

## **Royal Shakespeare Company's "Hamlet" on NET Television**

LINCOLN, Neb. (April 14, 2010) -- Shakespeare's immortal "To be, or not to be" takes on a whole new meaning as classical stage and screen actors David Tennant and recently knighted Sir Patrick Stewart reprise their roles for a modern-dress, filmed-for-television adaptation of the Royal Shakespeare Company's 2008 stage production of "Hamlet" on "Great Performances," airing Wednesday, April 28, at 7 p.m. CT on NET1 and in high-definition on NET-HD.

Portraying the melancholy Dane, Tennant is perhaps best known for his performance in the title role of the popular British TV series "Doctor Who" since 2005. Tennant, who portrayed Barty Crouch Junior in "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire," has also received numerous awards for his leading roles in several Shakespearean productions and other classic plays.

Veteran stage and screen actor Sir Patrick Stewart ("Star Trek: The Next Generation," "X-Men") reprises his 2009 Laurence Olivier Award-winning role as Claudius in the "Great Performances" broadcast.

The adaptation re-creates the tone and atmosphere of the stage production in a film-style interpretation shot in HD on location at St. Joseph's College in Mill Hill, London.

To complement the film, WNET.ORG, in partnership with the Royal Shakespeare Company, will offer a teachers' guide for educators to utilize the PBS broadcast in classrooms. Hosted on [pbs.org/gperf](http://pbs.org/gperf), the activity-based analysis of the play will be supported by links to various scenes throughout the film.

NET1 and NET-HD are part of NET Television. NET Television is a service of NET. For a complete program schedule, visit NET's Web site ([netNebraska.org/television](http://netNebraska.org/television)).

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### **NET Television:**

**NET1** is Nebraska's first public television broadcast service and includes PBS and award-winning, locally produced public television programming. NET1 programming is also obtainable on Dish and DirectTV satellite networks in available areas; **NET2** offers live coverage of the Nebraska Unicameral, and other news and public affairs programming; **NET3** is a 24-hour channel featuring the most popular how-to, travel and lifestyle series; and **NET-HD** presents high-definition digital broadcast programming displayed in a wide-screen format.