

EVERGREEN VALLEY COLLEGE

PRESENTS

Shakespeare Escapes Here

SPECIAL THANKS:

President Vinicio López,
Chancellor Beatriz Chaidez,
Bianca Lopez,
Sean Stewart,
Vince Cabada,
Daniel Ezquerro,
Jamison Jossis,
Mirna Franco,
Tate Barr,
Kevin Nguyen,
Yeab Kebede,
Brynn Hambly,
SJECCD Foundation,
Members of the EVC Theatre Club

AN INTERACTIVE THEATRE EXPERIENCE

DEVELOPED BY JOHN KAUFMANN

PRESENTED BY EVC'S PERFORMANCE IN PRODUCTION STUDENTS

NOVEMBER 14-16, 2024

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Shakespeare Escapes Here



An Interactive Escape Room Comedy
Conceived and Developed **by John Kaufmann**

CAST

Nico Adams	Cameron
Sonny Alarcon	Zuko
Johnny Alvarez	Michael
Assel Bakpassova	Rosie
Emily Collier	Marcy
Tip Collins	Jessie
Thomas Cortez	Max
Diego Jennings	Cain
Ethan Furuta	Lee
Jennifer Lam	Lydia
Edsen Le	Nick
Alberto Montes de Oca Hernandez	Shake-Spirit
Brian Parks	Rommie
KD Pham	Eren
Riley Saxe	Adrian
Quinn Tran	Elana
Shane Vieira	Colin
Franco Vu	Milos

CREATIVE TEAM

Director/Course Instructor	John Kaufmann
Stage Manager	Gabi Ramirez
Production Assistant	KD Pham
Original Music and Arrangements for *Cupid Painted Blind*	Thomas Cortez, John Kaufmann, Alberto Montes de Oca Hernandez, and Franco Vu
Marketing:	Niall Adler

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Shakespeare Escapes Here grew out of many past and current EVC students. Last year, work study student Mirna Franco and I were discussing ideas for productions. Without a technician or designer, we needed something with minimal set and tech requirements. Mirna and I walked around the building and imagined smaller spaces that might be utilized to create a unique audience experience.

Tate Barr was in some of my first theatre classes at EVC and we've stayed in touch ever since. Tate went on to work at a local escape room. We met for coffee last spring and brainstormed puzzles and challenges for an escape room comedy at EVC.

KD Pham and Franco Vu were in our production of ***Our Town*** last year. ***Our Town*** was the first fully produced EVC play in this theater since it was built in 2008 (Financial crisis, a decade without theatre faculty, Covid…). Along with performing again in ***Shakespeare Escapes Here***, KD has been a production assistant (hanging the moon one of you will stand under!) and Franco helped with musical aspects of the play.

On one of the first days of the semester, a group of new students appeared at my office door. They were from Silver Creek High School and were wondering how they could get involved with theatre at EVC. Well… audition for the show! Many of them joined the cast and have also been a driving force in re-starting the campus theatre club. A few weeks ago Silver Creek graduate Alberto and I went to visit Ms. Koizumi's drama class to plug the play. Some of them may be seated around you!

I just had a rough idea of a script when the semester began, and every cast member was crucial to the play's development. Actor personalities led to character traits and many creative ideas came from actors' suggestions in rehearsal. My favorite words to hear in rehearsal are "what if we…?" and "let's try it!" One day when we have design support, I'd love to direct a full Shakespeare play here at EVC. Until then, our play plants the seeds of Shakespeare's poetry, plots and characters. Thanks for agreeing to be our garden!

My dad was the one who introduced me to Shakespeare; he was a speech teacher and took me to see plays at Iowa State University when I was growing up. My dad passed away as we were rehearsing ***Shakespeare Escapes Here***. I know he is here in spirit, so I'll end with a line from Shakespeare that you'll encounter this evening:

So long lives this, and this gives life to thee.