



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

RICHARD M. DALEY
MAYOR

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, on his 445th birthday this April 23, Shakespeare still speaks to the people of Chicago through timeless words and works; and

WHEREAS, Chicago is recognized as a home for great theater, with over 200 companies following in Shakespeare's model for bold, creative and broadly relevant storytelling on the stage; and

WHEREAS, Shakespeare single-handedly contributed over 1,700 words and innumerable phrases to the English language, including but not limited to "auspicious," "monumental," and "all's well that ends well"; and

WHEREAS, in conjunction with Chicago Shakespeare Theater's annual celebration of Shakespeare's birthday, students throughout Chicago will be encouraged to incorporate phrases such as "prithee," "thou," "fie!" and "knave" into their parlance as a way to celebrate the legacy of his language:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD M. DALEY, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO, do hereby proclaim Shakespeare's birthday, April 23, 2009, to be TALK LIKE SHAKESPEARE DAY in Chicago, and encourage citizens to screw their courage to the sticking place and celebrate Shakespeare by vocal acclamation of his words.

Dated this 14th day of April, 2009.



Mayor