

[Shakespeare Festival sets the stage for 20th anniversary season](#)

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The [Shakespeare Festival](#) at Tulane University opens its 20th season on June 13 with Shakespeare's famous farce *The Merry Wives of Windsor*.



Tulane alumnae Cassie Worley and Rebecca Frank play Mistress Ford and Mistress Page in *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, the first production of the Shakespeare Festival's season. (Photo by John Barrois)

According to director Clare Moncrief, this sharply brilliant comedy tells the story of Falstaff's misadventures in wooing the eponymous wives Mistress Page and Mistress Ford. Add in jealous husbands, rebellious daughters and witty, fast-paced dialogue, and it becomes a wonderfully funny show that she calls “the original sitcom.”

This summer the Shakespeare Festival will present five productions. Throughout the summer the festival will bring together nearly 50 performers, designers and production staff from across New Orleans and as far away as Boston.

The actors will be on the Lupin Theatre Mainstage for *The Merry Wives of Windsor* on June 13th–29, as well as for the heart-wrenching tragedy of *Romeo & Juliet* on July 11th–27.

The Shakespeare Festival will offer the Bard's work in a hilarious and irreverent form with *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged)* in the Lab Theatre on June 23rd–July 17.

As a bonus, back by popular demand is [The Shakespearean Jazz Show](#), a unique presentation of Shakespeare's words set to live jazz music, on the Mainstage on June 20th–23.

To close out the summer, the students of the Gavin Mahlie All Things Shakespeare Training Program will present a production of *The Taming of the Shrew* on Aug. 8th–11.

Festival [season subscriptions](#) are available online, assuring access to the featured shows at a discounted rate, priority seating to the performance of your choice, and exchange privileges: only subscribers have access to exchange their tickets for another performance night in the festival season.

For more information, contact the Shakespeare Festival box office by calling 504-865-5106 or by [email](#).