



## Teaching Stratford Program: Experiential Teaching and Learning Through Theatre

### TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- SHAKESPEARE
  - *A Midsummer Night's Dream*
    - Roundtable: Peter Pasyk and André Sills
    - Workshop: Shakespeare and Transformation
      - This play takes us deep into the sometimes unsettlingly dark and dangerous realms of the subconscious and famously culminates in a play within the play in which we are won over by the players' heartfelt belief in the power of the imagination. How can the most fundamental techniques of theatrical art push students to celebrate and discover the possibilities of imagination and transformation?
  - *R+J*
    - Roundtable: Ravi Jain, Dante Jemmott and Eponine Lee
    - Workshop: Shakespeare and Adaptation
      - R+J is a radical reimagining of Shakespeare's most famous romantic tragedy which is accessible to blind and low vision patrons and young people in the roles of Romeo and Juliet. How can approaching this story using a diversity of voices and through the lens of blind gain encourage audiences to reconstruct a more inclusive, intersectional and accessible world for all?
- MUSICAL THEATRE
  - *Why We Tell the Story*
    - Roundtable: Marcus Nance, Franklin Brasz and Robert Markus
    - Workshop: Exploring the Black Musical Theatre Canon
      - Throughout the ages the African-American community has told stories of life, love, pain and hope through the glorious expressions of musical theatre and poetry. How can diving deep into pieces from the African-American musical theatre canon give students new insights into the power of storytelling and musical theatre?
  - *You Can't Stop the Beat*
    - Roundtable: Thom Allison, Evangelia Kambites and Mark Uhre
    - Workshop: Musical Theatre and the Human Experience
      - What is it about musical theatre that captures the hearts of millions of fans? Explore how the musical theatre hits we know and love provide new insights into both the heartbreaks and triumphs of the human experience. How can music help students to better understand themselves, their peers and the world around them?
- MUSICAL SHAKESPEARE
  - *I Am William*
    - Roundtable: Esther Jun, Shakura Dickson and Landon Doak
    - Workshop: Allyship and Reimagining History
      - Tapping into our fascination with the enigma of Shakespeare's life and how he came to write those plays, this play invites us to imagine a world in which William is not the writer, but a supporter of his sister and her true talent to

imagine and tell these stories at a time when female intellect and literacy is not only discouraged, but dangerous. How can reimagining history invite students to explore the possibilities for allyship and partnership?

- *Play On!*
  - Roundtable: Julia Nish-Lapidus, James Wallis and Robert Markus
  - Workshop: Shakespeare and Popular Culture
    - Shakespeare's influence on Western culture extends even into your favourite pop hits. Whether it be direct lines from his plays appearing in lyrics of charting hits or whole songs inspired by his plots, Shakespeare is there, lurking in the mainstream. How can investigating and celebrating this music afford students the opportunity to gain new insights into Shakespeare and what his work means to them in 2021?
  
- CONTEMPORARY AND NEW CANADIAN THEATRE
  - *Serving Elizabeth*
    - Roundtable: Marcia Johnson, Cameron Grant and Virgilia Griffith
    - Workshop: Re-imagination and Reclamation
      - Through representation, reclamation and re-imagination, this play gives us the chance to see resistance on stage. How can the stories and histories this play encompass invite students to re-imagine and reclaim their hi/stories in order to re-assert their agency?
  
  - *The Rez Sisters*
    - Roundtable: Brefny Caribou and Jani Lauzon
    - Workshop: Grief, Change and Resilience
      - How does this play provide insight into facing and responding to the traumas and challenges of living today? What can the sisterhood of these seven women teach us about grief and resilience? The themes, language and spirituality of this play offer students the opportunity to investigate the past and respond to the present in order to reimagine a new and better future.