

CHALLENGES for BARDIC MADNESS XXVIII

Fyt the First 9:30 – 10:45

Pass the Tale

Our usual warm-up serial storytelling game. Up to a dozen participants will construct a story on the spot, as directed by Master Dahrien.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FpOgamgzzhE&list=ULS8wmNn68S90&index=1325>

“Teach their stories to our Children”

Tell us (in story, song, or rhyme) something about SCA or your group that would make a kid (of any age) say, “I want to be part of that!”

Have you been Infected by Anapestic Tetrameter?

It’s hard to read about Horton the Elephant without falling into the rhythm used by Dr. Seuss. (duh-duh-DAH, duh-duh-DAH, duh-duh-DAH, duh-duh-DAH) - or - (twas the NIGHT be-fore CHRIST-mas and ALL through the HOUSE...) Share the disease. What can you make in anapestic tetrameter? https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anapestic_tetrameter

First time’s the Charm

Is this your first event? First time performing? First Bardic Madness? Or are you younger than age 14? Please introduce yourself to us any way you like – poem, song, commercial, tournament boast.... (Don’t forget to tell us your name and where you’re from.)

11:00 – 12:00 Class period

11:30 – 12:30 Lunch

12:45 – 1:30 Court

1:30 - 2:45 Second Fyt

Who Has Heard of Hortonville!

Alonzo Horton founded Hortonville in 1848. He was a grocery clerk, a sailor, a schoolteacher, a constable, a miner, an ice man, and a land speculator and developer. Tell us a little about the work-a-day life of someone (your persona or someone else) in period. Complaints are totally appropriate. So are advertisements.

Example - <https://www.brainpickings.org/2012/03/21/monk-complaints-manuscripts/>
<https://sites.nd.edu/manuscript-studies/2015/08/27/sounds-of-medieval-london/>

Doctor Seuss, meet Mother Goose.

Before he wrote children’s books, Dr. Seuss was an editorial cartoonist. Some people believe that many of our nursery rhymes also contain social commentary. Bring us a nursery rhyme/song of your own making that critiques some aspect of period society.

<https://dpanetta.wordpress.com/sage-on-the-page/>,
<http://www.bbc.com/culture/story/20150610-the-dark-side-of-nursery-rhymes>
<http://mentalfloss.com/article/55035/dark-origins-11-classic-nursery-rhymes>

Straight from the Middle Ages

Do something documentably from our period, or share an original work written and performed in a period style.

Performance, Performance, No Matter How Small.

Bring us a tiny piece – a riddle, a limerick, a haiku or tanka, or even ottava rima tanza (but no bigger than that) - on any subject. Extra credit if you sing it.

3:00 – 4:00 Class period

4:15 – 6:00 Fyt the Third

“It’s got a good beat and I can dance to it”

Dancing is becoming more popular in Northshield. Grab your partner(s) and write some words to one of the tunes you’ve been dancing to.

<http://rokeclif.org/dance/>

Behold – the Elephant!

Many interesting “facts” are known about various animals and plants in period. (For example, an elephant can’t bend its knees, so it leans on trees to sleep.) Tell us something you “know” about an animal or plant. Extra points for rhyming. Double extra points for singing.

<http://bestiary.ca/>

Elephant Stew

In the morning, we’ll give you a list of ingredients (a list of words and tunes). Make something of it.

<https://www.justapinch.com/print/non-editible/other-non-edible/mothers-elephant-stew.html>

6:30 – 7:30ish Feast and Fyt the Fourth

Instrumental Challenge (feasthall)

Bring out your fipple flutes, tabors and vielles. Play us a tune to make our feasting merry. (No instrument? Use your voice and pretend you're playing a wordless song.) For purposes of this challenge, kazoos are period. Ensemble pieces are especially welcome.

Bard Scribe Illuminator

Given a subject in the morning, write a poem, compose a tune for it, calligraph the text, and illuminate it. This may be done as an individual or in teams. There will be tables and a few (not necessarily period) supplies available in the performance space. The piece will be presented, and the artwork shown around the hall at feast.

Toast

We always toast Their Majesties and Their Highnesses during feast. Lead us in a toast to someone or something similarly deserving. (Keep it short – we want to eat! And give the servers a chance to refill your glasses... because who wants a dry toast?)

Bardic Circle (upstairs)

Northshield's bardic tradition includes many things, especially the spontaneous harmony that arises organically from the whole bardic circle. Let's show the **Knowne World Bardcast** how some of our NS classics should be done.

What is a challenge?

1. A challenge is NOT a contest or competition; everyone who enters wins.
2. Sign-up sheets will be available Saturday morning. There are a limited number of performances in each challenge. You're welcome to sign beneath the lines, but there's no guarantee that there will be time for such additions.
3. Please sign up for no more than three challenges – at least until everybody else has had a chance to sign in.
4. Please limit your performance time to 3 to 7 minutes. (We know it was hard work to memorize Beowulf in the original Klingon, but we don't have all day!)
5. This is a family-friendly place. If you really want to perform a bawdy piece, wait until after midnight.
6. This is a bardic safe space. Take chances, be creative, don't worry if you miss a line (we've all done it), put your heart into it... and above all, have fun.
7. Don't forget to greet your patron after your performance. They'll have a present for you.