

## “Comedy of Errors” to Romp through Outdoors

JULY 20, 2009

- What:** “Comedy of Errors” performance by the Pigeon Creek Shakespeare Company
- When:** 7 p.m. Friday, July 31, and 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 1
- Where:** Creative 360 (formerly Creative Spirit Center), 1517 Bayliss Street, Midland
- How much:** \$10 Friday night, which includes an afterglow with the actors, and \$7 Saturday afternoon, with family rates available.
- Information:** Call 989-837-1885 or visit [www:bcreative360.org](http://www.becreative360.org)

**[Midland]** A farce filled with slapstick, mistaken identity, an overabundance of coincidence and two sets of identical twins separated at birth mingles with the sounds of the natural world as Midland’s Creative 360 inaugurates its new pavilion performance space with a Shakespearean comedy.

The Pigeon Creek Shakespearean Company pays its third visit to Creative 360 (formerly Creative Spirit Center), 1517 Bayliss, with two performances of “The Comedy of Errors.” One of The Bard’s earliest plays, and also his shortest, the script is filled with puns and wordplay.

Performances are at 7 p.m. Friday, July 31, and at 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 1, with audience members asked to bring their own seating as well as optional picnic lunches or dinners. The even more adventurous are invited to wear period dress. Families are welcome.

Located in Grand Haven, Pigeon Creek specializes in high-energy “in your face” performances based on the tradition Shakespeare started with his touring acting troupe – the actors visit small towns and villages and perform in parks, warehouses, churches, coffee houses and any place they can set up a small stage. Sets and costumes are kept to a minimum and the lighting is au naturel.

Whether their performances are outside or inside, Pigeon Creek’s actors use audience members as “props,” make their entrances and exits through anywhere people are seated and view their entire surroundings as part of their stage.

In Shakespeare's time, too, says Pigeon Creek executive director Katherine Mayberry, acting companies did not rehearse with stage directors as they do in these modern times.

"As part of its mission to explore the original staging practices of Shakespeare's time," says Mayberry, "Pigeon Creek will stage "Comedy of Errors" as an ensemble-directed production."

Starring as the two sets of twins are company members Randy Brown II, Michael Empson, Scott Lange and Chris S. Teller. Lange is a native of Saginaw Township and a graduate of its Heritage High School, where he also acted in Shakespearean plays.

Creative 360's new pavilion features a small stage and dressing room. It was built by David Rousse with volunteers Greg Reed and Thad Hallberg, as well as Midland Eagle Scout candidate Josh Angus and his family and friends, with funding from the Midland Area Community Foundation. The pavilion also will be used for classes, poetry readings and concerts and is available for rentals.

In case of rain, the Pigeon Creek performances of "Comedy of Errors" -- picnics and all -- will move indoors at Creative 360.

Tickets are \$10 on Friday night, which includes an afterglow with the actors, and \$7 on Saturday afternoon. Family rates for a party of five are \$40 Friday and \$30 Sunday. Tickets are on sale at the door as well as in advance,

Last summer Pigeon Creek performed scenes from Shakespearean plays outside at Creative 360 and returned in December to perform "Twelfth Night" on what was the shortest day of the year.

Pigeon Creek was founded in 1988 and takes its name from the Ottawa County park where it performed some of its earliest productions. In 2002 it began its touring repertory wing. Since 2004 it has been a partner organization of the Grand Haven Area Arts Council and has its own indoor performance facility. For more information about the company, log on to [www.pcshakespeare.com](http://www.pcshakespeare.com).

### **About Creative 360**

Creative 360, formerly known as Creative Spirit Center, is a not-for-profit community arts and wellness organization founded in 1994. The Center's mission is to create an environment for people of all ages to experience the creative process through ongoing classes, exhibits, events, concerts, speakers and outreach programs; and its goal is to enhance the development of physical, psychological and spiritual wellness through the arts and humanities. Summer 2009 highlights in addition to "Comedy of Errors" include the art exhibit *Clear Water*, art camps for children and youth, and a tour of the Harvest Wind Farm in Michigan's Thumb. Schedules showing all classes and events at Creative 360

are available at no charge. Telephone 837-1885 to have schedules delivered to your business or location, or mailed to your home.

---

---

Creative 360 1517 Bayliss Street Midland, MI 48640 (989) 837-1885  
fax: (989) 837-1817 [www.bcreative360.org](http://www.bcreative360.org)

#####