TRAVELING PLAYERS ENSEMBLE
SHAKESPEARE ENSEMBLE

WELCOME! We're so excited for you to audition! We can't wait to meet you – or see you again!

WHAT HAPPENS AT AUDITIONS?

We know that actors can shine in different ways, so we organize our auditions to allow actors with different strengths to shine. You will perform a memorized monologue, play improvisation games, and participate in group discussions as well as talk to the director one on one.

The audition is an opportunity for the director to get to know you and to see how you work and play with other potential members of the ensemble. It is also an opportunity for you to get to know your potential castmates. You will have your best audition if you relax, have fun, and connect with your fellow performers! We have been told that our auditions are significantly more fun than the average audition. We plan to keep it that way.

THE MONOLOGUE:

- Choose **one (1)** of the three (3) monologues below to prepare.
- This monologue **must be memorized**. You won't be able to read it from the paper when you perform it.
- You'll perform your monologue to the rest of the auditionees plus Ryan Fields, the Shakespeare Ensemble Director, and Jeanne Harrison, the Artistic Director.

Some helpful guidelines for the monologue:

- Do I understand all the words? Have I looked up any words or phrases I don't understand?
- Do I understand *why* this character says each line? Will it be clear to my audience?
- Am I speaking loudly and clearly enough so my audience can understand me?
- How can I engage my whole body in the performance? (This doesn't necessarily mean *moving* your whole body.) Are my physical gestures connected to my words and character?

If there are any questions, please don't hesitate to ask...you can reach us at 703-987-1712 or you can email us at director@travelingplayers.org.

ON AUDITION DAY:

Before arriving: Be sure to eat and dress in clothes that will allow you to move comfortably. Bring a water bottle. Now relax and have fun -- you're going to do great! You could very likely learn new skills and make new friends!

Monologue Option #1
Titania from *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Act II. 1 / 85-95)

TITANIA   Never, since the middle summer's spring,
       Met we on hill, in dale, forest, or mead,
       By pavèd fountain or by rushy brook,
       Or in the beachèd margent of the sea,
       To dance our ringlets to the whistling wind,
       But with your brawls thou dost disturb our sport.
       Therefore, the winds, piping to us in vain,
       As in revenge have sucked up from the sea
       Contagious fogs, which, falling in the land,
       Hath every pelting river made so proud
       That they have overborne their continents.

Monologue Option #2
Lysander from *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Act II. 2 / 43-58)

LYSANDER We'll rest us, Hermia, if you think it good,
       And tarry for the comfort of the day.
       One turf shall serve as pillow for us both;
       One heart, one bed, two bosoms, and one troth.
       O, take the sense, sweet, of my innocence!
       Love takes the meaning in love's conference.
       I mean that my heart unto yours is knit,
       So that but one heart we can make of it;
       Two bosoms interchainèd with an oath—
       So then two bosoms and a single troth.
       Then by your side no bed-room me deny,
       For lying so, Hermia, I do not lie.

Monologue Option #3
Bottom from *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Act III. 1 / 29-45)

BOTTOM   Masters, you ought to consider with yourself, to bring in (God shield us!) a lion among ladies is a most dreadful thing. For there is not a more fearful wildfowl than your lion living, and we ought to look to 't. Nay, you must name his name, and half his face must be seen through the lion's neck, and he himself must speak through, saying thus, or to the same defect: "Ladies," or "Fair ladies, I would wish you," or "I would request you," or "I would entreat you not to fear, not to tremble! My life for yours. If you think I come hither as a lion, it were pity of my life. No, I am no such thing. I am a man as other men are." And there indeed let him name his name and tell them plainly he is Snug the joiner.