

The Auburn Community Players
Present

25TH ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE

A Musical Comedy

May 31 at 7:30 pm

June 1, 7, 8, 14 & 15 at 7:30 pm

June 9 at 2:00 pm

Auburn Avenue Theater
10 Auburn Ave.

Music and Lyrics by
William Finn

Book by
Rachel Sheinkin

Conceived by
Rebecca Feldman

Additional Material by Jay Reiss

Originally Directed on Broadway by James Lapine

Originally Produced on Broadway by David Stone,

James L. Nederlander, Barbara Whitman,

Patrick Catullo Barrington Stage Company, Second Stage Theatre

PG-13
Contains Adult Material



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253-931-3043 | www.auburnwa.gov/arts



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ABOUT THE AUBURN COMMUNITY PLAYERS

Auburn Community Players is a theater troupe that collaborates with a high quality performers and artists to produce contemporary and classical theater works. It is the mission of Auburn Community Players to educate, entertain and enrich lives.

Welcome to the Auburn Community Player's production of Rebecca Feldman's 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee. This is our 6th production to this date. We are very proud to continue to bring great musicals to the Auburn community. We are very excited you are here with us and we hope you continue to come back for each show we do.

The Auburn Community Players are produced and presented by the City of Auburn. We also continue to partner with Auburn area business's to make this a true community theater experience.

The actors come from the Auburn area residents and surrounding area as well and there are all levels of experience range from highly seasoned performers to people that are new to the stage. Here at the Auburn Community Players we truly belief there is a place for everyone. So, come and join us in one of our up coming productions.

We are always looking for behind the scenes help with our productions. Also, if you are interested in being involved as an actor in a show please contact Jim Kleinbeck at jkleinbeck@auburnwa.gov

General Information

- The lobby box office opens one hour prior to every performance.
- Visual and audio recording of all performances is strictly prohibited.
- Please silence all cellular phones and any other electronic devices before the start of the show.
- Some Auburn Ave Theater performances may not be appropriate for the very young. Please use discretion when choosing performances. Please no "Babes in arms."
- Late arrivals will be escorted into the theater at appropriate intervals, as determined by the artist and/or theater management.

25TH ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE CAST LIST

Rona Lisa Peretti
Douglas Panch
Mytch Mahoney
Olive Ostrovsky
William Barfee
Logainne Schwartzandgrubenierre
Marcy Park
Leaf Coneybear
Chip Tolentino

Candice Metzger
Jim Rogers
Nadine Baxter
Savana Smith
Anthony DeLeon
Kelsey Johnson
Jessie Glancy
Dave Cox
Brandon Kinney

PRODUCTION TEAM

Jim Kleinbeck, Producer
Suzanne Messinger, Director/Music Director
Scott Abts, Technical Director
Giselle Lorenz Brock, Choreographer
Maddie Latora-Guinn, Production Assistant
Stephanie Cox and The Cast, Props
Austin Taylor, Lights
Paul Racey, Sound
Ashley Schalow, Box Office
Brett Espy, Stage Crew
Sets: Scott Abts Bret Espey,
Gary Wigle – Photography
Auburn Youth Council, Concessions

The Spell Binders Band:
Terry Oharra – Conductor/Piano
Wayne - Keyboard
Cary Brengle – Reeds
Jerry Bates – Drums

Special Thanks To the Following:
Children's Dance Theater
Rainer Middle School
Auburn Riverside Drama Department
The Miss Auburn Scholarship Program
Jim Westhusing

SPECIAL THANKS GO TO:

For their above and beyond contributions to this show:

- Dave Cox
- Rainier Middle School
- Paul Fouhy and the Auburn Mountain View High School Drama Department
- Karla Seman and the Auburn Riverside High School Drama Department
- Children's Dance Theater
- Vern Heinle
- Image Masters of Auburn
- Michael Bills
- Suzie Newbury
- Bret Espey
- Amanda Lopez
- Gary Wigle

To our guest spellers, for their courage in spelling during rehearsals:

- Drew Bates
- Jaymie Baunach
- Jonathan Baunach
- Gordan Baxter
- David Boyle
- Brad Broberg
- Julee Broberg
- John Cadwell
- Taylor Coty
- Madeline Dickson
- Hannah Englemann
- Dustin Espey
- Cathy Espey
- Mason Fox
- Anna Ghormly
- Katie Grant
- Lee Harold
- Keggan Johnson
- Evan Jordan
- Camile Joy
- Donna Kelsay
- Terry Kelsay
- Taylor King
- Jim Kleinbeck
- Laura Kniss
- Wyatt Lewis
- Jack Lippard
- Wesley Lippard
- Jackie Maniulit
- Russel Metzger
- Katie Newbury
- Spencer Rock
- Jeff Rowden
- Tabby & Duke Scheislmen
- Todd Vallie
- Christina Vallie
- Anna Van Vleet
- Emily Van Vleet
- Penny Van Vleet

CAST BIOS



Anthony DeLeon (William Barfee)- Anthony is excited to be in his first show with the Auburn Community Players. Recent musical roles include: Adam (Children of Eden) at Tahoma Sr. High School, Wilbur (Hairspray) in Village Theatre's KIDSTAGE program, & Marcellus (The Music Man) in The 5th Avenue Theatre's 'RSP' Student Production. Thanks to friends, family, and the wonderful nerds of the world.



