



# 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual

## Oklahoma Literary Arts Festival

Thursday, November 8, 2018

### SESSIONS

#### **“Beware the Ides of March!”**

From the Ides of March to the witches of the East, people of the Elizabethan period believed they had a lot to fear! Come join us for a blast from the past and learn about the superstitions of Shakespeare’s time and how he contributed to these beliefs through his plays. Watch out for those ladders and cracks in the sidewalk! Oh, and no black cats!

Presented by Melissa Copeland and Sierra Newey

#### **Cold Case Files: Julius Caesar Edition- Who done it?**

After a murder weapon connected to the 44 B.C. assassination of a Roman Republic dictator turns up, Detectives Norman and Pruitt and their team reopen the case in hopes of closing it once and for all. The team tracks the dagger using a series of clues until the shocking original owner is finally revealed. Who's behind this assassination?

Presented by Skye Norman and Taylor Pruitt

#### **Whose Line Is it Anyway?**

In this session we will discover the wonderful language of Shakespeare by acting out roles and reading lines. Using this method, we will have fun while learning how to translate Shakespeare’s English into modern language. So, put on your thinking caps and break a leg!

Presented by Sharayah Akire and Amber Deela

#### **“Thou Crusty Botch of Nature!” A Guide to Shakespeare’s Language**

The award for Best Teacher in Throwing Some Shade has to go to the bard himself, Shakespeare. During this class, we will look at some of Shakespeare’s best insults and create our own. By incorporating the insults and lines we create into today’s box office hits, we will bring the Shakespeare’s crafty language into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Presented by Maci Hanson and Shyanna Sloan

#### **Russian Culture**

Come to ECU; transport to Russia! This session explores the language and alphabet of Russia, along with its rich literature, culture, and crafts.

Presented by Dr. Mara Sukholutskaya

#### **True or False? Visual Representations of Julius Caesar**

This session will explore the visual representations of Julius Caesar, including a discussion of the role these images play throughout history. There will also be a related, interactive drawing exercise for attendees to participate in with ECU drawing students.

Presented by Dr. Taryn Chub and Katy Seals

#### **Go Fetch a Midwife: Safeguarding Male Honor**

In most societies, what sex is stereotypically tasked with maintaining their virtue and chastity while the other may be given a pass for indiscretions? Such stereotypes have persisted for hundreds of years across numerous cultures. Act out (in translation) a 17th century Spanish play that challenges its audience to reconsider “normal” gender roles.

Presented by Dr. Errol King

#### **The Science of Syntax in Shakespeare’s Sonnets**

Do you enjoy grammar—or not at all? For those who don’t, this session is for you! Shakespeare (and many Renaissance poets) defied the rules of grammar and common sense to create poetry that amused, delighted, and often mystified their readers. But that’s the point of poetry, to write word puzzles that ‘unlock’ for the right readers. In this session, we’ll begin to understand how the Renaissance poet approached poetry through the unique ‘key’ of syntax, and learn to write our own poems and sonnets which, with a little luck, will survive the ages. Or at least until lunchtime.

Presented by Dr. Josh Grasso

#### **Take the Power Back – Through Poetry**

Audiences and scholars have found much to discuss about the themes of *Julius Caesar* in the hundreds of years since the play was penned. But who decides what a text “says” or what a text “means?” We will perform experiments on familiar texts to uncover unexpected messages using blackout, collage, and other poetic techniques.

Presented by Dr. Megan Donaldson