



# Programs for March 2006

## "March is Shakespeare"



### at Huntington Public Library

Main Library: 338 Main Street, Huntington, NY 11743 / 631-427-5165

Station Branch: 1335 New York Ave, Huntington Sta., NY 11746 / 631-421-5053

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#### **Press Release 01/04/06**

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Throughout the month of March, Huntington Public Library presents a rich array of programs for all ages about Shakespeare and his time, as well as a sparkling new collection of Shakespeare's plays in print and on film, recent works about his life, and an interesting collection of films inspired by his plays. Come, enjoy and learn with art, music, theater, crafts, film and book discussions, all inspired by the bard. Even Elizabethan birds of prey will pay us a visit. We are particularly happy to welcome "Stages on the Sound," a Shakespeare theater troupe new to Long Island. Our month culminates in SHAKESPEARE FAMILY FESTIVAL DAY on Saturday March 25th, a day of fun for all, including a production of "Comedy of Errors." We thank our Huntington Village restaurant sponsors who will see that you have a good lunch on Festival Day. We hope to see a lot of you in March. (Except where indicated, programs are open to Huntington and non-Huntington residents. Read program descriptions for age and card-holder requirements. Also check the library's website for "March is Shakespeare": <http://hpl.suffolk.lib.ny.us>)

#### **"I SPY" Game**

Art Gallery: **MARCH 1, 2006 – MARCH 30, 2006**

**Audience: Grades 3–6**

Pick up a game form at the Youth & Parent Services Reference Desk and look for items hidden in the Shakespeare-inspired Art Exhibit displayed in the Main Library Art Gallery. All correctly completed game forms will be entered into a raffle to win a copy of Bruce Coville's *William Shakespeare's Hamlet*.

#### **Renaissance/Medieval Monsters and Minstrels**

Main Library Auditorium / Registration begins Monday, February 6, 2006 in Youth & Parent Svcs Dept.

**SATURDAY MARCH 4, 2006; 2:00 PM**

**Audience: Kindergarten thru Adult**

Intriguing tales of chivalry, crusades, and commedia dell'arte, spiced with authentic instruments and songs of this unique historical era.

#### **Raptors, Birds of Prey**

Main Library Auditorium / Registration begins Monday, February 6, 2006 in Youth & Parent Svcs Dept.

**SUNDAY MARCH 12, 2006; 2:00 PM**

**Audience: All ages**

A naturalist from the Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary will introduce you to various types of birds of prey used in the sport of falconry, which dates back to medieval times and was popular during the Elizabethan era.

## **Shakespeare Film Series: Fridays at 6:00 PM**

(Since show time is 6 PM, you're welcome to bring a sandwich to enjoy during the film.)

Main Library Auditorium / Register at 2<sup>nd</sup> fl Service Desk or call (631) 427-5165, ext.222.

Feast on Shakespeare films on Fridays during the month of March. A series of hosts will share introductory commentary and welcome open discussion afterwards.

### **FRIDAY MARCH 3: Henry V** (hosted by Brad Silverman, the 1<sup>st</sup> of a 2-film viewing)

**Audience: Grade 7–Adult**

This 1989 Kenneth Branagh production is a brilliant adaptation of one of Shakespeare's most important historical plays. King Henry V of England is insulted by the King of France. As a result, he leads his army into battle against France. Along the way, the young king must struggle with the sinking morale of his troops and his own inner doubts. The war culminates at the bloody Battle of Agincourt. (Don't miss the second film in this 2-part viewing two weeks from today. Richard III, set later in history, reflects a cinematic style thirty-five years earlier than this one.)

### **FRIDAY MARCH 10: William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet**

(hosted by Kelly Quintero, Huntington High School, English Department)

**Audience: Grade 7–Adult**

This 1996 version of the classic tale of star-crossed lovers is updated to the modern suburb of Verona, while retaining Shakespeare's original dialogue. Director Baz Luhrmann creates "a visual pastiche inspired by MTV imagery, Hong Kong action-picture clichés, and Luhrmann's own taste for deliberate, gaudy excess." (Tom Keogh, Amazon.com) Starring Leonardo DiCaprio, Claire Danes, Pete Postlethwaite.

### **FRIDAY MARCH 17: Richard III** (hosted by Brad Silverman, the 2<sup>nd</sup> of a 2-film viewing)

**Audience: Grade 7–Adult**

In this 1954 production, Laurence Olivier as Richard III, the Duke of Gloucester, engineers plots to murder his brother Clarence, betray his cousin Buckingham, and seduce his niece Lady Anne. From the play's famous opening lines ("Now is the winter of our discontent"), Olivier delivers every speech with Machiavellian splendor. (Don't miss the first film in this 2-part viewing on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. Henry V, set earlier in history, reflects a cinematic style thirty-five years later than this one.)