Brandon Kinney (Chip Tolentino)- Brandon has been performing for local audiences for over ten year and is really proud to be playing the part of Chip, and the honorable role of Jesus, in this production of Spelling Bee. Some of his favorite roles include The Tin Man in the Wizard of Oz and Chuck Cranston in Footloose, both of which were played here with the Auburn Community Players. He has also acted at the Valley Center Stage in North Bend and is honored to have been invited back to act at the Auburn Alumni Show at Auburn Mountainview Theatre again this summer. Brandon would like to thank his cast for making this the most fun he has had in a show.



Candice Metzger (Rona Lisa Peretti)- Candice has been a teacher for 15 years and is now the assistant director at Junior Junction Day School in Maple Valley. This is Candice's fourth production with Auburn Community Players. She is very excited to play "Rona" alongside such a talented cast. Candice has done several productions in the Auburn area, among these her favorite role was "Glinda" in "The Wizard of Oz." She also directs children's productions! Candice has directed "Aristocats Jr." and was the musical director for "Beauty and the Beast Jr." Candice would like to thank her friends and family for their support and her husband without whose love and encouragement this would be impossible.



Dave Cox (Leaf Coneybear) - This is Dave's 6th show with Auburn Community Players, but the first time he has traded the role of director in to be an actor on stage. Dave could most recently be seen on stage as Major Malone in "Zombies from the Beyond!" with Auburn Mountain View Theater's Summer Alumni Theater Company. When he's not at the Auburn Avenue Theater, Dave teaches drama at Rainier Middle School. Dave would like to thank the production team of Suzanne, Jim and Giselle and the entire cast. Special thanks to Stephanie and Terry for putting time in on a show that wasn't yours. Most importantly, Dave thanks his Family. His two young sons, Davey and Mike, "My boss says I can come home soon guys!" and his beautiful, hardworking, wonderful wife Steph. "We'll have plenty of time to budget now!"



Jessie Glancy (Marcy Park) - Jessie is returning for her 2nd show with Auburn Community Players, last fall she joined us as Mrs. Beauregarde in Willy Wonka. Hailing from Tucson, Arizona, She relocated to Puget Sound for the rich theatre environment. Jessie has performed since she was 8 and favorite performances include Kim in Bye bye Birdie, Terry in Stage Door, Kate in Pirates of Penzance and Turtle in A Year With Frog and Toad. She enjoys working with kids and while excited to do a cast with adults, she loves working on children's theater. Jessie would like to thank her husband William and sister Hannah for all their support.



Jim Rogers (Vice Principal Douglas Panch) - Jim is grateful to be back with the Auburn Community Players. He was recently seen at this theatre playing Reverend Shaw Moore in "Footloose." Prior credits include Ira Rosen in The Woodsman (Emerald City Scene), Shannon Bell in Trey Parker's Cannibal! The Musical (Unexpected Productions), playing some acting coach guy named Stanislavski in The Masters (Odd Duck Theatre), and King Creon in Medea (Stone Soup Theatre). Other productions include Brigadoon, Oliver!, South Pacific, The Boyfriend, Anything Goes, and No, No, Nanette. Oh, and please spell t-h-a-n-k-s-f-o-r-c-o-m-i-n-g.

CAST BIOS



Kelsey Johnson (Logainne Schwartzandgrubenierre) - This is Kelsey's 8th play. Her 3rd with the Auburn Community Players. She last played Betty Blast in Footloose! When Kelsey isn't acting she is out in search of something to find. She absolutely loves working with Suzanne, Giselle and the entire cast who made every rehearsal fun. She would like to thank her grandparents for being such good company over the years, as well as being so supportive and for making sure there is always coffee creamer.



Nadine Baxter (Mytch Mahoney) - Nadine is an art teacher for the Fife School District, and is new to Auburn Community Theater; however, she is not new to theater arts. She graduated with a BA in Theater from Eastern Washington University, which offered her the opportunity to be a cast member in a USO tour group, traveling army bases in Germany for nine weeks. In addition to performing, she has directed and choreographed numerous children and high school productions and played violin in local pit orchestras.



