# 2025-2026 Theatre Season "What's in a Name?"

Blinn College Division of Arts, Kinesiology & Agriculture-Brenham Campus



#### **Resource Guide**

This resource guide serves as an educational starting point to understanding and enjoying William Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*. Please note that the interpretations of the theatrical work may differ from the original source content.

## Romeo and Juliet

Written by William Shakespeare

Directed by Brad Nies

Technical Direction by Kevin Patrick

Costumes, Makeup, and Hair Design by Jennifer Patrick



## **Synopsis**

This classic love story is about the Capulets and the Montagues, two households that have ben embroiled in a bloody fight for as long as anyone can remember. When young Romeo Montague crashes his rival family's party, he falls head over heels in love with the young Juliet Capulet.

Suitable for ages 13 and up. This production will utilize flashing lights and atmospheric effects.



#### **Public Performances**

**February 19 & 20** 

7:00 PM

**February 21 & 22** 

2:00 PM

#### **School Preview Performances**

**February 19** 

10:00 AM & 1:00 PM

#### **Endowed Scholarship Auditions**

**February 21** 

4:30 PM

Dr. W. W. O'Donnell Performing Arts Center Blinn College-Brenham

## William Shakespeare

Born in Stratford-Upon-Avon on April 23, 1564, William Shakespeare is considered one of the greatest writers in the English language. His works consist of 39 plays, 154 sonnets, and some works of unsure authorship. Between 1585 and 1592, Shakespeare began a successful career in London as an actor, writer, and co-owner of a theatrical company known as the Lord Chamberlain's Men. Between the years 1589 and 1613, he produced his most popular plays. While his early works were mostly comedies and histories, he wrote tragedies until about 1608. In his latter years, Shakespeare wrote romances, and he collaborated with other playwrights. He established his own acting company and oversaw the construction of the Globe Theatre in London. The Globe would be the first playhouse built by actors for actors. When he was 49 year-old, Shakespeare retired to his hometown of Stratford, and he died three years later on his birthday in 1616.





#### **Notable Adaptations of Romeo and Juliet**

<u>West Side Story</u> (1957) This award-wining musical is set in 1950s New York City and shows the rivalry between two gangs. Conflict arises when a former member of one gang falls in love with the sister of the other gang's leader.

<u>Franco Zeffirelli's Romeo and Juliet</u> (1968) This film is known for its stunning period setting, as well as the casting of actors close to the age of the characters in the original play.

<u>Baz Luhrmann's Romeo + Juliet</u> (1996) Luhrmann's film sets the story in a stylized version of "Verona Beach," and it includes the original Shakespearean dialogue with contemporary surroundings.

Romeo & Juliet (2013): This film, directed by Carlo Carlei, is a more traditional and modernized take on the play. While faithful to the original plot, the film uses only some of the original dialogue.

<u>& Juliet</u> (2019) This musical asks the question how would the story end if Juliet did not to kill herself after finding Romeo's dead body. This show opened in New York in 2022 on Broadway, where it was nominated for nine Tony Awards.

### Sources

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