

MEDIA RELEASE

Christine Holbert/ Lost Horse Press
105 Lost Horse Lane
Sandpoint, ID 83864

Voice: 208.255.4410

Email: losthorsepress@mindspring.com

Shakespeare in Sandpoint returns to our town for the fifth year this Summer when *Montana Shakespeare in the Parks* performs *Henry IV, Part I* at Memorial Field on Saturday, 27 July 2019. Hosted by Lost Horse Press—an independent nonprofit press that publishes contemporary poetry and makes available fine literature of all genres through cultural, educational, and publishing programs and activities—which carries out its mission to inspire and educate people through programs such as *Montana Shakespeare in the Parks'* free plays each summer. For more information on the play and a complete tour schedule, visit the company's website: www.shakespeareintheparks.org. For information about *Shakespeare in Sandpoint*, please contact local host Lost Horse Press at 208.255.4410 or email losthorsepress@mindspring.com.

The performance of *Henry IV, Part I* is free and open to the public. The gates at Memorial Field will open at 1:00PM, with *Henry IV, Part I* starting at 6 PM. People are encouraged to arrive early with lawn chairs, blankets, and picnics to spend time with friends and neighbors, and to enjoy this year's pre-play performances, particularly our latest collaborative oeuvre, *A Celebration of Arts & Culture*.

For the past two years, the Music Conservatory of Sandpoint's orchestra and theater students have performed the opening acts for *Shakespeare in Sandpoint*, but this year, Lost Horse Press' collaboration with the Music Conservatory of Sandpoint (MCS) is blossoming into *A Celebration of Arts & Culture*, a diverse music and arts event. MCS contributes to this collaboration through the culmination of its Summer Academy (summer camps), featuring *MCS Music Without Borders*, which hosts international music students. This includes presenting the internationally acclaimed Matsiko World Orphan Choir. Matsiko will perform with the MCS Children's Choir, a part of its *Music Matters!* after school initiative, which offers free after-school music education in the community. The MM Chamber Orchestra, MM Percussion Fun Ensemble, and the MCS Theater Group will also perform. Other features of the day will include, tribal and belly dancing, readings by local and regional poets, and a contra dance. A variety of art, music, and literary activities—for the amusement and edification of both children and adults—will take place on the lawn of Memorial Field as well as on stage.

This summer, *Montana Shakespeare in the Parks* (MSIP) will perform, *Henry IV, Part I*, directed by Kevin Asselin. The audience will experience the power, honor, and rebellion displayed in the fight for the throne, as a young prince must live up to his father's expectations. The company features ten professional actors selected from national auditions who tour without technical assistance to bring professional live theatre to rural communities. *Montana Shakespeare in the Parks* is a nationally recognized outreach program of the College of Arts & Architecture at Montana State University, and is the only Shakespeare company to reach as extensively into rural areas, and the only company in the state that offers its performances free to the public, guaranteeing accessibility to all. Grants, corporate sponsorships, and hundreds of individual donors support the free performances, although each community host is responsible for raising the funds necessary to bring the troupe to their town.