Savana Smith (Olive Ostrovsky) - An avid speller, this is Savana's second time in the Putnam County Spelling Bee. She would like to thank her siblings and sibling-figures for inspiration. Without them, she'd be lost. For unconditional support: Jeffrey, where the love never ends. Additionally, her gratitude goes out to her parents: Mom, Dad, Rick, and Angie. Her confidence, talent, drive, and sense of belonging are all thanks to them. Lastly, she would like to thank Suzanne for the opportunity to perform with this amazing cast and the ability to realize that her "tween" years weren't as bad as they seemed.

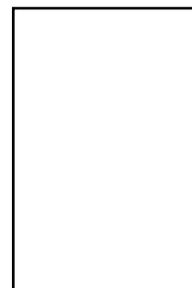


Suzanne Messinger (Director/Musical Director) - Suzanne Messinger started her musical studies at the age of 3, according to her parents, as she sang the lyrics of one nursery rhyme to the tune of another. Her formal training began at age six. She took classical piano lessons for 12 years, added vocal performance at 18 and was

bitten by the theater bug in her 20's. Theater became her passion and she devoured every aspect both in front of and behind the curtain. To date, Suzanne has been an actor, director, musical director, conductor, producer, accompanist, stage manager and sound engineer in over 35 shows, most recently as music director of ACP's production of Willy Wonka. This marks her debut as director in the Puget Sound area and she thanks the ACP family, the cast, crew and band for their support in bringing to life one of her all-time favorite shows.



Scott Abts (Technical Director) - Scott has been involved in theater and stage productions spanning three decades. Acting roles have included the Teen Angel in "Grease" and storybook characters in plays for children. On the technical side, he has worked backstage for plays including "Cabaret" and "Footloose", acted as Stage Manager for "Willy Wonka", Technical Director for "Grease", and worked stage crew for touring bands including Green Day, Steve Miller Band, Jethro Tull, Korn and many others. Scott has also produced plays for children as part of a summer theater series. Scott would like to thank the entire cast and crew of Spelling Bee, especially Brett and Dustin Espy for their help with the set. He also wants to thank the Auburn Community Players for the opportunity to be Technical Director once again. He hopes that the Spelling Bee is enjoyable for audiences and that the performance will remind them of many good times and friends while reaching adulthood.



Giselle Lorenz Brock (Choreographer) - The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee is Giselle's debut as choreographer for Auburn Community Players. Other credits include: Seattle Musical Theatre's A Chorus Line (Cassie), Choreographer's Canvas NYC (2011/2012 Dancer), New York Theatre Dance Ensemble (Company Member), Symphony Space (Featured Vocalist), Broadway on Broadway (2010 Hue Leggings Dancer), Broadway Bares 19, 20 & 21 (Dancer), Stiletto Entertainment/Holland America Cruise Lines (Ms Amsterdam Cast), ARC Dance Seattle (Company Member), Bloody Poetry (Claire), Genesis: the Mary Shelly Play (Claire Goodwin), South Puget Sound CC's Working (Kate/Choreo.), En L'air Dance Seattle (Dancer/Choreo.), Laughter Masters Productions (Events Choreo.), Morgan Family YMCA's You're A Good

CAST BIOS (CON'T)

Man, Charlie Brown (Choreo.), Tacoma's Art on the Ave & Maritime Festivals (Unite Dance Tacoma-Director/Choreo.), Just Dance For Jacoby Benefit Concert (Choreo.), Curtis High School's 2013 Danceblast (Choreo.). Center Stage Dance Academy & Harbor Dance and Performance Center (Instructor). For more information, please visit: www.dancewithgiselle.com or www.facebook.com/GiselleLorenzBrock Thank you for your support and enjoy the show!



Maddie Latora-Guinn (Production Assistant) - Maddie has been working with the Auburn Community Players for the last 5 shows, and will continue to work with them. She is a sophomore at Auburn Mountainview High School, where she participates in all the shows and an officer in drama club. She is in her school show choir and advanced acepela choir. She hopes to one day be on Broadway.



DIRECTOR'S NOTE

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee. Sounds simple enough. Sounds like people spelling words... some winning, some losing... Why would anyone write a play, much less a musical, around that idea?

The answer to that is because everyone has gone through what the play is really about: navigating the awkward years of adolescents. Peeking out from behind a silly costume, sneaking out from between the lines of a comical song are the painful moments that these six young spellers go through on their journey to win the coveted trophy. Along the way, we see glimpses of kids we grew up with: the girl who does everything and does it all perfectly; the know it all boy; the goofily dressed homeschooler. Sometimes, we might catch a glimpse of something closer to home: the sweet little girl, who tries to please everyone, yet is still ignored by her parents.

