



Press Release: 16 February 2010

Globe Education and the Bard in Beirut

Globe Education, at Shakespeare's Globe, is returning to Beirut to resume working with students aged 13 to 18 from schools in and around the city from 16 to 20 February. The annual project uses Shakespeare's work, this year *Romeo and Juliet*, to consider the subject of conflict resolution with students. A joint venture between Globe Education at Shakespeare's Globe, the Lebanese branch of the English Speaking Union and the Lebanese American University, the programme was interrupted in 2006 due to the aftermath of the summer Israeli-Lebanese war and the resulting unrest which left Lebanon's security fragile.

Supported by the British Council, the project aims to make available the expertise of Globe Education to as many people as possible. Senior practitioner Adam Coleman runs three bespoke workshops a day at the Lebanese American university, reaching schools from across Lebanon. The workshops are free to ensure they are accessible to all. The last day is also reserved for the general public, professional and amateur actors, and drama teachers.

Youmna Asseily, Chairman of the Lebanese English Speaking Union, spoke of the effects of the Globe Education workshops: *"It is wonderful to witness the transformation of the participants during the workshop; thanks to Adam's "magic". They learn to take the time to discover themselves, to listen to others and usually walk out of the workshops with a more serene understanding of themselves and the dynamics of human relations"*.

Adam Coleman, Senior Practitioner at Globe Education, has run the workshops in previous years. *"In the past we have had the children of parents who have lived through conflict. Now we will be working with students who know personally what it is like to live through conflict which is nothing to do with them.*

"These young people come from across Lebanese society and are the leaders and politicians of tomorrow. What a privilege to be with them and reflecting on the conflicts Shakespeare wrote about 400 years ago. This year we will be looking at the resolution of conflict within Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet, how the conflict between the Montagues and Capulets affected the lives of

those around them. We will have the opportunity to reflect on alternative viewpoints, also time to think about personal awareness and the two voices in our heads - the positive coach or the negative critic”.

Globe Education also runs bespoke workshops at Shakespeare’s Globe for over 100,000 students of all ages each year.

ENDS

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Images of Shakespeare's Globe, as well as other media resources, are available online at www.shakespeares-globe.org/press or from Chris Adams (above).

Notes to Editors

- **Globe Education** presents a programme of workshops, lectures, events and staged readings all year round. For more information about Globe Education’s work, visit www.globe-education.org
- **Shakespeare's Globe Theatre** The 2010 Theatre Season is entitled 'Kings and Rogues', and includes *Macbeth*, *Henry VIII*, *Henry IV Part 1*, *Henry IV Part 2*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Anne Boleyn* by Howard Brenton and *Bedlam* by Nell Leyshon. Box office: 020 7401 9919 or online at www.shakespeares-globe.org
- **Shakespeare’s Globe Exhibition** is open all year round. May to September from 9am to 5pm and October to April from 10am to 5pm. Admission includes a guided tour of the Theatre. For further information, telephone 020 7902 1500.
- **Shakespeare's Globe Shop** stocks a variety of products, including season specific merchandise. Items can be bought at the on-site shop or on-line at www.globe-shop.com.
- **Capital Campaign** – Shakespeare’s Globe is currently fundraising for a major development project. The first part of the campaign – to develop a Globe Education and Rehearsal Centre – is underway. To find out more visit www.shakespeares-globe.org/thesecondstage
- **The Shakespeare Globe Trust** is a registered charity No.266916. **The Globe receives no public subsidy.**