

BRITISH SHAKESPEARE COMPANY

London, England and Oslo, Norway

Dates: June 7th - June 28th, 2009

Cost: \$4695 (not including roundtrip airfare to London)



Program Highlights:

- Go ON TOUR with England's largest and best-known open-air Shakespeare company**
- Study and learn to act Shakespeare**
- Have direct contact with and access to professional Shakespearean actors**
- Gain valuable hands-on experience with a professional theatre company**
- 1 week in London including theatre excursions to Old Globe and Stratford**
- 2 weeks in beautiful Norway including fjords cruise and cultural excursions to Oslo.**

Hailed by the BBC as Britain's "best-known and most successful open air Shakespeare company", the British Shakespeare Company has performed over 1500 shows for thousands of people and employs the finest Shakespearean actors in all of England including lead performers from the Old Globe Theatre and the Royal Shakespeare Company. Our students have an unprecedented opportunity to intern with this world-class company on tour with them to Norway.

This program takes place in 2 locations; London and Norway and has two components; the internship component and the teaching component where our students form their own Theatre Company, studying and performing scenes and monologues from a wide range of Shakespeare's plays and sonnets.

INTERNSHIP COMPONENT

The program starts in London, where students participate in a full week of rehearsals with the British Shakespeare Company as they prepare to stage two full-scale outdoor Shakespeare productions in Norway. Students will sit in on 1-2 hours of artistic meetings and rehearsals per day and participate in roundtable discussions and workshops with Artistic Director Robert Williamson and his cast of 17 of the best Shakespearean actors in the country. In the second and third weeks, students will join the cast as they travel to Norway to stage two full-length Shakespeare plays at the beautiful outdoor Havlyst Theatre located 45km south of Oslo. Our students will help with front of house duties, costuming, dressing actors backstage, handling props and generally assisting the company on tour.

THEATRE COMPANY COMPONENT

In London, students will have a 2-3 hour Shakespeare class each day and the remainder of the time will be spent enjoying the vibrant London theatre scene. Students will attend a Shakespeare play at the Old Globe and productions at the National Theatre as well as a full-day excursion to Stratford-Upon-Avon where we have a backstage tour at the Royal Shakespeare Company. In Norway, our students continue studying and rehearsing a variety of Shakespeare scenes and monologues culminating in a performance for an invited audience.

HOUSING AND SUPERVISION

A Program Director supervises all aspects of the program including the teaching and mentoring of our students. The Director lives in residence with the students, teaches all classes, directs the final project, organizes and chaperones outings, supervises our students artistic and academic growth during the month and is the point of contact for parents.

In London, students are housed at the University of London college dorm-style residence. In Norway, we are housed at the Vestby Hyttepark, a collection of quaint, Scandinavian cottages only 2 miles from our open-air theatre. Students will be gender-segregated by cottage with up to 5 students and one faculty member housed in a cottage together. Students live in community and share cooking and household duties during our time in Norway.

ACTIVITIES AND FREE TIME

In London, much of our time will be structured with rehearsals during the day and theatre outings in the evening. In Norway, our evenings will be spent at the theatre with performances running from 8pm-11pm each night. During the daytime students will have class in the morning and free time in the afternoon where they are welcome to take full advantage of hiking, biking and swimming facilities at the Vestby Cottage Park. There will be organized sightseeing trips into Oslo and a day-long fjords cruise.

TO APPLY TO THE INTERNSHIP PROGRAMS

Application is open to students currently in grades 10-12 including graduated seniors. No prior theatre experience is required, we are looking for a willingness to work hard and an enthusiasm for the craft of acting and the profession of theatre.

Please complete our application found online through our website www.actingabroad.com under "Application". You will need to submit a personal statement of 500 words listing your theatre experience, future goals and what you hope to gain from the program. Early application is encouraged as we have very limited space on both of these programs. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to email Andrea Mardon, Artistic Director at andrea@actingabroad.com.