

TOUR
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NATIONAL Players

AMERICA'S LONGEST RUNNING TOURING COMPANY

National Players was founded in 1949 by Father Gilbert Hartke, a prominent arts educator and then head of the drama department of The Catholic University of America. His mission - to stimulate young people's higher thinking skills and imaginations by presenting classical players in surprisingly accessible ways - is as urgent and vital today as it was 60 years ago.

A self-contained company, National Players carries its own sets, costumes, and sound. All that we require from a presenter is space and lights. **Our sleek and flexible scenery is designed to adapt to even the most unique spaces.**

Performance fees are all-inclusive. There are no hidden costs for lodging, mileage, or meals. As benefits to your engagement, we include detailed **Study Guides and optional post-show Question and Answer sessions with the actors free of charge.**

National Players are also available for workshops and residencies. Workshops are a unique and engaging way to bring actors and audience members together before or after a performance. Trained as teaching artists, the company is available to lead workshops for students and adults alike. Residency packages combine performances, discussions, and workshops over a three to five day period.

Affordable, all inclusive fees! No hidden costs for mileage, fuel or lodging. Perfect for any space!



For Educational Bookings:

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Current and Upcoming Productions

61st Annual Tour (September 2009 - May 2010)
Much Ado About Nothing • Lord of the Flies

62nd Annual Tour (September 2010 - May 2011)
A Midsummer Night's Dream • The Scarlet Letter



WORKSHOPS: As a bonus to your engagement, “Question and Answer” sessions may be scheduled with advance arrangement free of charge immediately following each performance. Moderated by the actors, audiences will have an opportunity to ask questions about the production they have just seen as well as about life as a professional in the arts.

Workshops are a unique way to bring actors and audience members together before or after a performance. The company is composed of experienced, young, professionals trained in the art and skills of theatre. Each workshop is tailored to fulfill the needs of the specific audience, taking in to account differences in age, interest, education and experience as defined by the presenter. Workshops are most successful in smaller groups of 20-40 students, but can be adapted to serve up to 140 students. Most workshops last approximately 45 minutes, but can be expanded to fill your time schedule. Workshop fees vary depending on the length and number of participants.

TOPICS

PowerPlay: A dynamic and interactive playwriting workshop that introduces the basics of dramatic structure and involves students in the creative process. Through a series of exercises and improvisations, the students write monologues and short scenes that are then brought to life by the actors in the company. PowerPlay provides students with an introduction to the actors, gets them excited about the show they are about to see and puts them in touch with their creativity.

Shakespeare: The Actor’s Journey: This engaging workshop illuminates the journey the actor must take to bring Shakespeare’s words to life. Using scenes and soliloquies from Shakespeare, students explore and personalize Shakespeare’s language, characters, and situations.

Acting & Improvisation: The Players lead students through a brief series of exercises and improvisational games to warm-up the body, voice, imagination and intellect, followed by an introduction to scene study.



Stage Combat: A workshop in the rudiments of illusion and the methods of creating believable, safe stage fighting. Players demonstrate the methods of hand-to-hand stage combat and teach students the basic moves: stage slaps and punches, falling, and hair-pulling.

Create Your Own Workshop: With advanced notice, National Players is available to design and teach workshops tailored to your specific curricular needs or interests.