

## Live Theater BONUS assignment

### DUE Monday 9 November/Tuesday 10 November

#### Directions:

1. Attend Theatre Salem's production of William Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing* on Thursday 5 November at 7:30, Saturday 7 November at 7:30, or Sunday 8 November at 2:00. Save your ticket!
2. Complete the writing assignment about the play's setting below.
3. Turn in your ticket and composition stapled together.

#### Writing Topic:

Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing* is typically set in Italy during the Renaissance period. However, Theatre Salem has chosen to modernize the setting and place the characters and action in a more modern locale: 1940's America. In an organized composition, beginning with a thesis that clearly states your central idea, analyze the setting of Theatre Salem's production. Make sure that you clearly identify and explain specific elements of the setting and explain how they affect the play's plot and characters.

#### Definition of Setting:

The setting is the physical and social context in which the action of a play occurs and can be used to evoke a mood or atmosphere. The major elements of setting are the time, the place, and the social environment that frames the characters and their actions. Specific elements of the setting include:

- the geographical location (its topography, scenery, and physical arrangements),
- the occupations and daily manner of living of the characters,
- the time period in which the action takes place (epoch in history or season of the year), and
- the general environment of the characters (social, religious, cultural, moral, and emotional conditions and attitudes).