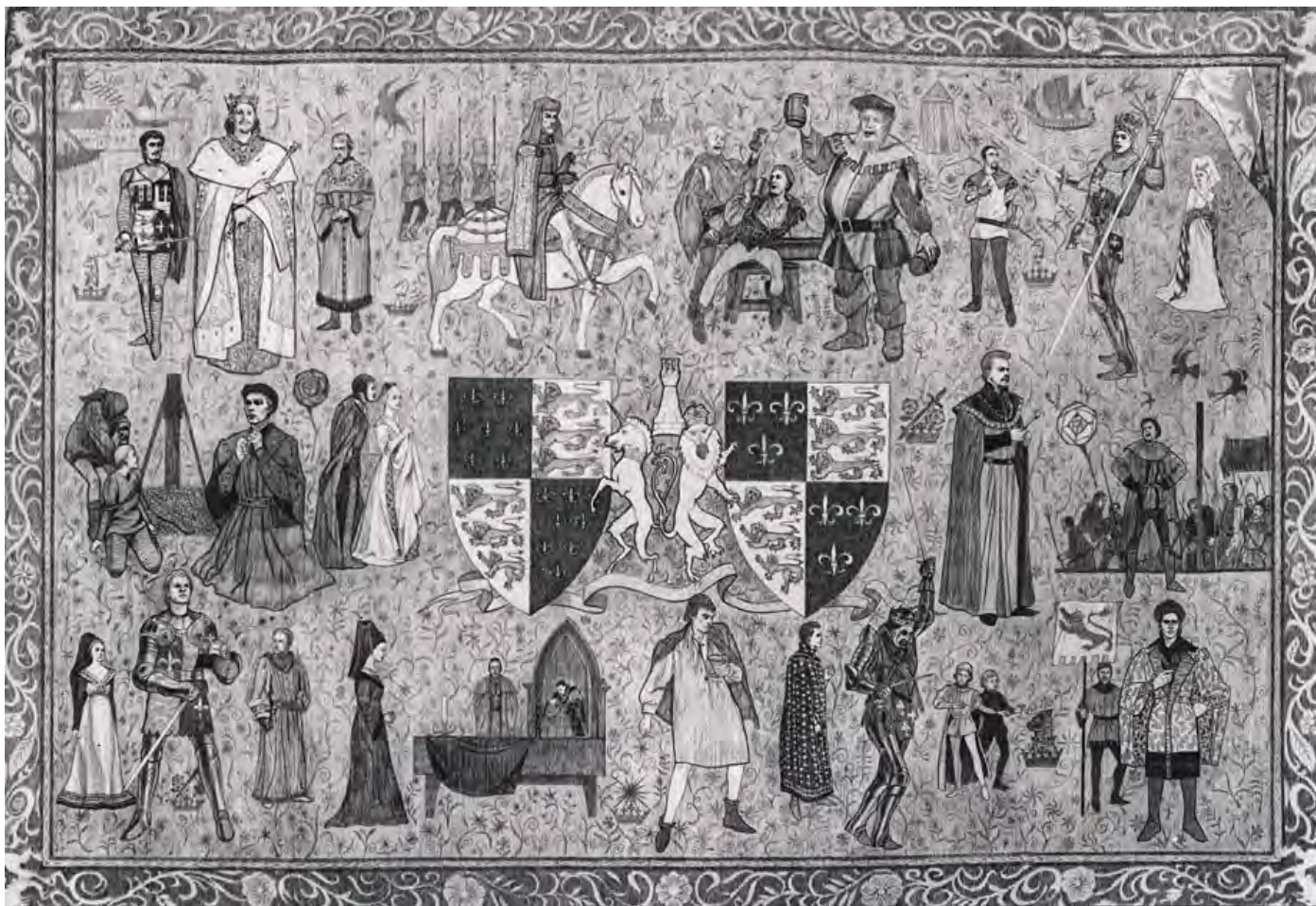


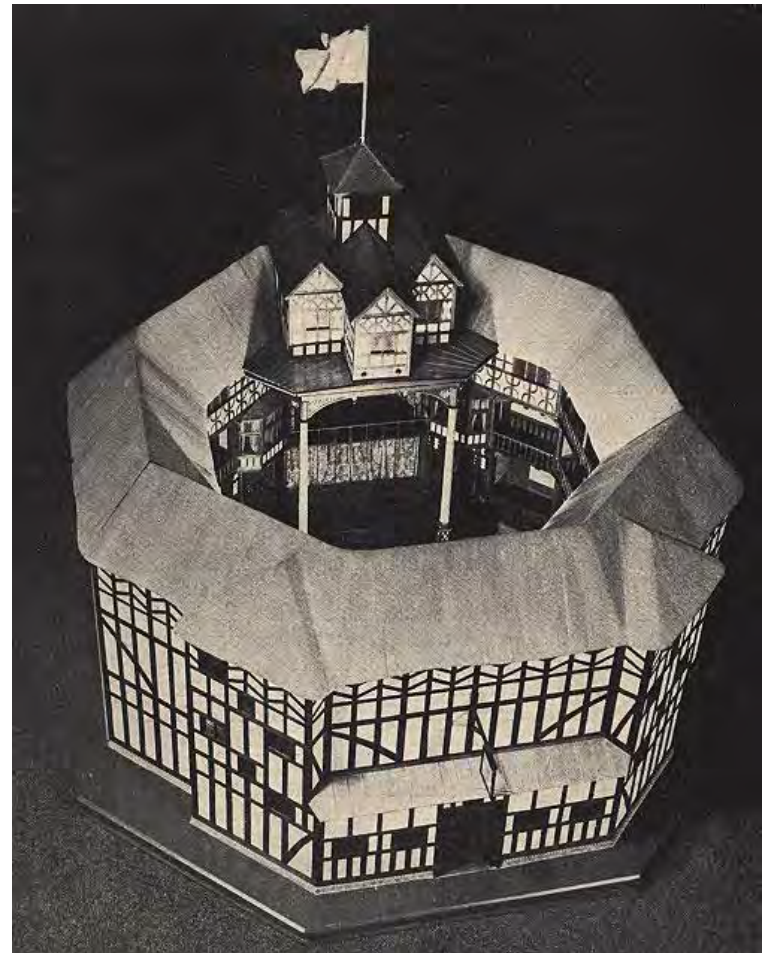
The Shakespeare Festival at Hofstra

By Barbara Guzowski, Special Collections



Hofstra President Dr. John Cranford Adams completed a 10 year project in 1950 to create an exact replica of the original Globe Theatre.

- The original Globe Theatre in London, England, was the most famous symbol of the Elizabethan theatre where William Shakespeare's plays were performed.
- It was from the success of the Globe Theatre Model that the concept of an annual Shakespeare Festival was developed.



**The first Shakespeare Festival production
was *Julius Caesar*, held in 1950.**

