

For Immediate Release:

SARATOGA SHAKESPEARE COMPANY ANNOUNCES TO RETURN TO CONGRESS PARK JULY 20-23, 2022
WITH NEW PRODUCTION OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S *MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING*

After a more than two-year hiatus due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Saratoga Shakespeare Company is excited to announce its return to the presentation of free, live theatre in Saratoga Springs' Congress Park. Each night July 20 – 23, 2022 at 6:00 PM, the Company will present William Shakespeare's classic comedy, *Much Ado About Nothing*, directed by Wesley Broulik and starring Saratoga Shakespeare Favorite, Tim Dugan, as Benedick and Laura Menzie as Beatrice, each outwardly contemptuous of each other and of the institution of marriage, but who are brought together with great comedic effect by circumstance and the well-intentioned machinations of their family, friends, and compatriots.

"After the challenges we and every other theatre company have faced over the past few years, we could not be more excited to be returning to Congress Park with this show, which allows us to fulfill our core mission of presenting free, live productions in our community of some of the greatest plays ever written," said Steve Greenblatt, President of the Board of Trustees. "This production is particularly significant to those who have been involved with the Company for some time as it not only represents the return of our Company to Saratoga, but also the return of a whole host of people to the Company with whom we've previously worked, making our return even more special." Director Wesley Broulik, for example, has a long history with Saratoga Shakespeare, having directed our last production in Congress Park before the pandemic, *King Lear*, in 2019, along with performing in several other productions over the years.

"I'm thrilled to be working on this lovely and funny play, with this incredible ensemble of artists, in beautiful Congress Park for Saratoga Shakespeare Company. It's a gift to be able to do this. Beatrice and Benedick are a classic comedy couple, from their resistance to getting together and refusal to admit their feelings for each other, to how they spar verbally has been the inspiration for countless comedy couplings over the years." - Wesley Broulik.

Weather permitting, the Company will put on four performances of *Much Ado* in Congress Park, all of which will be free to the public. Shows will begin at 6:00 P.M. each night July 20 – 23, 2022. Patrons are encouraged to bring their own chairs, blankets, or other seating as the shows will be presented on a stage set up on the lawn in Congress Park in front of the duck pond and war memorial. For more information, please see the Saratoga Shakespeare Company website, www.saratogashakespeare.org, or contact the Company at (518) 241-3340.