June 25-29, 2024

Dear UCLA Alumni and Friends,

We invite you to join our popular Oregon Shakespeare Festival trip in June with Lecturer Stephen Dickey. Venture up to Ashland where this charming town is the perfect backdrop for the award-winning Oregon Shakespeare Festival, a tradition since 1935. While the Bard is their inspiration and anchor, they offer a wide range of classical and modern plays and musicals performed by an outstanding multicultural acting company. We know the theater is a special focus, but there is an exciting and diverse array of offstage activities to see and do during your visit to Ashland such as an optional jet-boating excursion.

Join UCLA Lecturer Stephen Dickey on our 30th trip to the festival that *Time* magazine named one of the top five regional theaters in the country. Founded in 1935, the Tony Award-winning Oregon Shakespeare Festival is among the oldest and largest professional non-profit theatres in the nation. With specially prepared advance reading lists and in-depth lectures, you will see the theater in a whole new light.

This tour is a special opportunity to have the one-on-one experience with UCLA faculty that our alumni have been raving about. See why this trip regularly elicits comments like this from past Oregon Shakespeare travelers: Ted and Marlene ’60, “The whole Bruin Ashland experience is something we look forward to every year.” Miryam Brand “The trip is always very well organized, and with so many highlights.”

Join us as we travel to one of our favorite all-time travel destinations. If you have any questions, please call us at 310-206-0613 or email travel@alumni.ucla.edu.

Sincerely,

Suz Park Ramirez ’10
Assistant Director, Alumni Travel
Cost: $1,949 based on double occupancy
$580 single supplement

Activity Level: Mild
Easy Pace, little walking and stair climbing

UCLA Faculty on Tour

STEPHEN DICKEY
Department of English

Stephen Dickey is Senior Lecturer in the English Department at UCLA where he has received numerous teaching prizes, including the Distinguished Teaching Award in 1993. He teaches various courses in Shakespeare, the English Renaissance, and the Beat Generation, as well as introductory courses in poetry and drama. From 2002-16, Stephen served on the faculty of the Folger Shakespeare Library’s teaching institute, which brings high school teachers from around the country to Washington, D.C., for a month of intensive study. Recent publications include works on Romeo and Juliet, the Henry IV plays, American interest in Shakespeare during the Civil War, and the katabasis motif in Beat literature. In 2016-17, he curated America’s Shakespeare: The Bard Goes West at the Los Angeles Central Library, commemorating the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare’s death. This will mark Stephen’s sixteenth year serving as lecturer for our Oregon Shakespeare Festival tour.

“I would love Professor Dickey to attend every Shakespeare Festival with us; his knowledge, enthusiasm, and passion for Shakespeare are very captivating.”
MARY ELLEN DAVIS ’58

“Professor Dickey provides so much insight into the understanding of the Shakespeare plays and appreciation of the performances – he really is terrific.”
ERIKA GONZALEZ ’93
“Madmen like us reinvent the world”

William Shakespeare and Christopher Marlowe are two of the greatest writers of their time. If only they’d stop bickering long enough to pick up a quill. In this razor-sharp imagined encounter by Liz Duffy Adams, the two men go head-to-head, fighting, flirting, and festering in the back room of a pub while attempting to collaborate on a play cycle. Set against the backdrop of an aging ruler, an oppressive police state, and constant threat of spies, *Born with Teeth* is a high-stakes dramatization of history that remarkably mirrors the present day. Don’t miss this sharp, sexy, dark comedy coming to life on the Angus Bowmer stage.

“In this powerful exploration of fate, an unexpected prophecy sends Scottish general Macbeth on a feverish and murderous quest to become king. With startlingly beautiful language, Shakespeare’s revered tragedy reveals the underbelly of ambition in a world steeped in power mongering, war, and magic. This muscular, modern production—an ensemble-based showcase for OSF’s acting company—is directed by former OSF Associate Artistic Director Evren Odcikin (*unseen*, 2022) and plays all season in the Angus Bowmer Theatre.
“Thou and I are too wise to woo peaceably”

Romance, wit, and mistaken identities fuel this new staging of Shakespeare’s beloved comedy of tricks! Don Pedro’s army has just returned home victorious after the war. Love is in the air, even as two of history’s most tumultuous couples—Benedick and Beatrice, and Claudio and Hero—volley hilarious quips and damning accusations back and forth. Will the truth win in this mischievous game of love? Find out in this dazzling, music-filled production directed by Miriam A. Laube, who brings her 17 seasons of OSF experience to this Shakespeare favorite, lighting up the Allen Elizabethan Theatre.

