Meat and the bully burgers*, Kumu Kahua theatre 2023, and *Kāmau*, Kumu kahua theatre 2024



Emmy Harris, dip. VCM (hons.) Emmy was selected for the Young Producers Program at the National Theatre (London) in 2011. She trained at the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art in their classical theatre program before moving to NYC and training with Atlantic Theatre Company as a member of their acting conservatory. Her play *EACH BROUGHT SOME SILENCES* premiered at the NY International Fringe Festival in 2016 and she has performed with several independent theatre ensembles in New York City, producing her first feature film *SWANS* in 2019. She is a recent transplant to Hawai'i and is thrilled to be celebrating Shakespeare's birthday with HSF!



Nicolas Gianforti After leaving military service in 2005, Nick took up acting in pursuit of a life-long desire. In Hawai'i, Nick was a regular Manoa Valley Theatre cast member in plays that include *Flaming Idiots*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, and *Speed-the-Plow*. He has been in feature films and appeared on TV shows like Hawai'i 5-0 and Magnum PI. Nick has also done a slew of short films, webseries, and commercials. Locally trained for years by Scott Rogers, Nicholas moved to Los Angeles in late 2013 to pursue acting full-time where he studied at the prestigious Meisner technique school Playhouse West. Nick also studied at UCLA Extension in directing and cinematography. Besides being an actor and director, Nick is an award-winning writer. His recent script *Oli* won the 'Ohina & Creative Industries Award during the 2019 'Ohina Labs. Nick teaches at Pacific Playhouse—a Meisner technique acting class.



Eleanor Svaton embarked on her journey into acting after settling in Honolulu in 2003. Since then, she has embraced opportunities to learn and grow within the local theatre community, exploring the stages of esteemed venues such as the Hawaii Shakespeare Festival, Kennedy Theatre, Kumu Kahua Theatre, and TAG - The Actors' Group. Svaton recently returned to the stage after a hiatus of 10 years, playing the part of Nanny in Victoria Nalani Kneubuhl's *'Aitu Fafine.'*



Julia Frazier started reading Shakespeare when she was 11 and hasn't stopped since. She attended Oglethorpe University where she majored in Theater and minored in Shakespearean Studies. While in college, Julia discovered a passion for directing and has directed several shows, including *The Tempest* and *Bell, Book, & Candle*. Since moving to Hawaii in 2023, Julia has worked with the Hawaii Shakespeare Festival on *Measure For Measure* and *One Uddah Mid'summah* and Kumu Kahua Theatre on *Haoleland*, *Aitu Fafine*, and *Beretania Snapshots*. She is excited to be directing again and grateful to her husband for his endless encouragement and support.



Adrian Khactu teaches high school English at 'Iolani School, with courses in race, social justice, and American literature. In Honolulu, Adrian has performed in *Cambodian Rock Band* (MVT), *Indecent* (OHPN/ARTS at Marks), *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* (MVT), *Mr. Burns* (KOA), and *Memorial Day* (UHM). He also improvises as a main cast member of ImprovHI's monthly shows in Kaka'ako, and he will be debuting with HSF this summer in *Titus Andronicus*.

Special Thanks to the Downtown Arts Center and the Hawai'i Shakespeare Festival 'Ohana!

2024 Season



Cymbeline

by William Shakespeare
Directed by Reyn Afaga
July 12 - 24
The ARTS at Marks Garage



Titus Andronicus

by William Shakespeare
Directed by Taurie Kinoshita
August 3 - 11
The ARTS at Marks Garage



As You Like It

by William Shakespeare
Directed by Swaine Kauai
August 9 - 17
Hawaiian Mission Houses