



TN Shakespeare Co. brings *Romeo & Juliet* to the Juvenile Detention Center LIVE!

Tennessee Shakespeare Company has been a long standing volunteer with our programs department at the Juvenile Detention Center. As soon as the doors were re-opened to official volunteers they were eager to come in and perform. On Wednesday, March 8th at 3:30pm they performed *Romeo and Juliet* for both boys and girls in the Juvenile Detention Center dining hall. It was an amazing performance that the youth loved watching while eating chips. TSC has assured us that they will come back for another performance and we are so thankful for their due diligence and dedication to the youth of Shelby County.

Tennessee Shakespeare Company is the first and only professional, not-for-profit theatre and education organization in Memphis dedicated to live, diverse performances of William Shakespeare's plays, as well as works of social significance by classical, Southern, and modern playwrights/composers; and to providing innovative education, training, and outreach programming.

In the time TSC has been involved we have seen shy, reclusive, and damaged kids become outgoing and creative souls from participating in the program. We have seen kids that have never written anything of substance now easily writing pages of complex thought. The positive reinforcement, understanding that it's okay to be wrong, knowing it's alright to have different opinions and instilling confidence to just try are things the majority of these kids have never had in their lives. I truly believe the residual effects of their programs in these kids' minds going forth will change the majority of their views towards life and the arts in general.

William Adkins, III
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