



ORIGINAL PRACTICE SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

BECAUSE SHAKESPEARE SHOULD BE A LITTLE DANGEROUS

****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****

Press Contact: Shandi Muff; shandi@opsfest.org

Original Practice Shakespeare Festival adds staff, Scholar-in-Residence

Portland, Oregon – January 23, 2017: Looking toward their 9th season, Original Practice Shakespeare Festival (OPSFest) announces the addition of staff positions, as well as a scholar-in-residence. Stepping into the newly-minted Managing Director position is Shandi Muff. Elizabeth E. Tavares, PhD. joins OPSFest as Scholar-in-Residence.

About Managing Director Shandi Muff:

Shandi Muff begins her 3rd season with OPSFest, her first as Managing Director. In addition to this position, she serves as the company web designer and actor. Last season she played Kate in *The Taming of the Shrew* as part of the Annual OPSFest Festival and Mr. (Mrs.) Page in the gender-bent *Merry Wives of Windsor* for Portland's OUTWright Festival. Shandi graduated from Doane University; Crete, Nebraska, and studied for a MFA in costume design at the University of South Dakota.

About Scholar-in-Residence Elizabeth E. Tavares, PhD:

Dr. Elizabeth E. Tavares is assistant professor of Medieval and Renaissance Literature in the English department at Pacific University. Specializing in Shakespeare and Tudor drama, her research foci include popular playing companies, Shakespeare in performance, and theatre history. Her publications have appeared in *Shakespeare Bulletin* and *Shakespeare Studies* among others. She holds advanced degrees in English Literature and History from DePaul University and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

About Original Practice Shakespeare Festival:

OPSFest brings no-cost repertory Shakespeare to parks and venues throughout Portland and Oregon. Its actors perform utilizing the original practice techniques of Elizabethan England: limited rehearsal, no full script, audience interaction, and an onstage prompter. OPSFest is a proud partner of the OUTWright Festival and looks forward to working with Portland's social groups in the coming years to increase awareness and promote healing, thought and humor through accessible arts.

Learn more at opsfest.org

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