



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **A Legacy of Acting is Perpetuated at this Year's Shakespeare on the Rocks**

**El Paso Texas, September 16, 2019** – The line “some are born to act” takes special meaning with this year’s *Shakespeare on the Rocks* performances. The legacy perpetuated by Artistic Director, Hector Serrano, has now gone multiple generations. Haziel Jimenez is the youngest performer in the 2019 edition of this annual homage to William Shakespeare and the son of actors who have studied under Serrano for years.

Just shy of his first birthday, Haziel performs in the final production, *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, with his mother, Lorely Rodriguez, and father, Ricardo Jimenez. Haziel, cast as a fairy, is interwoven into the plot of two lovers (Haziel’s Mom and Dad) who have others vying for their affection.

In its 31<sup>st</sup> year, *Shakespeare on the Rocks* returns into a partnership with El Paso Community College (EPCC) as part of its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Serrano, who started this production with Producer, David Mills, spent over 25 years as an English and Drama instructor at EPCC and instrumental in the founding of *VIVA! El Paso*, “is excited the production is back partnering with EPCC. EPCC has always reached out to the community sparking local theater.”

“It is a reward to see students evolve, succeed and evoke memories,” Serrano said. The feeling is mutual to Lorely Rodriguez and Ricardo Jimenez. Both had other ideas for their college careers, but once meeting Serrano, were influenced into acting. The legacy of Serrano in the El Paso theater community is not lost on Lorely and Ricardo, “We are sitting at home and awestruck that Hector Serrano is actually calling them on the phone,” Rodriguez said. The couple is passing along their knowledge, not only to their son, but also to local high school theater productions.

The last production of this season’s *Shakespeare on the Rocks*, “*A Midsummer Night’s Dream*”, will be performed at the EPCC Transmountain Forum Theater, 9570 Gateway North, September 20, 21 at 8:00 p.m. and September 22 at 2:30 p.m. For ticket prices or reservations, visit [www.shakespeareontherocks.com](http://www.shakespeareontherocks.com).

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EPCC serves more than 28,500 students and offers 145 degree and certificate programs. Throughout its 50-year history, the college has remained focused on engaging students, growing community partnerships and fostering excellence. By creating a college-going culture and implementing innovative student success initiatives, EPCC is transforming the pathway to higher education and developing a better-prepared workforce for our region.

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