

Chicago Shakespeare Theater announces
the cast and creative team of

Henry V

September 6–October 6, 2024

Artistic Director Edward Hall directs a powerhouse ensemble cast
in Shakespeare's epic tale of war and power



Chicago—July 23, 2024—[Chicago Shakespeare Theater](#) announces the cast and creative team for William Shakespeare's *Henry V*, staged by Artistic Director Edward Hall in the Courtyard Theater, **September 6–October 6**. **Elijah Jones** makes his Chicago Shakespeare Theater debut in the title role, leading a company that also features **Scott Aiello, Donté Bonner, Ronald L. Conner, Rachel Crowl, Alejandra Escalante, Sean Fortunato, Kate Fry, Courtney Rikki Green, Gregory Linington, Jaylon Muchison, Adam Poss, and Demetrios Troy**.

Following his groundbreaking production of *Richard III* last season, Artistic Director Edward Hall opens the fall season with *Henry V*. Shakespeare's tale of power and youthful ambition examines the realities of war and nationalism at its most dangerous and seductive. From the evocative opening line, "O for a Muse of Fire," the play includes some of Shakespeare's most famous speeches and stirring poetry.

"*Henry V* remains one of the most revealing plays about war, nationalism, the consequences of both, and our need for common causes to bind us together," said Hall. "It is uncompromising in its honesty—a real world story about ideas that remain ever-present in our lives. There has never been a more prescient moment to explore our reflex for conflict through the prism of a story that contains some of the greatest writing in the English language."

Elijah Jones makes his Chicago Shakespeare debut as the young King Henry V. He is a recent graduate of the Juilliard School, where he performed the title role in *Coriolanus*, Orsino in *Twelfth Night*, and Leontes in *The Winter's Tale*. His other credits include *Richard II* at The Public Theater, *The Rolling Stone* at Lincoln Center Theater, *Airness* and *As You Like It* at Chautauqua Theater Company, and *Macbeth*, *The Many Deaths of Nathan Stubblefield*, and *A Christmas Carol* at Actors Theatre of Louisville.

Jones leads an ensemble cast that includes both actors familiar to the Chicago Shakespeare stage and exciting debut performances.

Scott Aiello (Duke of Salisbury/Williams/Nym) was recently seen as Clarence and Stanley in CST's *Richard III*, and other credits include an acclaimed performance as Eddie in Shattered Globe Theatre's *A View From the Bridge*.

Donté Bonner (Duke of Exeter) makes his Chicago Shakespeare debut, with credits including *Romeo and Juliet* on Broadway, *Occupied Territories* at 59E59, and *War* at Yale Repertory Theatre.

Ronald L. Conner (Bardolph/Duke of Orleans) was recently seen as Lord Capulet in *Short Shakespeare! Romeo and Juliet* and Sir Toby Belch in *Twelfth Night* at CST.

Rachel Crowl (Fluellen/Grey) makes her Chicago Shakespeare debut, with recent credits including *Between Two Knees* at Yale Repertory Theatre, *The Swindlers* at Baltimore Repertory Theatre, and work at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival.

Alejandra Escalante (Dauphin of France/Bishop of Ely/Nell) returns to CST after appearing as Mariana in *Measure for Measure* and Helena in *All's Well That Ends Well*, with other recent credits including *The Cherry Orchard* at Goodman Theatre.

Sean Fortunato (King of France/Erpingham/Duke of York) has performed in over two dozen Chicago Shakespeare productions, most recently as the Duchess of York and Lord Rivers in *Richard III*; other recent credits include *Damn Yankees* at Marriott Theatre and *Young Frankenstein* at Mercury Theater.

Kate Fry (Duke of Westmoreland/Monsieur le Fer/Alice) has many Chicago Shakespeare credits, including *As You Like It*, *Henry IV Parts 1 and 2*, and *The Merchant of Venice* and recently seen in acclaimed performances in *The Cherry Orchard* at Goodman Theatre and *Birthday Candles* at Northlight Theatre.

Courtney Rikki Green (Katherine, Princess of France/Lad) makes her Chicago Shakespeare debut, with recent credits including *Romeo and Juliet* at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival and work with Drunk Shakespeare Chicago.

Gregory Linington (Archbishop of Canterbury/Bates/Governor of Harfleur) was seen in CST's in *Measure for Measure*, after 12 years with the Oregon Shakespeare Festival.