**Actor, Ralph Clanton
played the title role.**



Much Ado About Nothing (1954)

***Much Ado* was the first festival play which did not feature a professional actor in the leading role. An all-student cast portrayed the characters. For this fifth Festival, an interpretation of the Globe Stage was created for the Hofstra Playhouse.**



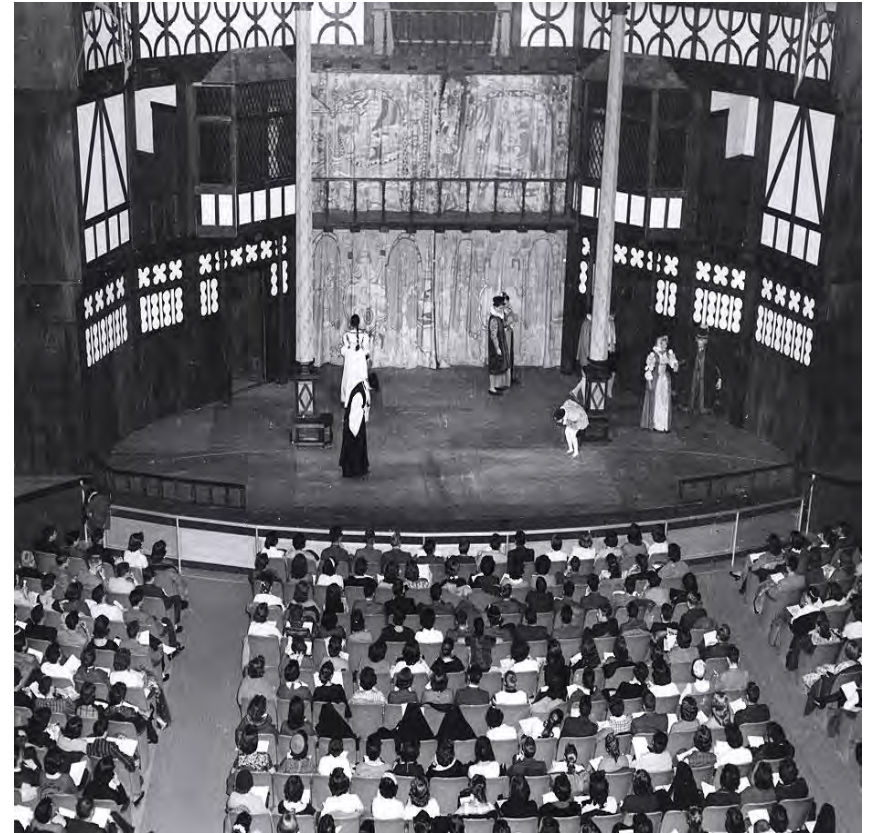
***Hamlet* (April 26, 1958)**

***Hamlet* was the play chosen for the Gala Opening of the new Hofstra Playhouse.**

William Hutt, of the Stratford Shakespearean Festival of Canada, appeared in the title role, supported by a student cast.



