



Press Release: 15 March 2010

Young people take over Shakespeare's Globe in two unique events this week

Over 500 young people will take to the stage at Shakespeare's Globe this week to participate in two very different events.

On Thursday 18th March, over 450 students from the Borough of Southwark will perform an ensemble production of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, as part of the annual **Our Theatre** project, supported by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP. Students from sixteen primary, secondary and special education needs schools across the area have been working with Globe Education Practitioners to prepare their own scenes, and will come together for the first time on Thursday to present the full story to a packed audience of family, friends and the general public on stage at the Globe.

Then, on Sunday 21st March, 44 promising actors from drama schools around the UK will take part in the fifth annual **Sam Wanamaker Festival**. The actors will spend the weekend together in classes and workshops before presenting scenes by Shakespeare and his contemporaries on the Globe stage to over 1600 people. The event is a festival rather than a competition, and the afternoon ends with all of the actors playing together in a gigantic jig.

Previous participants of the Sam Wanamaker Festival include Aneurin Barnard, currently nominated for a 2010 Olivier Award for his performance in *Spring Awakening*, Thomasin Rand, who appeared as Rosaline in the Globe's 2009 production of *Love's Labour's Lost*, and Rachel Winters, who has just performed in Globe Education's production of *Macbeth*, which played to over 14,000 London students.

Patrick Spottiswoode, Director of Globe Education, said *"Shakespeare's Globe has been a part of Southwark since Sam Wanamaker's vision forty years ago. We are proud of our community and the Our Theatre project is a celebration of Southwark schools and the imagination and talent of Southwark students. It is a highlight of the Globe calendar and I hope it will be an experience the students will remember for the rest of their lives."*

"The Sam Wanamaker Festival, meanwhile, celebrates the remarkable talent that is being nurtured in our drama schools. There will be no Simon Cowell or panel of judges in the audience – there will be a spirit of celebration rather than competition".

ENDS

Listings information

Our Theatre: *A Midsummer Night's Dream* – performed by schools from the Southwark Community

Venue: Shakespeare's Globe

Date: Thursday 18 March, 2010 **Time:** 1pm.

Tickets are free.

Box Office: community@shakespearesglobe.com

The Sam Wanamaker Festival 2010 – performed by drama schools from across the UK

Venue: Shakespeare's Globe

Date: Sunday 21 March, 2010 **Time:** 4pm

Tickets: £10 seating, £5 standing

Box Office: 020 7401 9919 or www.shakespeares-globe.org

Further information from Chris Adams at Shakespeare's Globe Press Office on +44 (0)20 7902 1468, chris.a@shakespearesglobe.com

Images of Shakespeare's Globe, as well as other media resources, are available online at www.shakespeares-globe.org/press or from Chris Adams (above).

Notes to Editors:

- **Globe Education** presents a programme of workshops, lectures, events and staged readings all year round. For more information about Globe Education's work, visit www.globe-education.org
- **The Southwark schools taking part in *Our Theatre* are:** Brunswick Park Primary School, Cherry Garden School, English Martyrs RC Primary School, Globe Academy, Harris Girls' Academy East Dulwich, Haymerle School, John Ruskin Primary School, Snowfields Primary School, St John's RC Primary School, St John's Walworth CE Primary School, St Joseph's RC Junior School, St Peter's CE Primary School, St Saviour's and St Olave's School, The Cathedral School of St Saviour and St Mary Overie and Tuke School. They are joined by the Shakespeare's Globe Gifted & Talented Youth Theatre Company.
- **The Drama Schools taking part in the Sam Wanamaker Festival are:** Academy of Live & Recorded Arts, Arts Education Schools London, Birmingham School of Acting, Bristol Old Vic Theatre School, Central School of Speech and Drama, Cygnet Training Theatre, Drama Centre, Drama Studio London, East 15 Acting School, GSA Conservatoire, Guildhall School of Music and Drama, Italia Conti Academy of Theatre Arts, The Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts, London Academy of Music & Dramatic Art, Manchester Metropolitan University, Mountview Academy of Theatre Arts, Oxford School of Drama, Queen Margaret University College, The Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, Rose Bruford College, Royal Scottish Academy of Music & Drama, Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama, Rutgers Conservatory at Shakespeare's Globe.
- **The Shakespeare Globe Trust** is a registered charity No.266916. **The Globe receives no public subsidy.**
- **PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP** provides industry-focused assurance, tax and advisory services to build public trust and enhance value for our clients and their stakeholders. More than 163,000 people in 151 countries across our network share their thinking, experience and solutions to develop fresh perspectives and practical advice.