Jaylon Muchison (Mountjoy/Scroop) makes his Chicago Shakespeare debut, with recent credits including *The Royale* at American Players Theatre and *Much Ado About Nothing* and *King Lear* with the Illinois Shakespeare Festival.

Adam Poss (Constable of France/Cambridge) returns to CST after appearing as Antonio in *Twelfth Night* and Angelo in *Measure for Measure*, and most recently on Broadway in *Patriots*.

Demetrios Troy (Pistol/Duke of Burgundy) most recently appeared as King Edward IV and Richmond in *Richard III*, with many other CST credits including *King Charles III*, *Henry V*, and *Julius Caesar*.

In addition to Hall, the creative team of *Henry V* includes Scenic and Costume Designer **Michael Pavelka**, Musical Director, Arrangements, and Original Music by **Jonathan Trenchard**, Lighting Designer **Marcus Doshi**, Sound Designer **Emily Hayman**, Voice and Dialect Coach **Scott Aiello**, Assistant Director **Sola Thompson**, Assistant Lighting Designer **Daphne Manuela Agosin Orellana**, Assistant Sound Designer **Forrest Gregor**, Directing Apprentice **Philippa Lawford**, Casting Director **Bob Mason**, Production Stage Manager **Jinni Pike**, Assistant Stage Manager **Danny Fender**, and Production Assistant **Caroline Uy**.

The press opening for *Henry V* is scheduled for **Friday, September 13 at 7:00 p.m.**

More information at www.chicagoshakes.com/henryv or on social media at [@chicagoshakes](https://twitter.com/chicagoshakes).

Henry V

By William Shakespeare

Directed by Edward Hall

September 6–October 6, 2024

Courtyard Theater

PERFORMANCE LISTING

- Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. (*except September 24*)
- Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.
- Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.
- Fridays at 7:00 p.m.
- Saturdays at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. (*no matinee September 7*)
- Sundays at 2:00 p.m.

Chicago Shakespeare strives to make its facility and performances accessible to all patrons. Accessible seating, assistive listening devices, large-print and Braille programs, and sensory tools are available at every performance. Enhanced performances include:

- **ASL interpreted performance – Friday, September 27, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.**
All dialogue and lyrics are translated into American Sign Language by two certified interpreters.
- **Audio-described performance with optional touch tour – Sunday, September 29, 2024, at 2:00 p.m.**
A program that provides spoken narration of a play's key visual elements for patrons who are blind or have low vision. Touch Tours provide patrons the opportunity to experience, firsthand, a production's design elements.
- **Projected Spanish translated performance – Tuesday, October 1, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.**
A text display of the words of the play, translated into Spanish, synced live with the dialogue.
- **Open captioned performance – Wednesday, October 2, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.**
A text display of the words and sounds heard during a play, synced live with the action onstage.

Creative Team

Edward Hall - Director
Michael Pavelka - Scenic and Costume Designer
Jonathan Trenchard - Musical Director, Arranger, and Composer
Marcus Doshi - Lighting Designer
Emily Hayman - Sound Designer
Scott Aiello - Voice and Dialect Coach
Sola Thompson - Assistant Director
Daphne Manuela Agosin Orellana - Assistant Lighting Designer
Forrest Gregor - Assistant Sound Designer
Philippa Lawford - Directing Apprentice
Bob Mason - Casting
Jinni Pike - Production Stage Manager
Danny Fender - Assistant Stage Manager
Caroline Uy - Production Assistant

Cast

Scott Aiello
Donté Bonner
Ronald L. Conner
Rachel Crowl
Alejandra Escalante
Elijah Jones
Sean Fortunato
Kate Fry
Courtney Rikki Green
Gregory Linington
Jaylon Muchison
Adam Poss
Demetrios Troy

ABOUT CHICAGO SHAKESPEARE THEATER

A Regional Tony Award recipient, Chicago Shakespeare Theater (CST) produces a bold and innovative year-round season—plays, musicals, world premieres, family productions, and theatrical presentations from around the globe—alongside education programming for students, teachers, and lifelong learners, and engagement with communities across the city. Located on Chicago’s iconic Navy Pier, CST’s campus features the Jentes Family Courtyard Theater, The Yard, and the Carl and Marilyn Thoma Theater Upstairs. Onstage, in classrooms and neighborhoods across the city, and in venues around the world, Chicago Shakespeare is a multifaceted cultural center—inviting audiences, artists, and community members to share powerful stories that connect and inspire.

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