

Sherlockian Theatrical Society



A non-Judgmental Play Appreciation Society

Number 64

Mar. 24, 2026

"Sherlock in Wonderland"
By Lynne Streeter Childress
Arlington, VA

Sherlock in Wonderland" had it's world premiere, presented by Encore Stage & Studio, and performed at the Thomas Jefferson Community Theatre in Arlington, Va., with six performances on March 20-29, 2026. Encore's motto is "theatre by kids, for kids," and their web-site is at <https://encorestage.org/>.

Uncritic 003 enjoyed the show at a matinee on March 21. Written by Lynne Streeter Childress, the play's premise is "what happens when two of the most popular fictional characters of all time collide?" The cast and crew were middle-school acting students, performing on an open stage with imaginative backdrops and quick changes of furniture from scene to scene, and there was doubling and tripling, with 22 actors performing 40 roles, and doing very well at it, not just reciting lines with a bit of business, as often seen in school-age productions.



Most of the actors had personal microphones, more important for young actors but quite often used by older amateurs and professionals in a time when actors do not project the way they did a hundred years ago (when William Gillette and his cast performed in his "Sherlock Holmes" without microphones in theaters that seated 2,000 people). Special compliments are due to the director, Erin Birchfield, a recent graduate of George Mason University's Theater Program, who did very well a helping her cast know how to speak their lines, and what to do, and when.

As for the plot, Alice has gone missing, and Holmes and Watson, tasked with finding her, travel to Wonderland and encounter its strange and wonderful inhabitants. Alice is found, or course, and the audience (mostly family and friends) was thrilled.

It's nice indeed that they posted some video advertising the show at YouTube:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5YR9iAdnksg>

As a reminder, The Sherlockian Theatrical Society is a nonjudgmental society. It is our belief that any play about Sherlock Holmes is worth attending. We love Sherlock Holmes and we love live theater, so nothing will deter us off of our chosen path.

Break a leg!!!

Bethesda, MD
March 25, 2026

