

workshops, lunch in the woods, and discussion with the cast. The company will also tour *A Midsummer Night's Dream* to schools unable to travel to their theater.

- **American Players Theatre (Spring Green, WI)** will present matinee performances of *Romeo and Juliet* and *Much Ado About Nothing* at the company's theater, situated in a naturally acoustical bowl ringed by towering trees. Students from Wisconsin, Illinois, Iowa, Indiana, and Minnesota will experience the works of Shakespeare first in classroom interactions with professional actors and then through performances in this extraordinary, natural setting.

Please see the complete list of the 40 theater companies (attached) that have been selected to participate in *Shakespeare in American Communities* for 2014-2015.

One hundred and two theater companies across the United States have taken part in the NEA's Shakespeare program since its inception 12 years ago. These companies have presented 33 of Shakespeare's works through 7,700 performances and more than 24,000 educational activities at more than 7,200 schools in 3,100 communities in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Additionally, to enhance the educational impact of *Shakespeare in American Communities*, Arts Midwest and the NEA have developed a comprehensive [Shakespeare in American Communities](#) website in order to share resources and grantee spotlights.

About Arts Midwest

Arts Midwest promotes creativity, nurtures cultural leadership, and engages people in meaningful arts experiences, bringing vitality to Midwest communities and enriching people's lives. Based in Minneapolis, Arts Midwest connects the arts to audiences throughout the nine-state region of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin. One of six nonprofit regional arts organizations in the United States, Arts Midwest's history spans more than 25 years. For more information, visit www.artsmidwest.org.

About the National Endowment for the Arts

The National Endowment for the Arts was established by Congress in 1965 as an independent agency of the federal government. To date, the NEA has awarded more than \$4 billion to support artistic excellence, creativity, and innovation for the benefit of individuals and communities. The NEA extends its work through partnerships with state arts agencies, local leaders, other federal agencies, and the philanthropic sector. For more information, visit arts.gov.