

**DATE**

8.25.17

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For Immediate Release**SARATOGA SHAKESPEARE COMPANY CONTINUES ITS
SEASON OF MAGIC WITH *THE WINTER'S TALE*****Free production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* runs through
July 29th with *The Winter's Tale* opening August 1st****Community Outreach Production of *Twelfth Night* opens August 2nd**

SARATOGA SPRINGS, NY, July 25, 2017 – The Saratoga Shakespeare Company continues its celebration of romance and magic with ***The Winter's Tale***, opening on Tuesday, August 1st and running through Saturday, August 5th. All performances will be in Congress Park, Saratoga Springs, on the Alfred Z. Solomon Stage, at 6 pm. Admission is always free of charge, and Congress Park is entirely accessible. Both young and old, as well as family groups, are strongly encouraged to attend – with or without picnics – for what has become a beloved summer tradition in Saratoga. As Saratoga's longest running professional theatre company, our two main-stage productions feature several members of Actors' Equity Association, the stage actors' professional union. As we prepare to open ***The Winter's Tale***, ***A Midsummer Night's Dream*** will continue through July 29th.

Last season the Company presented two productions in Congress Park for the first time and our audience responded with record attendance. This year's second production of ***The Winter's Tale*** is helmed by the talented Liz Carlson-Guerin. Liz is a director and dramaturge who specializes in New Play Development, Classic Theatre for Contemporary Audiences, Physical & Devised Theatre and Community Engagement. She served for eight years as an associate director and company member for West Philadelphia's renowned Curio Theatre Company, and her 2016 Philadelphia premiere of *The Birds* by Conor MacPherson for Curio was Barrymore Recommended. One of the last plays written by Shakespeare, ***The Winter's Tale*** is a timeless and enchanting tale of love, loss, jealousy and redemption. A masterful blend of tragedy and comedy with a most surprising ending, the play features the theatre's most intriguing stage direction – "*Exit, pursued by bear.*"

Additionally, the Saratoga Shakespeare Young Theatre Professional Company will offer our Community Outreach production of ***Twelfth Night***, directed by company member Douglas Seldin. Seldin serves as Assistant Director of Education and Training for the company. Performances will take place during the first week of August in multiple locations, including Congress Park and Skidmore College's Suzanne Corbet Thomas Amphitheater. These college-aged aspiring theatre artists have trained extensively and are also performing alongside our professional actors in ***A Midsummer Night's Dream***. *Twelfth Night* will be presented in three Saratoga locations: Wednesday, August 2nd at 10AM at the Skidmore College-Amphitheatre (rain performance in JKB Theatre), Friday, August 4th at 11:30am in the Saratoga EOC @ Jefferson Terrace and Saturday, August 5th at 1pm in Historic Congress Park.

The Saratoga Shakespeare Company is grateful to Skidmore College for their generosity, as well as continued support from Skidmore's Office of Special Programs and the Department of Theater. The Company is thrilled to be the recipient of a Community Arts Grant from Saratoga Arts as well as an Alfred Z Solomon Grant.

Since 2000, our productions have become a beloved Saratoga tradition, and many regional children have grown up watching Saratoga Shakespeare every summer. The Company has always taken great pride in presenting Shakespeare's work with great clarity and continues to develop a visually arresting and audience immersive aesthetic. This year will be no different.

The Company certainly hopes that someone can be made available to review ***The Winter's Tale***. We have been extremely grateful for your past coverage of our productions, as well as your overall commitment to solid arts coverage. For further information, visit www.saratogashakespeare.com or Saratoga Shakespeare's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/SaratogaShakespeare, or you can contact our Executive Director, Barbara Opitz, at 518-587-2166 (bopitz@skidmore.edu) or our Associate Artistic Director of PR and Audience Engagement, David Girard, at 518-528-1677 (david@davidmgirard.com).

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