### **FRIDAY MARCH 31: Much Ado About Nothing** (hosted by Irene Eckert)

**Audience: Grade 5–Adult**

Kenneth Branagh's 1993 production of Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing*, filmed in the Tuscan countryside, is lively, witty and accessible to all ages. A glorious opening scene begins this charming romp, which "casts the battle of the sexes in the form of an elegant dance" (The New York Times). Young lovers, Hero and Claudio, due to be married in a week, decide to set a "lover's trap" for Benedick, a confirmed bachelor, and Beatrice, with whom he argues constantly. The evil Don Jon, meanwhile, plots to break up Hero and Claudio's wedding by accusing Hero of infidelity. The all-star cast includes Kenneth Branagh, Michael Keaton, Robert Sean Leonard, Keanu Reeves, Emma Thompson and Denzel Washington.

## **Poetry Inspired by the Bard**

Main Library Auditorium / Register at 2<sup>nd</sup> fl Service Desk or call (631) 427-5165, ext.222.

### **THURSDAY MARCH 9, 6:00 PM**

**Audience: All ages**

Students of Finley Middle School and Huntington High School present their poetry, inspired by Shakespeare's sonnets and themes. Hosted by Kelly Quintero and Michael Schwendemann of the HHS English Department.

## **Elizabethan Jewelry Workshop**

Main Meeting Room / Register at 2<sup>nd</sup> fl Service Desk or call (631) 427-5165, ext.222. (*material fee*)

**TUESDAY MARCH 14, 7:00 PM**

**Audience: High School thru Adults**

Create an Elizabethan-style necklace and/or bracelet. Jill Bullwinkle of JILLARY will show you how. Material fee is \$20 for the necklace, \$10 for the bracelet. Checks made out to JILLARY.

## **An Artist Looks at Shakespeare**

Main Meeting Room / Register at 2<sup>nd</sup> fl Service Desk or call (631) 427-5165, ext.222.

**THURSDAY MARCH 16, 7:00 PM**

**Audience: High School thru Adult**

Artist William Pardue's intensely creative works of art, on display in the art gallery this month, were all inspired by Shakespeare. They are illuminated tonight as he shares his thoughts, his process and his inspiration with you. (By the way, can you match the painting with the play?)

## **That IS a Dagger You See Before You - a history of the weapons and combat styles used in Shakespeare's plays: a workshop from "Stages on the Sound" theater troupe**

Main Library Auditorium / Register at 2<sup>nd</sup> fl Service Desk or call (631) 427-5165, ext.222.

**SATURDAY MARCH 18, 2:00 PM**

**Audience: Age 13 thru Adult**

A BARE BODKIN? Your NAKED RAPIER? My FIDDLE STICK? These are not terms from fairy tales - they are just some of the weapons Shakespeare used in his plays. How would a historically accurate *Julius Caesar* be different from *Romeo and Juliet*? We will explore the history of the weapons of these plays and others at this hands-on workshop. Professionals will demonstrate and even coach some lucky volunteers in the basic combat styles.

## **Elizabethan Idol: Shakespeare Monologue Competition**

Main Library Auditorium / Register at 2<sup>nd</sup> fl Service Desk or call (631) 427-5165, ext.222.

**SUNDAY MARCH 19, 1:00 PM**

**Audience: High School thru Adult**

For Queen Elizabeth of Shakespeare's day, theater was the primary entertainment. Actors vying for the prize in a Shakespeare Monologue Competition would have pleased her immensely. This afternoon brims with excitement as the "Elizabethan Idol" finalists perform their monologues and the audience chooses the winners. (Note: Auditions for this event will be held at the library in February. Contact Michael Romanelli by phone at 516-316-1146 or by email at [mcroman@optonline.net](mailto:mcroman@optonline.net).)

## **When Shakespeare's Ladies Meet: A Comedy for the Fair Sex in One Act**

Main Library Auditorium / Register at 2<sup>nd</sup> fl Service Desk or call (631) 427-5165, ext.222.

**SUNDAY MARCH 19, 4:00 PM**

**Audience: Grade 5 thru Adult**

This little gem, written by Charles George, is sure to bring a smile to your face. Shakespeare's ladies - Portia, Katherine, Ophelia, Desdemona and Cleopatra - give Juliet advice about romance, but it is young Juliet who seems to be giving the lessons in love. Produced by Shirley Harrison-Brown.

## **Book Discussions**

**Pick up a copy of the book at the library and join the discussion.**

**TUESDAY MARCH 21, 1:30 PM: Hamlet** (Host: Therese Nielsen)

Main Library Auditorium / Register at 2<sup>nd</sup> fl Service Desk or call (631) 427-5165, ext.222.

**Audience: High School thru Adult**

Hamlet, Prince of Denmark, is devastated when he learns of the death of his father at the hands of his uncle, Claudius. Claudius has murdered his own brother to take the throne and followed the heinous deed with a hasty marriage to his brother's widow, Hamlet's mother.

