

Please join us for the 2009-2010 Opening Season  
of the new state-of-the-art Center for Communication Studies and Theatre  
as Longwood Theatre presents:

# SHAKESPEARE AND BEYOND

**VENUS AND ADONIS** By William Shakespeare

September 11 & 12

A doomed love story unfolds as longtime companions—Love Goddess Venus and her mortal lover Adonis—get serious. She woos him with promises of intimate pleasure, but he shuns her offer in lieu of a sporting adventure... alone. She then tries to dissuade him from leaving by lamenting a tragic story. Join us to see if Adonis' flagrant disregard of her warning is destined to meet with disaster which would give Venus reason to say "I told you so!" This production will be accompanied by Longwood Opera Workshop with classical and contemporary music.

**OTHELLO** By William Shakespeare

November 12,13,14,15 and 19,20,21,22

A private wedding between General Othello, the Moor, and the fair Desdemona sets off a dramatic chain reaction of jealousy, distrust, betrayal and revenge. Othello is driven into an insane rage over his new wife's supposed unfaithfulness, a lie developed by his unscrupulous ensign, Iago. In order to distract from his misdeeds, Iago then cunningly orchestrates villainous schemes played out by a host of loosely connected characters who are propelled by self-centered motives. The combination of seething emotions ultimately leads to murder and suicide. Come see who has something to hide or something to gain, and who loses it all.

**THE GRAPES OF WRATH** Written by Frank Galati, adapted from the novel by John Steinbeck

February 18,19,20,21 and 25,26,27,28

We may think times are tough in America now, but the struggles encountered by the Joad family during the Great Depression were undoubtedly more challenging. Joining countless other migrant workers seeking a better life in the Promised Land of California, their wayward journey leads to side trips at squalid labor camps where efforts to find work and rebuild their lives evade them. Although they travel in circles of desperation, a determination to survive arises out of the dust of hopelessness—ending with a spark of compassion and tenderness that will touch your heart.

**LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS** Book and lyrics by Howard Ashman, music by Alan Menken

April 8,9,10,11, and 15,16,17,18

Longwood Theatre returns to a musical forte—in collaboration with Longwood Opera Workshop—with *Little Shop of Horrors* set at Mushnik's Flower Shop in New York City. The customer-depleted shop becomes a thriving business after its nerdy employee, Seymour, buys a mysterious plant that grows to enormous proportions and blossoms into a talking wonder. Audrey II (named after Seymour's co-worker and secret love, Audrey) begins to wilt until Seymour discovers her nutrient of choice—not soil, water or sunlight—but blood. Providing ample nourishment to the plant becomes Seymour's full-time job as Audrey II demands, "Feed Me, Seymour!" A sequence of deadly but comical events unfolds as Seymour's and Audrey's love affair develops. The eventual demise of Audrey II *should be* the end of the bizarre events, but is it?

Showtimes: Thursday through Saturday performances, at 7pm; and Sunday matinees at 3pm.

Ticket Prices: \$5, Longwood students; \$6, senior citizens, other students, Longwood Faculty/Staff; and \$8, general public. Advance reservations are recommended; payment required at time of reservation. The intimate 120-seat Main Stage Theatre in the new Center for Communications Studies & Theatre is located at the south end of campus on Franklin & Race streets. For more information, contact the Box Office at 434.395.2474; hours are noon to 5pm Wednesday through Friday and one hour prior to show times.

*Programming is subject to changes due to availability and budget constraints.*