



The English-Speaking Union
National Shakespeare Competition
2016 MEMO TO TEACHERS



To: Teachers Interested in the English-Speaking Union National Shakespeare Competition
From: Education Department, The English-Speaking Union of the United States
Date: Fall 2016

We invite your school to celebrate the Bard by participating in the **ESU National Shakespeare Competition!** In this program, high school students nationwide read, analyze, perform and recite Shakespearean monologues and sonnets in as many as three qualifying stages: school, community (ESU Branch) and national levels. Learn more about it online at www.esuus.org in the Programs/National Shakespeare Competition section.

For those of you who participated in the program last year, we would like to express our deep appreciation for your dedication to this program and your students. You were part of a national effort involving 15,000 students and over 1500 teachers who encouraged their students to excel at Shakespeare. We hope your school continues to participate.

If your school has not yet taken part in our Competition, we hope that you will consider offering this exciting, educational program. Your students will develop essential skills (critical thinking, close reading and public speaking) and increase their self-confidence through reading, analysis and performance of Shakespeare.

In order to participate in the program, your school must do the following:

1. **To sign-up with the Hawaii English-Speaking Union Branch**, fill out the online [School Participation Form](#) (*some exceptions apply*). Confirm with your local ESU Branch Shakespeare Coordinator that your school is registered for the program.

Note: You are not guaranteed participation in the 2016 Competition until you receive this confirmation.

2. **Review Competition materials.** All the necessary materials to familiarize yourself with the Competition and encourage the participation of your students can be found on our [teacher resource page](#). The [2015-2016 Teacher Handbook](#) and other resources are available on our website at www.esuus.org. Some essentials included in the Teacher Handbook are:

• <i>School Competition Rules & Instructions</i>	• <i>Student Guidelines</i>
• <i>Sample Class Schedule & Lesson Plans</i>	• <i>Judging Materials</i>
• <i>Connection to National Standards</i>	• <i>Suggested Monologue and Sonnet Lists</i>

Note: Students' monologues cannot be more than 20 lines (verse or prose) according to the Folger Shakespeare Library editions of the plays (Simon & Schuster (2003-2013)). [Free texts](#) are available.

3. **Hold an in-school Shakespeare competition** (where students perform monologues from Shakespeare's plays). Select one student to represent your school at the community (ESU Branch) competition.

4. **Submit your school winner's information** to your local ESU Branch. Fill out the *School Winner Entry Form*. Return it (with copies of their monologue and sonnet selections) to your local ESU Branch Shakespeare Coordinator by the Branch deadline.

Prize Highlights: The winner of your community (ESU Branch) competition receives an all-expenses-paid trip to New York City to compete at the National Competition (usually at Lincoln Center). The national winner of the ESU National Shakespeare Competition receives an all-expenses-paid trip to study acting in Shakespeare's homeland, England. Last year teachers of the top three national winners also received full tuition scholarships to ESU/Folger Shakespeare professional development workshops and teaching materials.

Thank you for your interest in the English-Speaking Union National Shakespeare Competition. The [Hawaii Branch](#) may be contacted via e-mail at esuhawaii@gmail.com or by calling Branch President Mark Lawhorn at 808-352-2324. We look forward to working with you this year.

The following is a list of some Shakespeare-related activities coming up between now and the end of May 2016. Some items are firm while others have yet to be confirmed.

First Folio!: The Book That Gave Us Shakespeare (Exhibition runs from April 25 through May 25, 2016 in LAMA Library.)

Programming and Activities in Honolulu, HI from October 2015 through May 2016

Host Site: Kapi‘olani Community College

Project Coordinator: Prof. Mark Lawhorn

Date	Event	Time & Location	Partners	Target Audiences	Notes
October 10, 2015	Folger Workshop for Teachers (workshop is at capacity of 30 and there is a wait list)	9:00am-5:30pm Olapa 116, KapCC	ESUUS ESU Hawaii Folger Shakespeare Library	Teachers	Funded by ESU Hawaii Workshop Leader Skip Nicolson is combining elements of Folger workshop on teaching Shakespeare with teaching the First Folio. 
October 19-24, 2015	Master Class series led by Gary Logan, Director of the Shakespeare Theatre Company's Academy for Classical Acting in Washington, D.C.	Various times			Hosted by UH Manoa Dept. of Theater and Dance
October 24, 2015	A free public workshop: "Scansion Dynamics, Persuasion, and Dialects" led by Gary Logan, Director of the Shakespeare	12:00-3:00 pm Earle Ernst Lab Theatre at Kennedy Theatre			Hosted by UH Manoa Dept. of Theater and Dance

	Theatre Company's Academy for Classical Acting in Washington, D.C.				
October 27, 2015	<i>Hamlet</i> National Theatre (Live) Benedict Cumberbatch	7:00pm Kahala Theatre			
October 28, 2015	<i>Hamlet</i> National Theatre (Live) Benedict Cumberbatch	2:00pm Kahala Theatre			
November 7, 2015	<i>Brush Up Your Shakespeare!</i> Workshop	2:00-5:00pm Hawaii Theatre Annex Studio 1121 Nu‘uanu Ave., Hon., HI 96813	Hawaii Theatre Education Department UH Manoa Theater Dept. ESU Hawaii	Students in grades 9-12 who plan to compete in their school segment of the ESU National Shakespeare Competition	Workshop is conducted by UHM Theater Professor Paul Mitri and Eden Lee Murray, Director of Education for the Hawaii Theatre and the Hawaii Theatre Young Actors Ensemble.
December 8, 2016	<i>Evening with the Bard</i>	7:00pm Hawaii Theatre	Hawaii Theatre Education Department		
December 2015, January 2016	Folger First Folio Workshops for Teachers	TBA KapCC and some State Library Branches	KapCC ESU Hawaii Folger Shakespeare Library	Teachers	Professor Mark Lawhorn
February 2016	<i>Polishing Your Shakespeare Performance</i> Workshop	TBA Hawaii Theatre Annex Studio 1121 Nu‘uanu Ave., Hon., HI 96813	Hawaii Theatre Education Department UH Manoa Theater Dept. ESU Hawaii	Students in grades 9-12 who placed first in their school competitions and will be moving on to the Hawaii state segment of the ESU National	Workshop is conducted by Eden Lee Murray, Director of Education for the Hawaii Theatre and the Hawaii Theatre Young Actors Ensemble.