**MONDAY MARCH 27, 7:00 PM: Antony and Cleopatra** (Host: Tom Cohn)

Youth Meeting Room / Register at 2<sup>nd</sup> fl Service Desk or call (631) 427-5165, ext.222.

**Audience: High School thru Adult**

Antony and Cleopatra relates a love story of geopolitical proportions. The affair between the two rulers leads Antony to admit "we have kissed away kingdoms and provinces." The great Shakespearean critic and popularizer Marchette Chute calls it "one of the most magnificent of the tragedies, a glittering, golden piece of work whose people and whose poetry are worthy of the theme, and it is dominated by that most enchanting and outrageous of women, Cleopatra, queen of Egypt." (This is a program of the Great Books Foundation.)

## **Shakespeare and His Groundlings: a workshop from**

**"Stages on the Sound" theater troupe**

Main Library Auditorium / Register at 2<sup>nd</sup> fl Service Desk or call (631) 427-5165, ext.222.

**FRIDAY MARCH 24, 7:00 PM**

**Audience: All ages**

Did you know that in Elizabethan times the elite theater patrons sat in the back while the poorer patrons stood in the mud? Find out what it means to be a groundling and how important they were to Shakespeare's plays. We will also look at how changing theatrical traditions have forced unique adaptations of Shakespeare's work.

## **Surprise Shakespeare Monologues: performed by "Stages on the Sound" theater troupe**

**Audience: All ages**

Main Floor of the Library. No registration for this.

**SATURDAY MARCH 25, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM**

Today, on the main floor of the library, don't be surprised if, as you read a newspaper or check out a video, a Shakespearian actor breaks into a monologue---in a chair beside you, on the table above you, on the portico, on the library steps, when you least expect it!

## **Family Shakespeare: Scenes for Families From the Bard with Jonathan Kruk**

Main Library Auditorium / No registration required.

**SATURDAY MARCH 25, 10:00 AM-1:30 PM**

**Audience: All ages**

Join us for one or more of these four half-hour skits: 10:00-10:30 AM; 11:00-11:30 AM; 12:00-12:30 PM; 1:00-1:30 PM. Experience the fun of interactive storytelling with renowned Shakespearean actor Jonathan Kruk. Mr. Kruk and his actors will welcome volunteers from the audience to help act out the most famous scenes from Shakespeare's plays. A new skit will start on the hour starting at 10:00 AM. Bring the whole family to experience this dramatic and fun presentation.

## **Family Craft: Stained Glass**

Main Meeting Room / No registration required

**SATURDAY MARCH 25, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM**

**Audience: All ages**

Make a stained glass window using colored tissue paper - as simple or as complicated as you like.

## **Comedy of Errors: a performance by the "Stages on the Sound" theater troupe**

Main Library Auditorium / Register at 2<sup>nd</sup> fl Service Desk or call (631) 427-5165, ext.222.

**SATURDAY MARCH 25, 3:00 PM**

**Audience: All ages**

Four actors. A dozen parts. Ninety minutes. Limitless fun. A fast and furious blur of confused faces, mistaken places, and long lost family. Bring the whole family to see this hilarious take on one of Shakespeare's first works, an original adaptation by "Stages on the Sound" Artistic Directors Will Ditterline and Mike Wamser. *90 minutes. No intermission.*

## **C.W. Post's Madrigal Singers & Merriweather Consort**

Main Library Auditorium / Register at 2<sup>nd</sup> fl Service Desk or call (631) 427-5165, ext.222.

**THURSDAY MARCH 30, 7:00 PM**

**Audience: Grade 4 thru Adult**

Come be enchanted by the C.W. Post Madrigal Singers, acclaimed by the New York Times for their "casual grace and air of genuine pleasure" in performing. The singers perform secular and sacred music from the medieval and Renaissance periods in an atmosphere of elegance, intimacy, and expressiveness vital to the art of *a cappella* singing. We are doubly fortunate to have them accompanied here by C.W. Post's Merriweather Consort, devoted to the performance of Renaissance music on reproductions of early instruments, including recorders, crumhorns, viols and sackbuts, and attired in period costume.

# Shakespeare Family Festival Day

All Day - Saturday March 25 // 9:00 - 5:00 PM

## Day's Schedule at a Glance

### MAIN LEVEL

10:00-2:00 PM

**Surprise Shakespeare Monologues** (performed by Stages on the Sound)

10:00-2:00 PM

**Elizabethan Lute Music on the Main Floor**

### LOWER LEVEL

10:00-1:30 PM

**Family Shakespeare: Scenes for Families From the Bard** (with Jonathan Kruk)

10:00-2:00 PM

**Family Craft: Stained Glass**

2:00-3:00 PM

**Elizabethan Lute Music in the Art Gallery**

3:00-5:00 PM

**Performance of Shakespeare's "Comedy of Errors"** (by Stages on the Sound)