

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Contact: Abby Stigler Communications Manager 214-526-4076 (x302) abby@juniorplayers.org

## Junior Players Presents 12th Night: A Rock Musical August 3 - 8, 2021

DALLAS, TX, July 8, 2021 - Junior Players is excited to make their post-covid return to the Samuell-Grand Park Amphitheatre stage this summer to present 12<sup>th</sup> Night: A Rock Musical, directed by Gloria Vivica Benavides, associate directed by Korey Kent, and with music direction by Mark Mullino. This production is done in collaboration with Shakespeare Dallas and will close out their summer season.

Performances will be August 3 – 8, 2021 at the Samuell-Grand Park Amphitheatre (1500 Tenison Parkway Dallas, TX 75223). The gates will open at 7:30pm and the show will begin at 8:15pm each night.

This production features 13 of North Texas' most talented high school students from 9 different high schools, including Allen High School, Anna High School, Barack Obama Male Leadership Academy, Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts, Cedar Hill High School, Coppell High School, Garland High School, Greenhill School, and Northwest High School. The Bard becomes a musical sensation as his text is mixed into original infectious rock/pop style melodies in a new production out of California of this classic gender bending comedy.

Tickets are on sale now and can be purchased by visiting <a href="www.juniorplayers.org/tickets">www.juniorplayers.org/tickets</a>. The Tuesday and Wednesday night performances will be free of charge. Tickets are \$10 General Admission, \$5 Student/Senior for the Thursday and Sunday night performances and \$15 General Admission, \$10 Student/Senior for the Friday and Saturday night performances. Tickets will be sold at the door but cash will not be accepted in order to stay within COVID compliance guidelines and ensure the safety of our staff, patrons, production team members, and participants.

12th Night: A Rock Musical is sponsored, in part, by Milfred and Patricia Hammerbacher, City of Dallas: Office of Arts and Culture, National Endowment for the Arts, TACA, Holloway Family Foundation, Simmons Sisters Fund, Diane and Hal Brierley Foundation, George Family Foundation - Next Generation Fund, Moody Fund for the Arts, Texas Commission on the Arts, John & Bonnie Strauss Foundation, VisitDallas, Fichtenbaum Charitable Trust, and the Hersh Foundation.

Now in its 31<sup>th</sup> year, the Junior Players' Discover Shakespeare program, produced in collaboration with Shakespeare Dallas, has become a mainstay in the North Texas cultural scene. This production of Shakespeare, performed entirely by young adults ages fifteen to nineteen, has provided hundreds of students with real hands-on professional theatrical training, at no cost to the participants, and has introduced thousands of young audience members to Shakespeare.

Junior Players was founded in 1955 and is the oldest non-profit children's theater organization in Dallas. Over its sixty-six-year existence, Junior Players has striven to meet the changing needs of the community. From 1955 to 1989, Junior Players presented traditional children's theater productions performed entirely by children and teenagers. In 1989, the Board of Directors changed the focus of Junior Players activities, deciding that Junior Players can best serve the youth of Dallas by providing free programming accessible to all the children of North Texas. Junior Players therefore exclusively provides free arts education programs in local recreation and cultural centers, housing projects, elementary and middle schools, and through social service agencies serving youth at risk.