

Shakespeare Banner Guidelines

With credit and much appreciation to Dr. Ralph A. Cohen for the idea!

Choose a short passage (ten words max.) from one of the plays we studied that you like for its meaning, sound, imagery, etc.—for the impact you want to make on the viewing public. I will need to approve your passage before you begin the design phase.

The banner itself should be no less than 4x6 feet. Include the play's title in the banner, and make sure the letters of your text contrast sharply with the background color. Letters should be large enough to read from a distance (suggestion: no less than eight inches tall). I would also suggest that you use a cloth background, rather than paper, for its staying power. You are responsible for creating the means by which to hang your banner (from the 2nd floor breezeway—facing the student parking lot) for all the school to see.

Please plan your design carefully; draw up a rough draft on paper first. Then mark your draft on the actual banner material before painting. (“Measure twice; cut once!”)

Choose your colors, shapes, background, etc. carefully [think symbolism] to enhance and communicate your quoted passage best.

Your banner will be evaluated on its design (creativity, use of symbolism, readability), appearance (professional quality, completion), and effectiveness (ability to clearly communicate the passage's meaning). Plan time to work on it outside of class.

Finally, you will include a banner write-up, explaining why you chose your passage; the rationale for your choices of colors, images, symbols, etc.; and what you want the viewers to take away from it.

I am greatly anticipating your creative approaches to presenting Shakespeare to the masses!

P.S. A border gives the banner a professional, finished look.

Due Dates:

- Banner passage due for approval: _____
- Rough draft/detailed plan: _____
- Finished product due, ready to hang: _____