Shakespeare at Winedale presents

All's Well That Ends Well

April 23 - 7 pm
April 26 & 27 - 7 pm
Tonight’s performance is the culmination of a semester of work by the students of E321P: Shakespeare Through Performance. These students have studied Shakespeare’s problem plays from a variety of perspectives, reading, writing, discussing, and performing, both at the University of Texas at Austin and on weekends at the Winedale Historical Center.

About Us

Shakespeare at Winedale is a program of the University of Texas at Austin English Department that invites students from all disciplines to learn about Shakespeare through the intensive experience of performing his works. Since 1970, hundreds of students have taken the stage in the Winedale Theatre Barn, using all their intelligence, creativity and passion to bring these plays to life. Students in the course dedicate themselves to the principles of Shakespeare’s own theatre: a bare stage, a creative ensemble, a focus on the text, and an appeal to the imagination of the audience.

Special Thanks

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Allison Dillon, Hannah Adrian, Brooks Naylor, Rosalind Faires
Doc Ayres
DRAMATIS PERSONAE

COUNTESS OF ROSSILLION.................................................................Lucy Junker
Bertram’s mother and Helena’s guardian

BERTRAM......................................................................................Seth Dumas
Count of Rossillon

HELENA.......................................................................................Stephanie Donowho
orphaned daughter of the Countess’s physician, Gerard de Narbonne

PAROLLES....................................................................................Colin McLaughlin
follower of Bertram

REYNAILO....................................................................................Ronnie Benion
the Countess’s steward

LAVATCH.....................................................................................Kendall DeBoer
a clown or fool

PAGE..........................................................................................Morgan Hilburn
servant of the Countess

KING OF FRANCE.........................................................................Reid O’Conor

LAFEW..........................................................................................Charlotte Hockens
an old lord

1st LORD DUMAINE.......................................................................Calcb Parkcr

2nd LORD DUMAINE.....................................................................Rachel Kaser

4th LORD.......................................................................................Patrick Wall

INTERPRETER................................................................................Patrick Wall

GENTLEMAN................................................................................Morgan Hilburn

DUKE OF FLORENCE.....................................................................Ronnie Benion

WIDOW CAPILET............................................................................Valerie Arnold

DIANA...........................................................................................Ehigbor Idonor
daughter of the Widow

MARIANA....................................................................................Morgan Hilburn
neighbor and friend of the Widow
PLAY SYNOPSIS

The play begins with the recent death of the Count of Rossillion. His son, Bertram, is leaving home to attend the sickly King in Paris. He bids farewell to his mother the Countess and to her ward Helena, the orphaned daughter of a famous physician. With the help of her steward, Reynaldo, the Countess learns that Helena is in love with her son. Helena confesses her love to the Countess, and they agree that Helena should travel to Paris to attempt to cure the King. Helena arrives at court and persuades the King to let her try to cure him. Miraculously, she succeeds. As a reward she is presented with the King's ring and his blessing to wed any man of her choice. She chooses Bertram, who initially balks, and only consents when threatened by the King. Bertram bemoans his situation to his hanger-on Parolles, confiding that he intends to sneak away to the Tuscan Wars. Bertram sends Helena back to his mother, telling her that he will meet her there in two days, after attending to some urgent business.

In Rossillion, the Countess learns of the marriage between Bertram and Helena, and Bertram's flight. Helena shares Bertram's dismissive letter, which asserts that he will only wed her once she gets his family ring and bears his child. Helena sneaks away in the right, leaving the Countess a letter that claims she is going to Saint Jaques. However, she arrives in Florence disguised as a pilgrim. Helena meets a widow and her daughter, Diana, who tell her of Bertram's success in battle and advances toward Diana. Meanwhile, at the prompting of his men, Bertram agrees to let his men test Parolles' honor by capturing him, disguised as a group of Muscovites. Helena reveals her true identity to Diana and her mother and seeks their help in winning her husband back.

The disguised French lords ambush Parolles, who panics and offers to reveal all the Florentine secrets. Bertram woos Diana by giving her his family ring, and Diana promises Bertram her virginity. Bertram returns to camp, where Parolles has been captured and blindfolded. Parolles further betrays his comrades when Bertram questions him. The men reveal themselves, shaming Parolles to silence. Offstage, Helena switches places with Diana when Bertram comes to her bed, and gives Bertram a new ring. Having heard false news of Helena's death, Bertram returns to the Parisian court.

The King and Countess mourn the death of Helena as they await the arrival of Bertram. He returns to court, begs forgiveness from the king, and prepares to marry Lafeu's daughter as penance for his behavior towards Helena. As a token of love, Bertram gives Lafeu the ring he traded with Diana. The King recognizes it as the ring he gave Helena. A letter arrives, claiming that Bertram pledged to marry Diana as soon as Helena had died. Diana enters, and identifies Helena's ring as the one she gave Bertram in bed. Bertram denies Diana's claims. Parolles admits that Bertram seduced and bedded Diana. Diana's increasingly cryptic answers to the King's questions lead him to demand that she be sent to prison. Diana finally presents an answer to this riddle: Helena. Helena explains everything and proves that she has fulfilled the conditions of Bertram's challenge. She has his ring and is pregnant with his child. Bertram swears to love her, leaving everyone to wonder if "all yet seems well".
Thank You

Shakespeare at Winedale thanks the following individuals, foundations, and organizations for their generous support of this program, Shakespeare at Winedale Outreach, and Camp Shakespeare. Your gifts make great Shakespeare and educational programs available to our entire community.

Thank you for 43 years of enthusiastic support.

We couldn’t do it without you.

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In a fear of becoming a housewife, most 20-
in-olds have not progressed to get paid for
our parents. I guess parents tend to be afraid
to want their kids to go to college, probably already having
steady paycheck. When are you going
to move out?