



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

THE JAMES RIVER SHAKESPEARE COMPANY PRESENTS ITS 2025 SEASON OF "WICKED LOVE!"

ALL PERFORMANCES ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

(Newport News, VA: June 15, 2025) The James River Shakespeare Company (JRSC) is a professional, nonprofit theatre collective of Christopher Newport University students, alumni, staff, and faculty, creating intellectually distinctive, riotously creative, and entertainingly provocative theatre for audiences of all ages. The Company uses embodied and academic research and analysis to inform a process that generates accessible, engaging, and witty performances. This season will be held June 19-28 and include performances of *Macbeth* and *Twelfth Night* at the Newport News Park Arboretum Stage, Christopher Newport University's Gaines Theatre, and Patrick Henry High School in Ashland, Virginia. All are free and open to the public, with a reservation required.

Something wicked this way comes in Shakespeare's most enigmatic tragedy, *Macbeth*. Coveting the throne of Scotland, the loyal soldier Macbeth finds himself able and encouraged to achieve it, but torn between ruthless ambition and an imaginative conscience. As in all tales of power, it is never quite clear whether Macbeth or his enablers bear the consequences of his increasingly ruthless decisions. In Shakespeare's Scotland, can anyone find, or bring, peace? Find out in an evening of politics and action! Performances will be held Friday, June 20, and Thursday, June 26, at 4:30 p.m. at the Newport News Park Arboretum Stage; on Saturday, June 21, and Saturday, June 28 at 7:30 p.m. at Christopher Newport University's Gaines Theatre. The Company will travel to Patrick Henry High School in Ashland, Virginia on Tuesday, June 24 for one performance at 7 p.m.

If music be the food of love, Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* offers a feast for the ears. Viola, shipwrecked on foreign shores, disguises herself as a young man and presents herself at court, where she quickly falls for the Duke Orsino, only to find herself wooing Countess Olivia on his behalf! Comic confusion abounds as everyone from servant to sovereign is touched by the midsummer madness of love, old and new. Join the JRSC for newly composed tunes in Shakespeare's most musical play! Performances will be held on Thursday, June 19, and Friday, June 27, at 4:30 p.m. at the Newport News Park Arboretum Stage; on Saturday, June 21, and Saturday, June 28 at 2 p.m. at Christopher Newport University's Gaines Theatre. The Company will travel to Patrick Henry High School in Ashland, Virginia, on Monday, June 23, for one performance at 7 p.m.

Performances are free, with a reservation required. Visit jamesrivershakespeare.com for details and to reserve seats.