Optional play on June 29 if not Hellgate Jet Boating

An indie-rock musical like you’ve never seen before

Trevor has become a myth in his hometown: a lonesome outsider whose skin turned green and scaly after a childhood encounter with a dragon. Now he leaves his house only once a year, on Monsterfest, the anniversary of the incident—and that’s tonight. Out on a first date with a new crush, Cary, he meets a fellow dragon survivor who fears the dragons have returned and begs Trevor to help fight them. Can Trevor accept who he is and save his city … and his first date? This funny, quirky, heartbreaking musical, winner of six San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle Awards and fresh from its 2023 Off-Broadway run, will delight audiences in our intimate Thomas Theatre.
Itinerary

DAY 1 | Tuesday, June 25

At 5:30 p.m., get to know Stephen Dickey and your fellow travelers during a welcome dinner in the hotel’s Ballroom II and Conservatory. The rest of the evening is yours to enjoy the quaint town of Ashland.

Virgins to Villains is playing in the Thomas Theatre and Jane Eyre is playing at the Allen Elizabethan Theatre. Both plays begin at 8 p.m.

(D)

DAY 2 | Wednesday, June 26

Continental breakfast is included daily at the hotel.

Stephen will give his first lecture on Macbeth in the morning at the hotel.

Following the lecture, enjoy a perennial favorite: the Behind the Curtain: Summer Tour. Learn about the different ingredients and technical magic of live theatre.

After this tour, enjoy your free time with lunch at one of the many charming restaurants Ashland has to offer. Ashland is at the convergence of the Cascade and Siskiyou Mountains, and a town that is just as unique and authentic as the terrain that surrounds it. Nowhere else do so many individual experiences from performances, culinary arts and outdoor recreation, combine to create something so inspiring.

If you would like to enjoy an additional play this afternoon, Virgins to Villains is playing in the Thomas Theatre which begins at 1:30 p.m.

Our first Shakespeare performance will be Macbeth that is being performed in the indoor Angus Bowmer Theatre at 8 p.m.

(B)
DAY 3 | Thursday, June 27

Continental breakfast is included daily at the hotel. Today, you have two itinerary options:

Option 1: Hellgate Jet Boating:
Get a taste of the natural beauty of the Pacific Northwest on a jet boat lunch excursion on the rushing and scenic Rogue River. Guides skipper us through the rushing rapids in safety and comfort on wide-beamed jet boats. A delicious family-style brunch will be served for our group in the midst of this awe-inspiring scenery. We’ll depart the hotel at 7:30 a.m., and return at approximately 2:30 p.m., with the rest of the afternoon for relaxation.

Option 2: Lizard Boy:
Sleep in, and enjoy more time in the charming town of Ashland. Enjoy lunch on your own at one of the many dining options in town. Then, head to the Thomas Theatre for the Lizard Boy musical starting at 1:30 p.m. at the Thomas Theatre.

Stephen will give his second lecture on Shakespeare at 4:30 p.m. at the hotel.

You will have time for dinner at one of the many Ashland restaurants as we will be seeing Born with Teeth at the indoor Angus Bowmer Theatre at 8 p.m.

(B, Late Brunch if jet boating option)

DAY 4 | Friday, June 28

Continental breakfast is included daily at the hotel.

Enjoy a morning at leisure, before we gather for Stephen’s third and last lecture on Much Ado About Nothing late morning at the hotel.

Lunch and afternoon will be at leisure to explore the quaint town of Ashland.

Late afternoon, head to the highly regarded Alchemy Restaurant & Bar at Winchester Inn for our farewell dinner. This traditional Victorian stately home is in perfect harmony with its surroundings, situated in the midst of an English country garden. Walk the path to the restaurant where pansies line the path that lead to the front entrance. It has been a favorite of our past travelers for many years.

After dinner, walk to the outdoor Allen Elizabethan Theatre to enjoy our final performance, Much Ado About Nothing at 8 p.m.

(B,D)
DAY 5 | **Saturday, June 29**

Enjoy brunch this morning at the hotel’s **Crystal Room**. A **company member from the Festival** will once again join us for an intimate question and answer session. Lively discussions always ensue as we critique and discuss the performances we have seen this week.

Around 11 a.m., check-out and depart for home. If you would like to extend your stay in Ashland for an extra day or two, this can easily be arranged for your convenience.

(Brunch)
Accommodations

We will be staying at the Ashland Springs Hotel; an oasis of gentility and elegance located in the heart of the charming town of Ashland. Built in 1925 and lovingly restored, this downtown landmark is a haven of taste reminiscent of small European hotels. The hotel is nestled in the Rogue River Valley where travelers come from far and wide to experience the wonders of nature and the acclaimed curative waters of the mineral springs and now enjoy the world-renowned Shakespeare Festival, exciting local food and wine scene, and the beauty and joy of returning to a simpler time.

This elegant boutique hotel offers many fine guest amenities. On-site, the property provides a business center and concierge service, free parking for those who are driving and a cozy fireplace in the hotel’s lobby. A few of the amenities are as follows: Wireless high speed internet access in all guest rooms, iron, ironing board, 100% cotton robes, Gilchrest & Soames bath products, and hair dryer in each guest room. Dry cleaning and laundry services are offered Monday through Friday. A complimentary continental breakfast is also offered each morning from 6:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. Highly popular Larks Restaurant located at the hotel is open daily for lunch and dinner. A late-night snack from 9 p.m. to Midnight is also available on the Mezzanine level when you return from your evening at the theater, offering hot tea, lemonade, and snacks.

