



WKP is proud to present *The Taming of the Shrew* and *Two Gentlemen of Verona* as our 2023 Summer Season!

These two rough-and-tumble comedies, both directed by WKP Founding Artistic Director Sandra Boynton, will tour throughout the Capital District in July and August. WKP seeks actors, stage managers, and crew with enthusiasm and passion for the production of Shakespeare's works through the lens of 17th century authenticity. All 2023 Summer Season participants will receive a modest stipend at the end of the tour.

Production Schedule:

WKP will book up to 14 performances, likely 7 of each play, with both shows typically performing once each weekend in repertory. Our summer performance schedule runs from July 1-2 to August 26-27, in both indoor and outdoor locations. We regularly play in Troy's Prospect Park, Schenectady's Music Haven, Sand Lake Center for the Arts, historic Hubbard Hall, and other venues. We anticipate two summer "vacation" weekends with no bookings or obligations. Specific performance dates will be confirmed by mid-April or earlier.

In late February and March, prior to rehearsals, WKP will hold workshops for all company and summer day players in early modern text analysis, verse and prose conventions, clown skills, audience contact, music, dance and other skills needed for this season's productions. These workshops will occur on zoom and/or in person, and will be scheduled at the convenience of the participants.

Rehearsals will commence around the first of April; each show will rehearse twice weekly, tentatively in Schenectady (6-7 hours), on a schedule to be determined by cast and rehearsal hall availability. Our standard schedule is M-Th 6:30-9:30 pm, with occasional weekend days at the discretion of the production. Attendance during tech/dress rehearsals (tentatively the weeks of June 19 and 26) is mandatory.

Performance Opportunities:

Principal roles, featured roles and ensemble tracks are available (though some onstage roles in both productions have been filled), and you are encouraged to audition for roles in either or both shows. (Be aware if you choose to take roles in both productions that you are obligating yourself to 10-16 hours of rehearsal/week.) **For a list of open onstage roles and their descriptive breakdowns, please visit willkempesplayers.com/auditions.**



All roles will be performed as the gender that Shakespeare wrote, and an actor's gender will have no impact on the roles they may be asked to play. All costuming will be English circa 1600, and those playing women's roles will be corseted.

This year WKP will hold the first phase of auditions via reel submissions. The deadline for reel submissions is midnight on Thursday, January 26. To fill out an audition submission form and get further instructions on how to send us your reel, please visit willkempesplayers.com/auditions.

We ask that all auditioners provide the following in your reel:

-Two (or more) contrasting pieces of Early Modern dramatic text, totaling about 20-60 lines. Anything by Shakespeare or any other playwrights from the same era will fit into the "Early Modern" category. Please identify the play(s) and role(s). Please memorize and prepare your pieces.

-"Something fantastic," up to 2 minutes: This is your opportunity to show us who YOU are. Share with us a demonstration of a skill that makes you feel confident. Examples include: singing a song you love or playing a musical instrument, perhaps both, holding your breath for long periods of time, any varieties of dancing, doing impressions, party tricks, juggling, or even sharing your funniest life story. WKP wants to see what makes you unique and most importantly, we want you to have fun!

Please note: Do not be intimidated by submitting video auditions; WKP does not expect professional reels, although those are welcomed as well. Just prop up your phone and record until you love the product. Send the one(s) you love to us.

Callbacks will be held **IN PERSON** on **Saturday, January 28** and **Sunday, January 29 from 2-5 pm** at **Creative Action Unlimited Studio**, 6 Greenwood Drive, North Greenbush, NY, 12061. Those called back will be asked to attend only one of these days, not both. You will hear from us via email regarding callbacks by the evening of Friday, January 27.

Production Opportunities:

WKP seeks **2 Stage Managers** for our 2023 Summer Season (one per show). WKP also seeks **4 dedicated theatre-makers (2 per show)** to serve as ASMs during the rehearsal process and backstage support during performances. All 4 ASMs will also each understudy a number of roles; they may be asked to stand in during rehearsal and will, if necessary, play the role in performance, script in hand. For more details on these positions, please visit willkempesplayers.com/auditions.



-All participants for WKP's 2023 Summer Season must provide proof of full COVID vaccination at the time of callback.-

-WKP does not currently contract with AEA. Please contact us with any questions.-

-WKP is currently only hiring people aged 18+.-