**2012 Surround: Bringing the Classics to the Community**

This series of free, public events illuminated themes and issues from spring productions. William Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* and Agatha Christie's *The Mousetrap*.

### Outreach Tour: The Mysterious Affair at Styles

The 2012 Outreach Tour, the world premiere of *Agatha Christie's The Mysterious Affair at Styles* adapted by GLT Education Staff Member David Hansen, traveled to 21 locations throughout Cuyahoga, Lorain, and Summit Counties.

*From Left: James Rankin as Capt. Hastings and David Hansen as Hercule Poirot at Cuyahoga Valley Art Center.*

“This charming, funny and smart play is a quick-paced gem ... a grand night of theater.” - Marjorie Preston, Sun News

2,752 individuals attended at 21 community venues in Lorain, Summit and Cuyahoga Counties including 5 high schools and 1 community college. 2012 tour attendance marks an astonishing 78% increase over the previous year, and setting a tour attendance record. The script has since been published by Playscripts Inc., another first for a GLT outreach touring production

### Bardstock FM: Back By Popular Demand!

75 students applied for the Bardstock FM songwriting contest, which returned after a two-year hiatus, to create original songs inspired by *Romeo & Juliet*. The 5 grand-prize winners appeared on WCPN 90.3 FM ideastream’s songwriting contest inspired by the contest, which returned after a two-year hiatus, to create original songs inspired by *Romeo & Juliet*. The grand-prize winning play was *The Crossbow* by Ellenah Moon (pictured below, second from right with all participating students playing.

### LCCC Student Play Writing Festival: Suit the Word to the Action

Lorain County Community College annual playwriting contest was produced by GLT Education Director Daniel Hahn and adjudicated by area professional playwrights in May, 2012. The grand-prize winning play was *The Crossbow* by Ellenah Moon (pictured below, second from right with all participating students playing.

### Student Designed Lobby Exhibit: Love at First Sight

In February 2012, Great Lakes Theater provided two workshops for 33 artists enrolled at TrueNorth Cultural Arts in Sheffield Village. This workshop provided an in-depth exploration of *Romeo & Juliet*, including interactive participation, theater exercises and readings from the play. Over the next several weeks, the artists composed original artwork inspired by *Romeo & Juliet*. Twenty-six of the resulting works were displayed in the lobby of the Hanna Theatre and experienced by 9,827 audience members during GLT’s *Romeo & Juliet*.

*Artwork such as this were displayed in the lobby of the Hanna Theatre and experienced by 9,827 audience members during GLT’s *Romeo & Juliet*.*

### The All-City Musical

For thirteen years, the Cleveland Metropolitan School District (CMSD) in association with Great Lakes Theater have brought together powerfully talented high school students from all over the district to perform classic American musicals like Guys and Dolls, West Side Story and Dreamgirls.

*On May 22, Cleveland's own pop music legend Eric Carmen visited a rehearsal and was serenaded by the cast with his own composition, "Almost Paradise." Carmen pictured above warmly greeted leads Warren Franklin III and Da'Chelle Porter.*

### CAMP THEATRE!

In cooperation with Berea High School, GLTF professional teaching artists conducted a two-week summer arts camp for students aged 4-18. Over 86 campers dramatized classic literature and children's stories, created improvised scenework, participated in stage make-up and combat workshops, made new friends and had a great deal of fun!

*Left: Kaityln Tomco (5) from Parma, playing a fox in an actor-camper created fable.*

### 2011-2012 SCORECARD

**Residency Program**: 15,009 students served in 592 classrooms in 82 schools. **Matinee Series**: 17,759 students attended **Outreach Tour**: 2,752 audience members **Lobby Exhibit**: 26 student artists

*For “A Christmas Carol” Contest: 3,500 new writers, and 28 student playwright winners Camp Theater: 86 artist campers All-City Musical: 59 CMSD student performers and 4,131 audience members ESU National Shakespeare Competition: Workshops for 340 students*
School Residency Program

For three decades, educators throughout the region have come to expect GLT actor-teachers to lead their students through an exciting, professional week-long exploration of classic drama.

In 2011-2012, 15,009 students in 82 schools in 592 classrooms brandished swords, performed key scenes from Shakespeare and other great playwrights, and made the important connections between classic literature and their own lives.

A student from the Lawrence School in Sagamore Hills wrote: We all felt like we were doing well because they would compliment us about what we did. If we needed improvement, they were patient with us and helped us feel comfortable, so we could perform with more confidence.

Our comprehensive lesson plan: Dr. Scott Miller, Cleveland School of the Arts (CMSD): It is clear that you understand schools and students. You know how to work within our environment and obviously know how to train your actor teachers how to relate to young people. You make Shakespeare fun, relevant, artistically dynamic and very personal to the students.

NEW Collaborative Programs!

Additional educational programming included the Gilgamesh Project in partnership with Cuyahoga Community College; Crossroads, a program of self-discovery for youth working to defeat substance abuse, in partnership with Lake County Juvenile Court; Medical Workshops designed for medical professionals to learn trust and empathy, in partnership with University Hospitals and the Cleveland Clinic.

In total, Great Lakes Theater’s educational programming served almost 44,000 students and adults in 2011-2012.

Student Matinee Series

17,759 students from 17 counties in Ohio and Pennsylvania attended five of GLT’s 2011-2012 main stage productions in the Hanna and Ohio Theatres.

Scene from GLT’s “The Taming of the Shrew” (2011)

“Fantastic performance – one of the BEST I’ve ever seen!”
—Cindy Newman, Chardon High School Teacher

“A Christmas Carol” Writing Contest

Over 3,500 students participated in this contest for 6th, 7th and 8th grade students from Cleveland Metropolitan School District schools, which required them to write about themes in Charles Dickens’ story. 28 school winners’ literary achievements were celebrated following two special matinees of “A Christmas Carol” as they were brought onstage to meet the actors, to the thunderous applause of 1,898 of their fellow students in the audience.

“ANNUAL REPORT

EDUCATION

2011—2012

Today, our education program continues to flourish with the support of so many in the community. Actor-teachers bring the classics to life in classrooms throughout the state, teachers plan field trips to the beautifully renovated Hanna Theatre, free outreach touring plays are presented throughout Cuyahoga, Lorain and Summit counties, and students connect to the timeless themes in classic drama through a myriad of educational opportunities. It is because of the generosity of our many supporters that we can continue to touch the lives of so many with enriching, arts-based experiences. On behalf of the tens of thousands of individuals in our community who benefit from your generosity, I thank you.

Sincerely,
Daniel Hahn
Director of Education

Pictured: Student from “A Christmas Carol” workshop at Stan Hywet Hall in Akron. Great Lakes Theater’s mission: To bring the pleasure, power and relevance of classic theater to the widest possible audience.