

EVERY STORY WE TELL BEGINS WITH YOU.

Because of your belief in this work, art reached new voices, new hearts, and new corners of our community.

All photos by Madison Patterson unless otherwise noted.

ARTISTIC EXCELLENCE

Your support cultivates artists from within the ASC community and beyond. As part of our Artist Development Initiative, five ASC veteran actors directed at the Blackfriars Playhouse.

Through mentorship and one-to-one understudy programs, tomorrow's artists learn directly from today's best.

"It felt like a responsibility I was being called to as one of the longest active members of the ASC. I felt new artists needed more help in learning how to utilize the space and the staging conditions. This theater is unlike any other, and that is a hard curve for new people, but I felt confident I could bridge that gap."

-K.P. Powell, Director of *Romeo and Juliet* 2025 & ASC Veteran Actor

You may have even seen that impact firsthand when an understudy stepped into *Little Women's* opening night.



Adoptable Dogs on Stage
Geoffrey Warren Barnes II in *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* 2025. Photo by Lindsey Walters



ASL Interpretation
The Cast of
Sense & Sensibility 2025



Lights ON Blackfriars
Discussing *The Winter's Tale*
Dr. Peter Kirwan & Dr. Emmanuel Raphael

BUILDING COMMUNITY

Your generosity continues to find new ways to shine.

This year, even adoptable dogs from local shelters stepped onto the stage as Crab in *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*—and 14 of them have now found homes of their own.

That same light now reaches further. Through Lights ON Blackfriars, audiences discover the artistry behind each performance. Through our new ASL Theatre Interpreting Training, more stories are told, seen, and understood. Because of you, community isn't just built: it's lived, shared, and ever-growing.



Drama Club Performs
King Lear



Sorry, Most Sorry
A Winter's Tale Adaptation
For Young Audiences



Student Matinee of *Romeo & Juliet*
Nick Ericksen as *Romeo*, 2025

FOSTERING CREATIVITY FOR ALL

Because of you, creativity came alive in every generation this year. Our youngest actors in Drama Club discovered the language and emotion of *King Lear* and *The Winter's Tale*, finding their own voices in Shakespeare's words.

Teen campers in the ASC Theatre Camp (ASCTC) took on the monumental War of the Roses tetralogy (*Henry VI, Parts I, II, and III, and Richard III*), learning what it means to lead, to collaborate, and to tell a story that spans decades.

"You get to see them discover teamwork, build community, and pass along the infectious joy of theatre. Thank you for making that joy possible each year."

-Mili Koncelik, Patron Loyalty Manager & ASCTC Director, *Henry VI: Part II & III*

Adult campers in the No Kidding Camp presented *Love's Labour's Lost*, with participants inspired by Angela Iannone's performance as *King Lear*, called "a *King Lear* for the ages" by DC Theatre Arts.



No Kidding Camp
for Adults presents
Love's Labour's Lost



Angela Iannone
as *King Lear*
King Lear 2025. Photo by Alaina Shefelton



Mili Koncelik & a Camper
prep for *Henry VI: Part II*
Photo by Lindsey Walters

EYES ON THE NEXT GENERATION

Sorry, Most Sorry opened Shakespeare's world to children, inviting them to laugh, move, and discover that Shakespeare belongs to them, too. The wiggles and giggles that filled the Playhouse were proof of something lasting: the first spark of curiosity.

That spark grows each week at Student Matinees, when busloads of students fill the theatre—many seeing live performance for the first time.

Some of those students grow up to become advocates for the arts, passing the spark forward so new audiences can find their light.

"I fell in love with Shakespeare in part by seeing a live performance (done by a precursor of ASC) at Broadway High School in the late 1980s. It was so much fun! That exposure as a student was key for me. Happy to pay it forward for students now."

-Valerie Helbert, Supporter of *Shakespeare for Students* Fundraiser

TOGETHER WE CREATE A LASTING IMPACT



Granted over \$15,000 for
Camp scholarships



Added 5 ASL-Interpreted
Performances

Charity Navigator



Achieved 91%
Four-star Charity Rating



Hosted 5,992 students
for matinees



270 Tickets to
Sorry, Most Sorry



Scan to see how you
make an impact