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Silicon Valley Shakespeare Celebrates 20th Season In Style

Featuring 10 original productions, 2 Shakespeare classics, and 1 popular summer camp

SAN JOSE, CA, June 2018 – Silicon Valley Shakespeare (SVS) celebrates their 20th Season with what they affectionately refer to as *Old, New, and Much Ado*. This recognition of 20 seasons features ten original productions and two Shakespeare masterpieces, along with their popular annual summer camp.

SVS is now gearing up for its 6th annual production at Willow Street Park in San Jose, June 8-24, with a fresh take on the Shakespeare classic, *As You Like It*. Part of their Free Shakespeare in the Park series, this engaging, family-friendly comedy kicks off the summer season for SVS.

Rounding out the company's yearlong education offerings that include in-school workshops and assemblies, their popular *Shakespeare Camp for Youth & Teens* runs June 18-29. Instructors provide structured experiences that focus on building creativity, teamwork, self-reliance, mutual respect, self-esteem, and fun. Campers learn about improv, acting, scenic design, and more, and this year they will perform in an abridged version of *Henry V*.

Performing in repertory at Sanborn Park in Saratoga from July 27th through September 2nd, SVS presents the original, WORLD PREMIERE production of *The Hood of Sherwood* and a 1920s twist on the Shakespeare classic, *Much Ado About Nothing*. *Sherwood*, written by nationally produced, local playwright, Doug Brook, takes a fresh look at the classic tale of Robin Hood. Set against a backdrop of art deco styling and Jazz music, *Much Ado* shows off Shakespeare's wit and mastery of word play in this fan favorite comedy.

The 20th season celebration culminates in a festive Gala on October 14th. The evening will be set in the roaring 20s with guests dressed to do the Charleston, flowing libations and food, exciting themed auction items, music, and the announcement for what's in store in season 21.

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All of this follows a successful start to the season, which began earlier this year with *ShakesSports*, the annual 48-Hour Play Festival SVS co-produces with Foothill College Theatre Arts Department. Eight teams of local artists teamed up to write, direct, and act in 8 original short plays over the course of one weekend and explored what happens when sports were thrown into a Shakespeare classic.

Then came another original work, *Shakespeare's Most Wanted*. SVS premiered *Most Wanted* in 2007, reprised it in 2009, and brought it back in celebration of their 20th season, featuring some of the theatre company's most well-loved actors from over the years. Audiences enjoyed an evening of fun and fiendishness as Shakespeare's most notorious villains were set loose for the evening to entertain and dismay.

The company's spirit of innovation shines in this celebratory season of original productions, classic tales, and compelling education programs.

For additional information, visit <https://www.svshakespeare.org>.

Since 1999, Silicon Valley Shakespeare has breathed new life into the classics through unique and relevant theatrical experiences that illuminate and inspire modern audiences. They provide high-quality and affordable theatrical experiences and educational programs, allowing them to reach a diverse audience and build a new generation of theatregoers. All productions are free for everyone 17 and under. For more information, visit: www.svshakespeare.org.

If you'd like more information about the season, or to schedule an interview, please contact Silicon Valley Shakespeare at 408.289.1901.

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