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A natural 'Taming of the Shrew' ushers in summer

The Wichita Shakespeare Company brings the comedy to parks in the area.

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The Wichita Eagle

Shakespeare comes to life again this summer as the Wichita Shakespeare Company brings Taming of the Shrew to the parks of Wichita.

"It's a really fun show," director Vonda Schuster said. "It has a lot of colorful characters, which will make it great to watch."

The main characters, Katherine and Petruchio, bring romance and comedy to the stage through slapstick humor.

The company has been putting on free performances since 1999. Schuster said that because they perform in the middle of public parks, their actors deal with issues that the actors performing in a theater would not normally encounter.

"We performed once while helicopters were chasing down a miscreant," Schuster said. "They ended up catching him a few feet in front of where were performing."

The actors, all volunteers, have been rehearsing since May. Showings take place Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays at 7 p.m. The WSC sees about 100 audience members per show.

"Wichita's live theater is one of Wichita's best kept secrets," Schuster said. "It's a good opportunity to see the great talent we have to offer."

The WSC's next production, which starts in September, will be Troilus and Cressida, directed by Dan Schuster. For information, visit www.wichitashakespearecompany.org.

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