

**SYMPOSIUM:**

# Much Ado About Shakespeare in Contemporary America

**SATURDAY MAY 2, 2015**

As part of its ongoing investigation of Shakespeare's place in contemporary American culture, and in concert with the current Oregon Shakespeare Festival production of *Much Ado About Nothing*, the new ShakespeareAMERICA Institute presents a special symposium focusing on contemporary performances and adaptations of *Much Ado About Nothing*.

The one-day program includes a lecture by Hollywood film scholar Steve Vineberg on "Shakespeare and Hollywood." There will be a special screening of Joss Whedon's 2012 film version of *Much Ado About Nothing* which is set in a posh Los Angeles neighborhood, followed by a discussion about the film. The symposium also includes a moderated multimedia performance by SOU students examining how the central issues of love and shaming in *Much Ado* play out in contemporary social media culture. Finally, a panel of distinguished artists will examine the Oregon Shakespeare Festival's very American production of *Much Ado About Nothing*.

The Symposium begins at the Ashland Varsity Theatre at 10 a.m.; continues with lunch at SOU and afternoon events at the Meese Auditorium in the SOU Art Building.

- ▶ The registration fee of \$25 includes all events and a catered box lunch.
- ▶ University and high school students and SOU faculty and staff pay a \$10 registration fee.
- ▶ To register, call the SOU Performing Arts box office at 541-552-6348 or purchase online at [sou.edu/performingarts](http://sou.edu/performingarts). Registration deadline is Thursday, April 30.
- ▶ Professional development credit is available for teachers at \$70 for one credit (includes registration fee and lunch). To register for CEU, call 541-552-6333.

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