As this story unfolds, we see the different tactics this particular group of kids uses to cope with stress on their way to winning. Along the way, they find friends in unlikely places and discover that what they're really trying to win is not a trophy but acceptance in one form or another.

As a director, you couldn't ask for a better mix of story and music and I feel so blessed to have been a part of this production. It's equally challenging and rewarding. I'm so proud of this cast for their intense hard work throughout the rehearsal process and for their incredible 'braverism' in going to some dark corners of their own lives to bring reality to their characters. Unlike most plays, each night is a totally new experience for these actors as they invite some of you up onstage with them and for that, I give them a standing ovation - from the safety of the control booth!

Thank you all for choosing to show your support of the arts by coming to this production. I truly hope you enjoy tonight's performance as much as we've enjoyed bringing it all to life.

Sincerely,
Suzanne Messinger

SUPPORTED BY:

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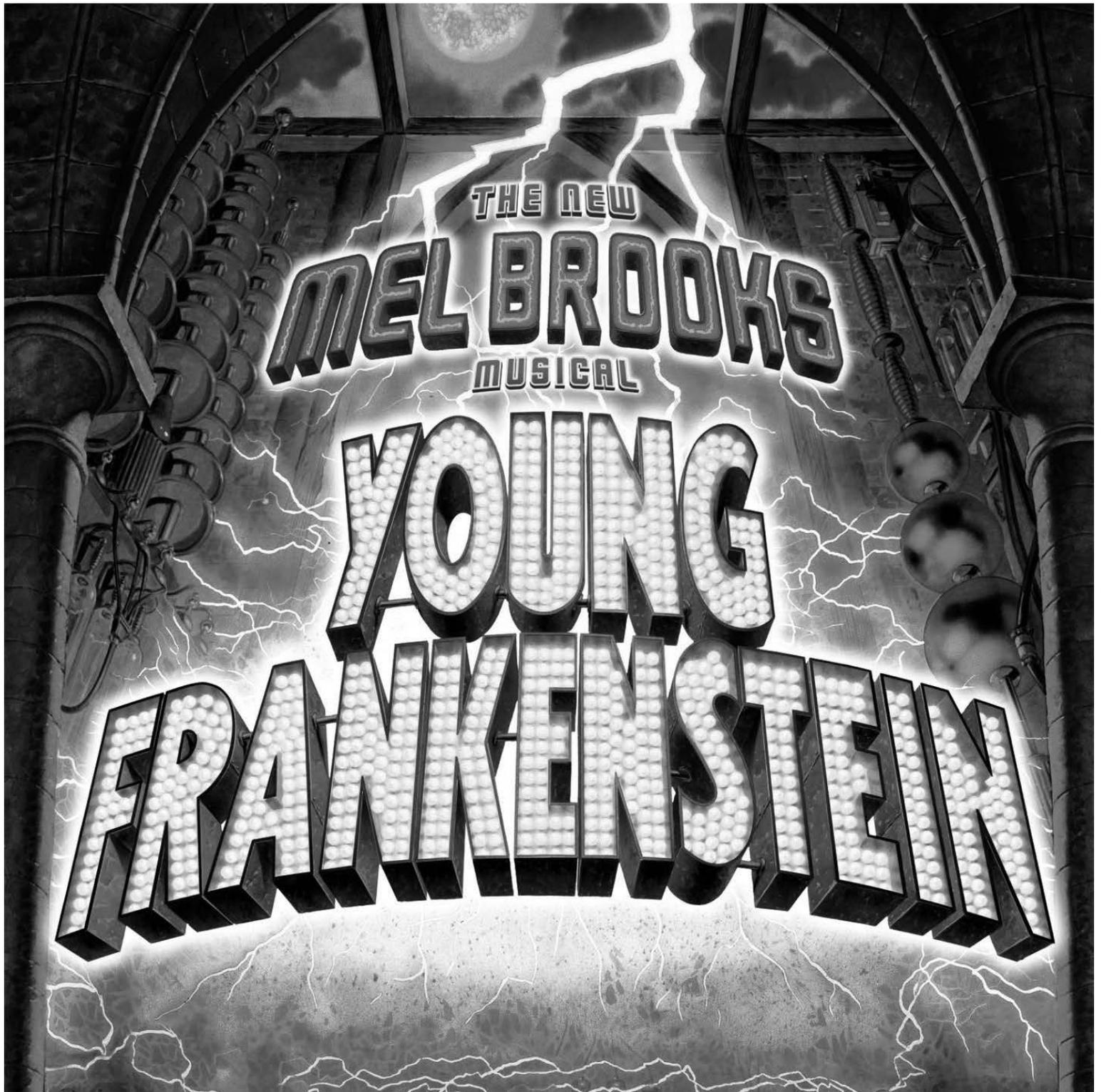
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