

7-7-2015

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Recommended Citation

Office of Marketing and Communications, "A Heroic Ogre Headlines New High School Theatre Collaborative Program" (2015). *Press Releases*. Paper 698.

http://opus.govst.edu/press_releases/698

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Date: Tuesday, July 07, 2015 11:26:58 AM

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For Immediate Release

A Heroic Ogre Headlines New High School Theatre Collaborative Program

(University Park, IL): July 7, 2015 – The Crete-Monee Enrichment Program, under the direction of Gary Thorsky, has been selected as the first high school theatre group to participate in Governors State University's new Theatre & Performance Studies (T.A.P.S.) High School Theatre Collaborative. Students and program participants will be presenting Shrek the Musical at GSU's Center for Performing Arts from July 24-26. The mission of the collaborative is to partner with high school theatre groups in developing, educating and inspiring young actors and technicians in their craft.

Based on the Oscar-winning DreamWorks Animation film, this Tony Award-winning fairytale adventure features all new songs and brings the beloved characters from the film to life on stage.

An unlikely hero, Shrek, an ogre, finds himself on a life-changing journey alongside a wisecracking Donkey and a feisty princess who resists her rescue. Throw in a "short" tempered bad guy, a cookie with an attitude, and over a dozen other fairy tale misfits, and you've got a mess that only an ogre can clean up. Irreverent fun for the whole family, Shrek proves that beauty is in the eye of the ogre.

The cast includes local students and actors from Crete-Monee, University Park, Steger, St. John, Chicago Heights, Flossmoor, Park Forest, Matteson, and Beecher. For a cast listing, visit CenterTickets.net.

Show Times

Friday, July 24 at 10 a.m.
Saturday, July 25 at 8 p.m.
Sunday, July 26 at 2 p.m.

Tickets

\$15, \$10 (Students) – Saturday and Sunday
\$10, \$7 for groups of 20+ – Friday

How to Buy Tickets

Online: CenterTickets.net
By Phone: 708.235.2222
In Person at the Box Office: 1 University Parkway, University Park, IL
Summer Box Office Hours: Mon- Thursday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. & 2 hours prior to all performances

A portion of GSU's arts programming is supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency.

About HSTC

The Theatre & Performance Studies (T.A.P.S.) High School Theatre Collaborative, under the direction of the GSU's Division of Communication, Visual and Performing Arts and its new Theatre and Performance Studies program aims to produce inspiring and entertaining theatre that helps young actors enhance their craft through active learning experiences and collaborations with Governors State University, area high schools, and the community.

Each spring, high school theatre groups may submit a proposal to GSU with the production concept that they wish to present in the summer. The T.A.P.S. program staff will review proposals and select a different partner each year to perform a full scale production on the stage of the Center for Performing Arts. For submission details visit www.govst.edu/cas/taps/hstc.

Along with its annual summer production, HSTC will be offering in-school theatre workshops, information sessions and outreach programs for high school aged youth who are interested in pursuing theatre or performance as a career path.

In 2014, The Illinois Board of Higher Education approved Theatre and Performance Studies as a Bachelor's Degree at GSU; the only such degree combining the two disciplines at a public state university in Illinois. The T.A.P.S. High School Theatre Collaborative invites high school and college students to explore theatre with the support and mentorship of GSU's professional educators and unique program perspective.

To stay connected and receive program updates, visit www.govst.edu/cas/taps and "like" us at [facebook.com/TAPSGSU](https://www.facebook.com/TAPSGSU).



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