The new Hofstra Playhouse was equipped with the most modern equipment for sound, lighting, and settings. The versatility of the Globe Stage made possible an unlimited variety of productions.



Gala Opening (1958)

President John Cranford Adams described the new million-dollar Hofstra Playhouse as “the cultural centerpiece” of Hofstra College and the community.



1960

Romeo & Juliet



1964

A Midsummer Night's Dream



1960s

**President Clifford Lord (center) viewing
the Shakespeare Festival Exhibit**



1971

The Merry Wives of Windsor



1972

Richard III



March 23, 1974

The highlight of the 25th Annual Shakespeare Festival was the unveiling of the new name of the Playhouse – “the John Cranford Adams Playhouse.” Dr. Adams, Hofstra’s President Emeritus and a distinguished Shakespeare scholar, fostered the construction of the Globe Theatre stage replica and the founding of the Shakespeare Festival.



1985

The Tempest



1989

Merchant of Venice



1980s

President James Shuart (far left) with Hofstra Professors. Hofstra Drama Professor, Richard Mason (far right).



1990

- **Dr. Richard Mason, Professor in Hofstra's Drama Department (1963-1993), with Sarah Hartmann during the production of *Othello*.**
- **Mason was an integral part of the Shakespeare Festivals and directed many of the productions.**



1990

Othello



1997

Taming of the Shrew



2000

Love's Labour's Lost



2003

Henry V



Shakespeare Productions Performed at Hofstra University through 2011

1950	<i>Julius Caesar</i>	1982	<i>The Taming of the Shrew</i>
1951	<i>Henry IV, Part I</i>	1983	<i>As You Like It</i>
1952	<i>Twelfth Night</i>	1984	<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>
1953	<i>Macbeth</i>	1985	<i>The Tempest</i>
1954	<i>Much Ado About Nothing</i>	1986	<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>
1955	<i>Othello</i>	1987	<i>A Comedy of Errors</i>
1956	<i>Richard III</i>	1988	<i>Twelfth Night</i>
1957	<i>As You Like It</i>	1989	<i>The Merchant of Venice</i>
1958	<i>Hamlet</i>	1990	<i>Othello</i>
1959	<i>The Merry Wives of Windsor</i>	1991	<i>Hamlet</i>
1960	<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>	1992	<i>The Merry Wives of Windsor</i>
1961	<i>Love's Labour's Lost</i>	1993	<i>Measure for Measure</i>
1962	<i>The Tempest</i>	1994	<i>As You Like It</i>
1963	<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	1995	<i>Macbeth</i>
1964	<i>Julius Caesar</i>	1996	<i>Pericles</i>
1965	<i>The Taming of the Shrew</i>	1997	<i>The Taming of the Shrew</i>
1966	<i>Twelfth Night</i>	1998	<i>All's Well That Ends Well</i>
1967	<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>	1999	<i>King Lear</i>
1968	<i>As You Like It</i>	2000	<i>Love's Labour's Lost</i>
1969	<i>A Comedy of Errors and The Boys from Syracuse</i>	2001	<i>Titus Andronicus</i>
1970	<i>Hamlet</i>	2002	<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>
1971	<i>The Merry Wives of Windsor</i>	2003	<i>Henry V</i>
1972	<i>Richard III</i>	2004	<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>
1973	<i>Measure for Measure</i>	2005	<i>Julius Caesar</i>
1974	<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	2006	<i>King John</i>
1975	<i>Love's Labour's Lost</i>	2007	<i>The Winter's Tale</i>
1976	<i>Much Ado About Nothing</i>	2008	<i>Hamlet</i>
1977	<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>	2009	<i>The Tempest</i>
1978	<i>Two Gentlemen of Verona</i>	2010	<i>Twelfth Night</i>
1979	<i>The Winter's Tale</i>	2011	<i>The War of the Roses</i> (<i>Henry VI, Parts I, II, III</i> adapted)
1980	<i>Twelfth Night</i>		
1981	<i>Macbeth</i>		

Since 1958, the Globe Stage is often assembled for the annual Shakespeare Festival. In addition, the Globe Theater Model, constructed by John Cranford Adams, is permanently on display on the lower level of the Adams Playhouse.

