April 11, 2018 For Immediate Release

Press Contact Amy Waguespack amy.l.waguespack@gmail.com (337) 739-4273

Acting Up (In Acadiana) Presents William Shakespeare's THE TEMPEST

DOWNTOWN LAFAYETTE -

Acting Up (In Acadiana) presents Shakespeare's THE TEMPEST--"We are such stuff as dreams are made on, and our little lives are rounded with a sleep." As we find ourselves in ever-divisive social-political times, through The Tempest we ponder the difficulty of distinguishing men from monsters, the desire to rule vs the desire to seek peace, power relationships and surrendering power for the hope of the future, the feminine elements of mother earth, as well as books and intellectualism vs anti-intellectualism.

Acting Up (in Acadiana) decided to do this project to wrap our 2017-2018 season honoring friend and founding company member, Ricky Briggs, who passed away in 2017 from cystic fibrosis related illness.

Set on a magical island filled with the feminine elements, nymphs, fairies, a "monster", two humans and their books, a tempest is conjured that literally and crucially affects the lives and actions of all the characters. Prospero and Ariel share their words and gain their power from the feminine elements—Air, Earth, Fire and Water—who support their efforts to find hope in the future—particularly of the future generation of leaders. Though THE TEMPEST has many otherworldly elements, Shakespeare's universal themes continue to resonate in our current time.

The professional company members from Acting Up (in Acadiana) anchor the reinterpretation of this classic, supported by a group of ensemble driven actors from the surrounding communities. Sarah Mikayla Brown plays Prospera, Jessica Hackett, Miranda; Justin Bacque; Ferdinand; George Saucier plays Caliban; Ian Faul, Ariel; Christy Leichty plays Gonzala; Daniel LeBoeuf, Alonso,; Henri Hebert-Allemond, Stephano; Sam Riehl, Trinculo; Mackenzie McAnally, Sebastian; Colin Miller, Antonio; Lian Cheramie, Fire; Hannah Briggs, Water; Cissy Whipp, Air; Mary

Francis Hoag, Earth; other cast members include: Jeff Roberts, Cameron Metrejean, Cathy Wagnon, Debbie Briant, Jean Allemond, Skeet Anseman, Jordyn Bauman, Rachel Belloni, Amy Brown, Zoe Chauvin, Nicole Darby, Addison LeJeune, Luke Morris, Brooke Schexnyder, Cathy Wagnon and Vegas Woods.

Details are:

Student Performance Wednesday May 2nd 9-11 AM Contact <u>paige@acadianacenterforthearts.org</u> to book student performance.

May 3, 4, and 5, 2018 at 7:30 PM

All performances are at Acadiana Center for the Arts, 101 W Vermilion St, Lafayette, LA 70501

For more information, please contact (337) 739-4273 or info@actingupinacadiana.com

For tickets, please contact (337) 233-7060 or www.acadianacenterforthearts.org

Tickets are \$18/\$16 for AcA members and \$12 for students and seniors.

######