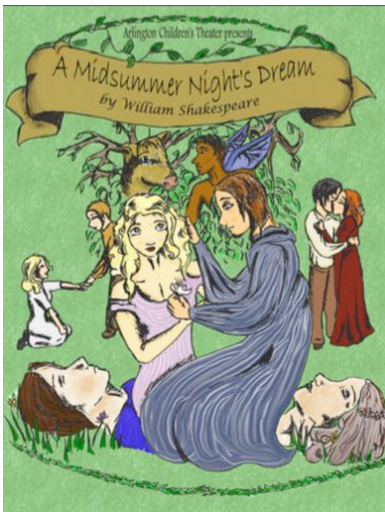


ACT to Perform Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* May 6th and 7th

Come see 27 talented ACTors tackle Shakespeare's classic play, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, at Arlington Center for the Arts on Friday night May 6th and Saturday

afternoon, May 7th. The play is directed by Colleen Rua and produced by the troika of Howard Straubing, Melanie Hamilton, and Stephanie Martin.



Although most of the ACTors are no strangers to Colleen (there are a few new faces), for many, this is their first experience with Shakespeare.

"*A Midsummer Night's Dream* offers a wonderful opportunity for a first time experience with Shakespeare," Colleen says. "The play focuses on so many mature themes but it allows kids to explore those themes in the realm of comedy, and in a play that is extremely theatrical. The fantasy element of the play ironically gives actors room to deal with tough issues, while honing their skills in comedy and performance."

For more information about the show, call 781-721-2176 or email ACT at ACT02174@yahoo.com.



ACT's adaptation of Edward Eager's *Half Magic* was a huge success during the February Vacation Week Drama Camp! Videos of the show are available through Joel Feldman (joel@finkelfeldman.com); t-shirts, designed by Emily Allen, are still available through Steve Smith (steveandrobin@comcast.net).

ACT Announces Summer Show: *Bye Bye Birdie*

Fresh off the critical acclaim and good times we had last summer with *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, ACT has decided to produce another fun summer musical: *Bye Bye Birdie*, by Charles Strouse and Lee Adams. As in the previous two summers, the show will be directed by Colleen Rua.

Our new music director will be John Howery, who will be assisted by Bethany Aiken. Both of these new folks have directed and/or played in the pit for past productions of *Bye Bye Birdie*.

Registration will open May 15th for kids seven and up, and may be limited by age. Auditions will be in early June. As with our past three summer shows, we will have two casts, with



rehearsals Monday through Thursday evenings, and Saturday mornings, starting mid-June. Performances will be July 30th through August 6th at the Regent Theatre in Arlington.

For more information, call ACT at 781-721-2176.

Hey, Tom Sawyer!

ACT has reserved 50 tickets to see The Uncommon Theatre production of *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* on Sunday, May 1st at the Orpheum Theatre in Foxboro. Who wants to drive to Foxboro? Not us. That's all right. ACT is arranging for a bus to take all ACTors and their families, leaving from the Arlington town parking lot at noon and returning by 6 PM. We're hoping for a bus with a DVD player so we can watch the DVDs of last summer's show on the way down. Cost: \$25 per person (\$20 for ACT members). Seats are limited and are going fast! For more info and to reserve yours, call Steve at 781-721-2171.

Wheelock Family Theatre:

Jack, the Beanstalk, and Me

Join ACT for a special performance of Wheelock Family Theatre's Spring show, *Jack, The Beanstalk, and Me*, on Saturday afternoon, April 16th at 3 PM. Afterwards, there will be a question and answer period with the cast and crew. The cost including ticket is \$15.

For more information or to sign up, please call Stephanie Martin at (781) 641-2626 and leave a message with your name, phone number and the number of tickets you would like.

Watch ACT on ACATV

Those of you who live in Arlington should check out your local cable network, ACATV, for showings of ACT's *The Well in the Woods* and *Loving Louisa*, filmed in January at Arlington Center for the Arts. The shows are preceded by a short film about ACT made by Steve Smith.

Become a Member of ACT!

Please help support ACT and help us provide low-cost, accessible theater for children of all ages and backgrounds by becoming a member of ACT for as little as \$25. Join today!

Visit the ACT website for details (<http://ACT.arlington.ma.us>) or call Membership Chair Stephanie Martin at 781-641-2626.

Acting UP! with the Underground Railway Theater

Underground Railway Theater is offering two Summer Acting Intensive programs for young actors, 9-12 and 13-17. Programming will include: acting training, exploration of dramatic literature, playwriting, performance, demonstrations by visiting professional artists, and tickets to up to three professional performances, including backstage tours and discussions with the performers! Both programs are scheduled June 27-July 1, 9am-4pm at Graham and Parks School in Cambridge. For more information, please contact Maggie Moore Abdow, Education Director, at 781-643-6916 or email her at: mabdow@undergroundrailwaytheater.org



P.O.Box 1076
Arlington, MA 02474

**A
Midsummer
Night's
Dream**

May 6th & 7th

at
Arlington
Center for the
Arts

We need your help! Become a Member of ACT today!