The Ashland Springs Hotel is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and a member of the Historic Hotels of America, and we are just steps away from the renowned Oregon Shakespeare Festival theatres.
Air Travel

Due to economics within the airline industry, securing competitive group air between Los Angeles and Medford is no longer a viable option and unfortunately, cannot be offered to and from the Oregon Shakespeare Festival. We have, however, done the research on how to best get there as an individual traveler, so call us for airline schedules and other options.

The transfer from Medford airport to Ashland Springs Hotel is easy, and only a 30 minute ride. There is a shuttle service (Cascade) 888-760-RIDE for approximately $36 each way, and a taxi ride is approximately $50 (Valley Cab) 541-772-1818 or (Yellow Cab) 541-772-6288. Ride sharing services, such as Uber or Lyft, may also be available.

Ashland, Oregon is approximately 700 miles north of Los Angeles.

Pricing

Land Only: $1,949 (based on double occupancy)
Single Supplement: $580
**Terms & Conditions**

Reservations for this exciting cultural experience will be made on a first-come, first-served basis.

**Land Package includes:** Four nights double occupancy (two per room) at the Ashland Springs Hotel, a backstage tour, three performances, one additional performance or jetboating option, three lectures, one company member discussion, guided tours and meals as outlined herein.

**Single accommodations** are available, but limited. A single room is available for an additional $580. If you are looking for a roommate, we will make every attempt to find one for you. However, if a roommate is not found, you will be responsible for the single supplement cost, pending availability.

**Responsibility:** The liability of UCLA Alumni Travel and UCLA Alumni Association as tour operator is strictly limited. UCLA Alumni Travel purchases hotel accommodations, restaurant and other services from independent suppliers not under our control. We serve only as agents for these suppliers in securing tour arrangements, and therefore will not accept responsibility for wrongful, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, their employees, agents, servants or representatives. UCLA Alumni Travel and UCLA Alumni Association are not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events not within our control. We will make every effort to operate our tours as planned. Any payment to UCLA Alumni Association constitutes your acceptance of the terms and conditions.

**Assumption of Risks:** Participation in this elective trip carries with it certain inherent risks that cannot be eliminated regardless of the care taken to avoid injury. The specific risks vary from one activity to another, but the risks range from 1) minor injuries such as scratches, bruises, and sprains, to 2) major injuries such as eye injury, joint or bone injuries, heart attacks, and concussions, to 3) catastrophic injuries such as paralysis and death.

**Indemnification and Hold Harmless:** Travelers also agree to indemnify and hold the UCLA Alumni Association harmless from any and all claims, actions, suits, procedures, costs, expenses, damages and liabilities, including attorney’s fees, arising out of his/her involvement in this activity, and to reimburse it for any such expenses incurred.

**Travel Arrangements:** Due to economics within the airline industry, securing competitive group air between Los Angeles and Medford is no longer a viable option. Airfare or driving arrangements to meet at Ashland Springs Hotel at the start of the tour is not included. However, we are happy to provide suggested airlines and routings.

**Health:** We welcome all travelers, but request that you be in good health to participate in this tour. You must be able to walk a few blocks, and some stairs may be required to get to your seat. If you require handicapped seating at the performances, please advise as soon as possible so that we can request those seats. We regret that we cannot provide individual assistance if you require use of a wheelchair or have other personal needs; in such cases you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. UCLA Alumni Travel and UCLA Alumni Association reserves the right to remove anyone whose physical condition or behavior, in our opinion, compromises the operation of the tour or detracts from the enjoyment or safety of the other tour members. In that event, UCLA Alumni Travel and UCLA Alumni Association assume no financial responsibility for any unused portion of the tour.

**Cancellations** for any reason whatsoever will be subject to a $200 per person cancellation fee. Cancellations from 60-31 days prior to departure will result in the forfeiture of 50% of the entire cost of the trip; cancellations from 30 days to the time of departure will result in forfeiture of the entire cost of the trip. We reserve the right to change any aspect of the program as necessary. Travel insurance is strongly recommended. Cancellations must be made in writing to UCLA Alumni Travel.

Every effort has been made to accurately describe the information as shown within this document as of December 2023. We reserve the right to correct errors.
Travel Insurance

We strongly recommend you purchase travel insurance to cover the possibility of trip cancellation or interruption, emergency medical evacuation, medical expenses and baggage loss incurred while traveling. All confirmed passengers will receive information regarding an travel insurance provider (alumni.ucla.edu/travel-insurance) in your confirmation packet for your convenience. However, we encourage you to research and find the travel insurance provider that best fits your needs. Please read the insurance brochure and policy carefully.