



Production Details:

- **Title:** The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee
- **Production Type:** Benefit Production - rights granted through Music Theatre International
- **Music & Lyrics:** William Finn
- **Playwright:** Rachel Sheinkin
- **Producer:** Montpelier Performing Arts Hub By Donor, For Donors Benefit Series
- **Director:** Kianna Bromley
- **Music Director:** Molly Clark
- **Choreographer:** Sierra Norford
- **Rehearsals:** 9/22-11/6
- **Performance Dates:** Thursday 11/7 7:30p, Friday 11/8 7:30p, Saturday 11/9 2p & 7:30pm, Sunday 11/10 2p
- **Location:** Montpelier Performing Arts Hub, 35 College Street, Montpelier, Vermont
- **Accommodations:** 5 Comp Tickets

Youth Audition Announcement!

Ages 14-18

Part 1 (required): Video Audition Instructions:

Deadline: Sept 2nd by 6pm

STEP 1 - Please complete [THIS AUDITION FORM](#)

STEP 2 - Please create a Google Drive Folder titled "YOUR FULL NAME - Spelling Bee Audition" and upload the following items:

1. **Resume**
2. **Headshot (does not have to be professional)**
3. **Monologue Video:** Please select and record two [crayon monologues](#). Challenge yourself to make the two monologues very different characters with clear, strong vocal and physical characteristics. The roles you are auditioning for are children with distinct characteristics. You may use the character descriptions as inspiration if needed.
4. **Vocal Video:** Please select and record yourself singing 30 seconds to a minute of a musical theater solo song. You must play an instrument audio track out loud in the background as you perform the song. You may not sing along to any vocals or sing a cappella. Please select a song that demonstrates a vocal tone and range that aligns with the characters you wish to be considered for. You may sing songs from the production if you prefer but there is no requirement. If you need help finding an instrumental track, please reach out.

STEP 3 - Share your completed folder of materials with kianna@mpa-hub.org

Part 2 (invited) CALLBACKS will be **September 4th at the Montpelier Performing Arts Hub from 6-9pm**. Every auditionee will receive an email on September 3rd letting them know whether or not they are needed at callbacks. Callbacks will include clips of songs from the show and some sort of reading. Materials are not available yet. Prepare by listening to the [original Broadway cast recording](#).

Rehearsal Schedule DRAFT:

Sept 22nd - 10am-5pm with lunch break Music Bootcamp (Full Cast)

***Cast to practice/memorize music before next rehearsal*

Oct 1st 6-9pm Rehearsal (Students)

Oct 3rd 6-9pm Rehearsal (Full Cast)

Oct 8th 6-9 Rehearsal (Students)

Oct 10th 6-9pm Rehearsal (Full Cast)

Oct 12th 10am-5pm with lunch break Dance Bootcamp (Full Cast)

Oct 15th 6-9pm Rehearsal (Students)

Oct 17th (Optional) - attend *Ordinary Days* Dress Rehearsal

Oct 22nd 6-9pm Rehearsal (Students) **OFF BOOK DATE**

Oct 24th 6-9pm Rehearsal (Full Cast)

Oct 29th 6-9pm Rehearsal (Full Cast)

Oct 30th 6-9pm Rehearsal (Full Cast)

Nov 1st 6-9pm Rehearsal (Full Cast)

Nov 2nd 10am-5pm with lunch break Rehearsal

Nov 4th 5-10pm Tech

Nov 5th 6-10 Dress #1 Rehearsal

Nov 6th 6:30-19 Invited Dress Rehearsal

Performances:

Thursday Nov 7th - 7:30pm

Friday Nov 8th - 7:30pm

Saturday Nov 9th - 2pm & 7:30pm

Sunday, Nov 10th 2pm

25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee - Character Breakdown

Chip Tolentino (he/him)

An athletic, social, boy scout and champion of the Twenty-Fourth Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, he returns to defend his title, but he finds puberty hitting at an inopportune moment. This character sings an entire song about his unfortunate erection. Historically, this character has been written and cast as individuals that identify as filipino-american. It is our preference to honor that POC character if an actor with the needed skill level and availability auditions. C4 - B5

Logainne Schwartzandgrunenierre (Schwartz) (she/her)

Logainne is the youngest and most politically aware speller, often making comments about current political figures. She is driven by internal and external pressure, but above all by a desire to win to make her two fathers proud. She is somewhat of a neat freak. The playwright has written this character to have a lisp. Whoever is cast will need to do the appropriate cultural competency work to accurately display this Functional Speech Disorder. 3 - F5

Leaf Coneybear (he/they)

The second runner-up in his district, Leaf gets into the competition on a lark and finds everything about the bee incredibly amusing. He is home-schooled and comes from a large family of former hippies. The playwright has written this character to display symptoms of someone diagnosed with ADHD (Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder). Whoever is cast will need to do the appropriate cultural competency work to accurately display this Neurodevelopmental Disorder. Leaf spells words correctly while in a trance. A3 - A5

William Barfee (he/him)

A Putnam County Spelling Bee finalist last year, he was eliminated because of an allergic reaction to peanuts and is back for vindication. His famous "Magic Foot" method of spelling has boosted him to spelling glory, even though he only has one working nostril and a touchy, bullying personality. He develops a crush on Olive. E4 - B5

Marcy Park (she/her)

A recent transfer from Virginia, Marcy placed ninth in last year's nationals. She speaks six languages, is a member of all-American hockey, a championship rugby player, plays Chopin and Mozart on multiple instruments, sleeps only three hours a night, hides in the bathroom cabinet, and is getting very tired of always winning. Historically, this character has been written and cast as individuals that identify as asian-american. It is our preference to honor that POC character if an actor with the needed skill level and availability auditions. She attends a Catholic school called "Our Lady of Intermittent Sorrows." She is also not allowed to cry. C4 - E5

Olive Ostrovsky (she/her)

A young newcomer to competitive spelling. Her mother is in an ashram in India, and her father is working late, as usual, but he is trying to come sometime during the bee. Having found comfort in its words and vastness, Olive made friends with her dictionary at a very young age, helping her to make it to the competition. She starts enormously shy, and shyly blossoms. B3 - F5