



SHARPEN YOUR STUDENTS' SHAKESPEARE SKILLS!!! GIVE YOUR CLASSICAL CURRICULUM A CUTTING EDGE with ARMED ACTORS, MARK & HOLLIS McCARTHY!

Now located in the NJ/NY area, we bring Romeo & Juliet, Macbeth, and other Shakespeare plays alive for students. Drama leaps from dusty page to living stage with our flexible, fight and fun-filled 1 day to multiple week class visits as we demystify and electrify the drama of Shakespeare.

Professional actors for 20 years, we have also been Guest Artists/teachers for Notre Dame University, Wabash College, City Colleges of Chicago, and Victory Gardens Drama in the Schools, New Jersey Performing Arts Center, and Actors Shakespeare Company at NJ City University, among others..

- **We perform excerpts (highlighted by sword fights) from the plays,** bringing the characters alive and actively reinforcing your curriculum's plot and theme studies, putting metaphor, simile, oxymorons, sonnets and iambic pentameter into a dramatic context.
- **We involve students directly with "line of the day" exercises and daily opportunities to participate directly,** culminating in a 10 minute version of the play which the whole class performs staged-reading style.
- **We get them to see them POINT of Shakespeare,** getting them to relate to the timeless themes of love, hate, sex, violence etc., using the sword fights to hook them on the language, drama and history of the plays, ENTERTAINING them with Shakespeare performed professionally & passionately.

Working actors specializing in Shakespeare, our performing skills spice up our teaching, and we bond easily with students of all ages. Nationwide stage, television and film acting experience gives us an "in" with students who think TV, movies, and sword fights are cool. Over 3 to 5 class periods, our lesson plans are designed to use this to get them to think that Shakespeare is cool.

Combining our experience playing **major roles in Shakespeare productions nationwide** (The Old Globe, Chicago Shakespeare, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, Colorado Shakespeare, Notre Dame Shakespeare etc.), our Shakespeare training, and our teaching experience, we help students start to understand and enjoy Shakespeare's language as much as they enjoy their own slang.

Mark & Hollis McCarthy's training (see website resumes page for details):

MFAs in Acting, U. of Missouri-Kansas City, **BFA's in Theatre** with honors, U. of Toledo
Shakespeare training: Derek Clarke (of National Theatre Great Britain), Jane Whittenshaw (of Royal Shakespeare Co.), Kate Buckley (Chicago Shakespeare)

Combat training: Society of American Fight Directors, rapier-dagger, broadsword, unarmed

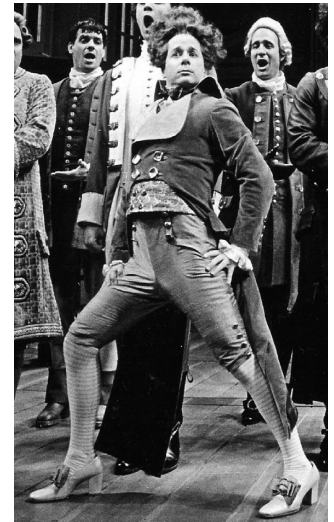


Photo: Portland CenterStage



Photo: Alabama Shakespeare

Quotes from students at Schurz High School, 2004, 2005:

"I don't know how you do it but it is pretty awesome how you guys made a boring thing such as Shakespeare the most interesting and exciting ever. I must admit that I have never been a big fan of Shakespeare since I have never really understood his stories until now. By the help of you guys...I understand why Shakespeare is held (in) such high esteem. He truly is one of the most unique writer(s). The best part of all I liked the most when you guys came was the sword fight. It was the most coolest thing I have ever witnessed."

"Thank you for telling us more about Romeo & Juliet. Also you guys inspired me to read the book. At first I really did not want to read it but now I understand it so now am going to read it. Hope you guys come and visit us again."

"You guys are sensational actors. You brought the play to life. I learned new words and terms (ex. Iambic Pentameter, antithesis, and oxymoron.) I hope you guys will come back..."

GIVE YOUR STUDENTS AN EDGE!!! PROFESSIONAL ACTORS REVEAL THE POINT OF SHAKESPEARE, BATTLING TO BRING THE BARD ALIVE!