				Shakespeare Competition	
Third week of February 2016	Hawaii state segment of the ESU National Shakespeare Competition	TBA	ESU Hawaii Funded by the Sidney Stern Memorial Trust	Public invited to watch and listen as school winners vie for chance to compete in ESU National Shakespeare Competition at Lincoln Center in NYC.	Competition is a great venue for also promoting <i>First Folio!</i> 2015 National Champion is from Hawaii.
February 12, 14, 16, 2016	Benjamin Britten's opera <i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	Blaisdell Concert Hall		Opera lovers, Shakespeare lovers, and everyone else as well.	Hawaii Opera Theater (HOT) production.
February 10, 2016	“Opera for Everyone” Performance of Benjamin Britten’s opera <i>A Midsummer Night’s Dream</i>	Blaisdell Concert Hall 7:00pm		Students of all ages.	HOT Education Department event. Tickets are only \$6.00. http://www.hawaiiopera.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/OFE-Group-Brochure-15-16.pdf
March 2016	Folger First Folio Workshops for Teachers	TBA KapCC and some State Library Branches	KapCC ESU Hawaii Folger Shakespeare Library	Teachers	Prof. Mark Lawhorn and others.
April 2016	<i>Othello</i>	Student Matinee Performances Apr. 20 10:00am Apr. 21, 22 9:15am Public Performances Apr. 22 7:00pm Apr. 23 2:00pm			Hawaii Theatre Young Actors Ensemble

		Hawaii Theatre			
April 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23	<i>Richard III</i>	Leeward Community College Theater Lab			
April 18- 25, 2016	Folger First Folio Programing for Families	Hawaii State Library Branches throughout the islands.	Hawaii State Library	Families	Head of the Hawaii State Library Diane Eddy suggested the timing of the programming just before the opening of the exhibition to get folks inspired to attend. Folger materials for family sessions have arrived.
April 17, 2016	Installation in lobby of Lama Library of exhibit called (for now) <i>Shakespeare Comes to Hawaii</i>				
April 18- 25, 2016	Installation of <i>First Folio!</i>	Char Room Second Floor, Lama Library	Folger Shakespeare Library NEH KapCC		
April 18- May 25, 2016	<i>Shakespeare Comes to Hawaii</i> (description at end of events list)	Lobby Lama Library	ESU Hawaii KapCC UH Manoa Theater and Dance Dept. and Hamilton Library Diamond Head Theatre Hawaii Theatre Education Dept. Hawaii Shakespeare Festival and more		We would like to make this exhibition available online with expanded materials and resources.
April 25- May 25, 2016	<i>First Folio!: The Book That Gave Us</i>	Char Room Second Floor, Lama Library			

	<i>Shakespeare</i>				
April 25, 2016	Opening Reception for <i>First Folio!</i>	TBA KapCC			Brief remarks by Professor Emerita Valerie Wayne. Early music performance. Short Shakespeare performances; performance by HSF Shakespeare in the Schools group. Costumed “player-docents.”
April 30 and May 1, 2016	<i>Hello Othello!</i>	TBA Grounds of Honolulu Hale	Hawaii Book and Music Festival		HTYAE Performance on keiki stage of <i>Othello</i> . Short talks/panel/demo by scholars/theater professionals (possible list follows): Valerie Wayne Paul Miti Tony Pisculi Kevin Doyle Eden Lee Murray
April 18-May 25	Lecture Series	TBA KapCC	KapCC		Tentative list: Valerie Wayne (Prof. Emerita, UHM—has article on First Folio forthcoming in <i>Shakespeare Quarterly</i>) Mark Heberle (Prof. English, UHM) Lehua Yim (Scholar, Shakespeare Materials in Hawaiian Newspapers) Prof. Mark Lawhorn (Shakespeare in Hawaii) Renate Mesmer (Director of Conservation, Folger Shakespeare Library) Karen Jolley (Prof. History, UHM—History of Book) Rev. Dr. Paul Edmondson (Director of Education, Shakespeare Birthplace Trust, Stratford-upon-Avon)
April 18-May 25	Film Series	TBA KapCC	KapCC Board of Student Activities		Select films of plays that first appeared in First Folio. For example, the Globe’s <i>Twelfth Night</i> starring Mark Rylance (He won a Tony award for best actor when the show ran in NYC.) Talk back session to follow.
May 24	Closing event: Brief performance by winner of ESU Hawaii Shakespeare Competition; Talk by Rev. Dr. Paul Edmondson (Director of Education, Shakespeare	TBA KapCC			Partly a thank you event for all contributors to events and exhibitions.

	Birthplace Trust, Stratford- upon-Avon); Buffet dinner?				