



SANTA CRUZ
SHAKESPEARE
EDUCATION PROGRAM

Week Four With *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

Below, you will find a performance activity looking at Helena's monologue in Act 3 Scene 2, a creative writing and illustration activity on *Midsummer's* fairies, and a zoom link to a performance of *Midsummer* followed by discussions that will take place in August.

We encourage you to share these resources with your colleagues, and if you would like to share your work or any of your students' work on this platform, we would love to engage with you! Send questions or comments to education@santacruzshakespeare.org.



The Lovers with the Fairies in SCS's production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, 2016. Photo by rr jones.

O spite! O hell! I see you all are bent
To set against me for your merriment.

Folger Shakespeare Library provides a performance activity for your students to gain a closer look at one of Shakespeare's soliloquies in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. When Helena thinks the man she loves, Demetrius, is making fun of her she engages in a passionate explanation of defending herself and reprimanding Hermia, Helena's supposed friend. Helena's monologue in Act 3 Scene 2 will be a stimulating soliloquy for students to share their interpretations of the scene via an online platform. Lesson Link: [Close Reading a Soliloquy: Helena Act 3 Scene 2](#)

Creating The Fairies

When in pre-production of a Shakespeare play, the creative team will always have a discussion about what time period they will be setting their version of the play in. Some of their questions might include:

What will the costumes look like?

What technology is available to us?

Patty Gallagher (First Fairy) in SCS's production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, 2016. Photo by Jana Marcus.



What will the setting be?

One of the most interesting aspects in directing and designing *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, is figuring out what costumes your Fairies will wear and what your Fairy Forest will look like. In their [Education Packet](#), The Royal Shakespeare Company provides creative writing activities and art projects for your students to produce their own Midsummer Fairies. Lesson Link: [RSC_Creating The Fairies](#)

Midsummer In August!

To prolong these midsummer vibes into August, be sure to check out "A Midsummer Night's Zoom" by UCI Shakespeare Center and Julia Lupton. Details from their website can be found below:

"A Midsummer Night's Zoom" is directed by Eli Simon and features New Swan actors from our 2018 production, as well as some sparkling new New Swan talent. It has been re-invisioned for the medium of Zoom acting and live streaming. We are dividing the play into halves, with interactive discussions led by Julia Lupton following each evening's performance.

Part I Wednesday, August 26, 6 pm PST

Part II Thursday, August 27, 6 pm PST

Part I Friday, August 28, 6 pm PST

Part II Saturday, August 29, 6 pm PST

Guest scholars for talk-backs include Julia Lupton (UCI), Ian Munro (UCI), Matthew Smith (Azusa Pacific University), and Ariane Helou (UCLA and Santa Cruz Shakespeare).

All performances are free, but we appreciate donations to help cover the cost of paying our actors and artistic team.



Special Thanks

Folger Shakespeare Library

Royal Shakespeare Company

UCI Shakespeare Center

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And all who support SCS's Educational Programming



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