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SHAKESPEARE'S CLASSIC "JULIUS CAESAR" AT REICHHOLD CENTER

The Reichhold Center for the Arts presents a special performance of William Shakespeare's classic "*Julius Caesar*" on Saturday, September 22, 2007 at 7 p.m. The play is staged by New York-based Aquila Theatre Company.

"*Julius Caesar*" follows the epic story of the rise and fall of one of the world's most notorious leaders. Set in a world of political intrigue and strained domestic relationships, the production explores the moral and political dilemma of Marcus Brutus.

"Reichhold Center added '*Julius Caesar*' as a special performance for school children and families," said Co-Director Pamela Sanes. "It is an opportunity to see one of Shakespeare's greatest works on stage."

The Shakespearean classic is a reading staple in schools. Reichhold Center will coordinate with the Virgin Islands Council on the Arts and the V.I. Department of Education to arrange class attendance, including discount tickets to students.

Aquila Theatre Company is the foremost producer of touring classical theatre in the United States, visiting 60-70 American cities per year. This past year, the company started teaching Shakespeare at Frederick Douglas Academy in Harlem, N.Y., culminating in a student production of "*A Midsummer Night's Dream*."

Now in its 16th year, the company of American and British actors portrays classic Greek and Shakespearean theatre for modern audiences. The group also brings to life other classic reads such as Geoffrey Chaucer's "*The Canterbury Tales*."

The New Yorker magazine calls Aquila's productions, "beautifully spoken, dramatically revealing and crystalline in effect."

Aquila presented "*Romeo & Juliet*" at Shakespeare Festivals in Germany, Hungary and Poland this past summer. Last season, the group toured with Greek plays "*Prometheus Bound*" by Aeschylus and Homer's "*Iliad*." Recently, Aquila performed "*Much Ado About Nothing*" at the White House.

Reichhold Center is Aquila's first stop on its 2007/2008 "*Julius Caesar*" tour. The company is also touring with Joseph Heller's stage adaptation of his novel "*Catch-22*."

Aquila Theatre Company is the permanent artist-in-residence at New York University's Center for Ancient Studies.

The "*Julius Caesar*" performance is co-sponsored by the *Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation*. English and Theatre teachers interested in having students attend can contact Reichhold Center at 693-1554. Tickets are \$5 for students.

Tickets for the general public are \$10, \$12 and \$15 and are available at Modern Music, Parrot Fish, UVI Bookstore, V.I. Bridal & Tuxedo, Urban Threadz, Essentric Shoe Boutique, Island Video (Nisky), Home Again (Red Hook) and the Reichhold Center Box Office at 693-1559.

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