

## Happy Birthday Shakespeare!

Our beloved Bard may be more than four centuries old, but at CYS we know his words are just as relevant now as they were back in the day. Join us in celebrating the Bard's birthday (and his enduring legacy) by giving the life-changing gift of Shakespeare to a Chicago area teenager! **Announcing our first-ever [Bard Birthday Blowout](#), a month-long challenge to raise \$3000 in 30 days. Here's how it works:** CYS will add a candle to the Bard's birthday cake for every \$100 we raise. Then on May 23, we'll blow out the candles and make some wishes come true! **Where will the money go? 100% of "Bard Birthday Blowout" donations will support our flagship Youth Ensemble program**, Chicago's only all-teen, performing Shakespeare company. High school students from across the city and suburbs audition to participate, and **admissions are completely need-blind, which means that no student can be turned away based on their ability to pay.** Thanks to the generous support of our amazing donors, CYS has been able to grant more than \$58,000 in need-based program scholarships, guaranteeing that every Youth Ensemble student can participate, regardless of income level. With your help, CYS can continue this important work! No donation is too small, and every donation is tax-deductible, so [let's light up Shakespeare's birthday cake](#) and change some lives!



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