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SUMMER SHAKESPEARE 2020

ROMEO AND JULIET

**AUDITION PACK**

***Welcome to the auditions for our second Summer Shakespeare, to be performed ‘al fresco’ at Kainui Vineyard in February 2020.***

***Auditions will be held 17th -18th August, the same weekend as The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe. Members can audition for both productions, and it is intended that enthusiastic actors can participate in both, as rehearsals and performances of Romeo and Juliet will be over before the rehearsals for LWW start.***

***Interested?? Great!! Read on…..***

**About the play…**

**Romeo and Juliet,** the much-loved Shakespeare play, which most of us know at least in part, having watched various stage and film versions. The story is timeless and has been covered by modern interpretations such as *West Side Story.* We can see lots of similar themes in present day life, which is why the story has lasting and universal appeal.

It is a tragedy about two star-crossed lovers from two feuding families. Their forbidden love leads to their untimely deaths, which eventually reconcile the grieving families, but not without many other characters being brought into the fray along the way.

We will be working with the traditional Shakespeare script, which will be edited to remove part of the opening scene and some of the longer, historical references. This allows time for musical accompaniment to some scenes, selected and played by our great local ensemble to enhance and embellish the occasion.

**Who should audition?**

Anyone aged from 8-80+, with or without experience working with the bard!

If you enjoyed being part of our 2019 production *A Midsummer Night’s Dream,* welcome back!

If you are first-timers with Shakespeare, don’t worry, we will help one another with difficult bits of language and interpretation of the script.

Yes, it may be challenging at first, but we will work together to make the experience meaningful, worthwhile and fun for all participants. Everyone who makes the required commitment will be confident and ready by performance date!

There are large and small parts, with a total cast of around 46.

The audition process is the same as for LWW, starting on Sat 17th August at 9 a.m. at Cornerstone, with workshops in voice, body movement and acting with a script. (see LWW audition pack for more details).

At the end of Saturday, actors will select a time to attend an individual audition on Sunday 18th.

The audition panel will be the same for both LWW and R & J, so you will be asked to do just the one procedure.

The only difference is you’ll need to tell us whether you’re auditioning for one or both productions. If just R & J, or both, you’ll need to prepare a short excerpt for R & J (choose from the attached selection).

**Who is directing the show?**

That will be me, *Barbara Kirkman*, with a supporting team of willing production assistants.

If you would like to be part of the support team, please come along to the auditions and register your interest.

**What you need to know?**

***Costs***: KTC Membership fees, $10.00 students up to and including 16yrs; $20.00 adults, payable at time of registration.

Workshops as required: $20.00 each.

Scripts: $12.00 each.

***Rehearsal Schedule and Performance Dates****:*  Rehearsals will take place on Tuesday and Fridays evenings and Sunday afternoons, starting 1st Oct and apart from Christmas-New Year holiday break will run through to performance dates, which will be…..

**Feb 21st, 22nd, 23rd and Feb 27th, 28th, 29th**

***Workshop Series:***

We aim for a high standard of performance skills in all our actors and in addition to the scheduled rehearsals we will also be running workshops.

The Workshop Series will be beneficial to many of the R & J cast, as well as the LWW cast, and it is intended the two casts will work together in these 5 workshops. As numbers are limited, priority will be given to actors with leading roles. The cost is $20 for each workshop.

***Holiday break:***

There will be a break from the schedule over Christmas holiday period, from 16th Dec to 7th Jan. We will do our best to work around senior student study periods and exams.

***Casting Announcement***

Those who are selected will be notified by email as soon as possible after the auditions, once the selection panel have finalised their work. There are a number of factors for them to consider, not least of which is the group dynamics, and this can take a little time. Bear with us…we need to get it right for all concerned!

***Thank you for your courage and enthusiasm!***

***Excerpts for R & J auditions:***

Please select one and do your best to learn it by heart and have appropriate movement blocked. Check the LWW audition requirements and prepare in the same way.

***Excerpt 1***

*Prince*

***What ho, you men, you beasts***

***Throw your mistempered weapons to the ground***

*( the stage falls still)*

***Three civil brawls bred of an airy word,***

***By thee, old Capulet, and Montague,***

***Have thrice disturbed the quiet of our streets,***

***If ever you disturb our streets again,***

***Your lives shall pay the forfeit of the peace,***

***On pain of death, all men depart.***

***………………………………….***

***Excerpt 2***

*Juliet:*

***‘Tis but thy name that is my enemy;***

***Thou art thyself, though not a Montague.***

***O, be some other name.***

***What’s in a name? That which we call a rose***

***By any other name would smell as sweet.***

***So Romeo would, were he not Romeo called.***

***Romeo, doff thy name,***

***And for that name, which is no part of thee,***

***Take all myself.***

***…………………………………..***

***Excerpt 3***

*Romeo:*

*(he sees Juliet)*

***But soft! What light through yonder window breaks?***

***It is the east and Juliet is the sun.***

***Arise, fair sun, and kill the envious moon,***

***Who is already sick and pale with grief***

***That thou her maid art far more fair than she.***

***She speaks, yet she says nothing. What of that?***

***Her eye discourses: I will answer it.***

***I am too bold; ‘t is not to me she speaks.***

***…………………………………………………….***

***Excerpt 4***

*Nurse:*

***Now, afore God, I am so vexed that every part about me quivers.***

*(Referring to Mercutio)****Scurvy knave!*** *(to Romeo)* ***Pray you,sir, a word. And, as I told you, my young lady bid me enquire you out. What she bid me say I will keep to myself; but first let me tell ye, if ye shouldlead her into a fool’s paradise, as they say, it were a very gross kind of behaviour, as they say; for the gentlewoman is young, and therefore, if you should deal double with her, truly it were an ill thing to be offered to any gentlewoman, and very weak dealing.***

***Excerpt 5***

*Mercutio:*

***No,’tis not so deep as a well, nor so wide as a church door, but ‘tis enough, ’t will serve. Ask for me tomorrow and you will find me a grave man. I am peppered, I warrant, for this world. A plague o’both your houses! Zounds! a dog, a rat, a mouse, a cat, to scratch a man to death! A braggart, a rogue, a villain that fights by the book of arithmetic!*** *(toRomeo)* ***Why the devil came you between us? I was hurt under your arm.***

***…………………………………………….***

***Excerpt 6***

*Lady Capulet:*

***Well, think of marriage now. Younger than you,***

***here in Verona, ladies of esteem,***

***Are made already mothers. By my count,***

***I was your mother much upon these years***

***That you are now a maid. Thus then in brief,***

***The valiant Paris seeks you for his love.***

*(to Juliet)****What say you? Can you love this gentleman?***

***………………………………………………….***