

# Midsummer Night

*Cocktail Party  
Benefiting  
The Nashville Shakespeare Festival*

**Inaugural annual fundraising event  
of the Nashville Shakespeare Festival**

**2024 Midsummer Night Chair**  
Jon Glassmeyer

**In honor of**  
Executive Artistic Director Denice Hicks

All funds raised support the Nashville Shakespeare  
Festival's Summer Shakespeare programming

**Thursday, June 13, 2023**

**5:30-7:30 pm**

**Anzie Blue**

## ABOUT

# The Nashville Shakespeare Festival



The mission of Nashville Shakespeare Festival is to educate and entertain the Mid-South community through professional theatrical experiences. The Festival enriches and unifies our community with bold, innovative and relevant productions along with engaging, participatory educational programs, setting the community standard of excellence in educational outreach and theatrical performance.

The Nashville Shakespeare Festival is unique in Middle Tennessee in that it presents professional productions of Shakespeare's works and free outdoor theatre each summer that has served audiences from all economic backgrounds. Winter and Spring Shakespeare productions partner with theatre departments at area universities, allowing rising college artists to work alongside and learn from their professional peers, while the Shakespeare Education Experience tours bring specially-adapted versions of the Bard's most-studied works to schools throughout the region. Additional programming includes the trailblazing "Shakespeare Allowed" monthly reading series, a community engagement and education tool which has been replicated by Shakespeare companies worldwide (including the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust in Stratford-upon-Avon, UK) since its inception over 15 years ago.

## ABOUT

# Summer Shakespeare



Summer Shakespeare (formerly known as Shakespeare in the Park) is NSF's flagship program. Since 1988, Nashville Shakespeare Festival has been a cherished staple of summer in Music City and an essential piece of Nashville's arts ecosystem. As the only annual and free-of-charge professional theatre experience in the city, Summer Shakespeare removes economic and physical barriers to attendance as part of an effort to provide arts access for the entire community. Summer Shakespeare also provides invaluable employment opportunities for dozens of artists and technicians across the local arts community. With an average 10-year attendance of over 11,000 attendees, Summer Shakespeare is one of the highest-attended theatre events in Nashville each year. People from across the region and the country come to experience Summer Shakespeare, including audience members from 32 states during 2023's production of *Much Ado About Nothing*. In addition, the Nashville Shakespeare Festival Apprentice Company program offers 10-20 emerging theatrical artists the opportunity to train intensively under working professional artists in their field with most participants going on to also fulfill acting and technical roles in that year's Summer Shakespeare production. **Our Summer Shakespeare 2024 production will be William Shakespeare's *As You Like It*, directed by Guest Director Cammy Harris.**

## ABOUT

# Executive Artistic Director Denice Hicks



Denice Hicks has been working for The Nashville Shakespeare Festival since 1990, and has held the position of Artistic Director since 2005. She has edited, directed and performed in over 50 Shakespearean productions, developed workshops for students of all ages, and created the Festival's Apprentice Company Training and Shakespeare Allowed programming. Denice was an original company member of the Tennessee Repertory Theatre, and was among the founders of both the Darkhorse Theater and of People's Branch Theatre. An Ingram Fellowship award winner, her work has been praised by the Tennessean, Nashville Scene, and BroadwayWorld.com, among other publications. She has been a guest lecturer at many universities and is currently serving on the advisory panel for Tennessee State University and Lipscomb University. She was honored to sit on a review panel for the National Endowment for the Arts in Washington, DC, and as a guest lecturer with the Cooperative Center for Study Abroad program in Stratford-Upon-Avon and London. In 2014, the Nashville Shakespeare Festival was chosen as one of 14 North American Shakespeare theaters to be included in the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust (Stratford-Upon-Avon, UK) documentary and book on Shakespeare in America. The Nashville Scene named her one of the "Twenty-five Nashvillians who've shaped the city for the better since 1989." **Denice Hicks will step down as Executive Artistic Director in September 2024 after over 30 years with the Nashville Shakespeare Festival. We are thrilled to be honoring her leadership and artistry during this year's Midsummer Night!**

# INDIVIDUALS

## Admission to Midsummer Night

\$200 per person

- One (1) admission ticket to Midsummer Night

## Host Committee

\$500 for couple/pair

- Two (2) admission tickets to Midsummer Night (value - \$400)
- Recognition as Host Committee members on NSF website and on signage at venue
- Two (2) Royal Packages for Summer Shakespeare 2024 (value - \$200)

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# CORPORATE UNDERWRITING

## Presenting Sponsor

\$10,000

- Acknowledgement as Presenting Sponsor of Midsummer Night on NSF website, press release, email, and social media
- Company name recognized In verbal remarks and In signage at venue
- Sixteen (16) admission tickets to Midsummer Night
- Eight (8) Royal Packages to Summer Shakespeare 2024
- Eight (8) Royal Packages to Winter Shakespeare 2025

Tax-Deductible: \$9,200

## Silver Sponsor

\$5,000

- Acknowledgement as Silver Sponsor of Midsummer Night on NSF website, press release, email, and social media
- Company name recognized In verbal remarks and In signage at venue
- Eight (8) admission tickets to Midsummer Night
- Four (4) Royal Packages to Summer Shakespeare 2024
- Four (4) Royal Packages to Winter Shakespeare 2025

Tax-Deductible: \$4,600

## Bronze Sponsor

\$2,500

- Acknowledgement as Bronze Sponsor of Midsummer Night on NSF website, press release, email, and social media
- Company name recognized In verbal remarks and In signage at venue
- Four (4) admission tickets to Midsummer Night
- Two (2) Royal Packages to Summer Shakespeare 2024
- Two (2) Royal Packages to Winter Shakespeare 2025

Tax-Deductible: \$2,300

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