



**Music & 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**

**“The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee” is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI, 421 West 54th Street, New York, NY 10019  
Tel.: (212) 541-4684 Fax: (212) 397-4684 [www.MTIshows.com](http://www.MTIshows.com)**



***Production Dates:*  
September 20 - 22 and  
September 27 - 29, 2013**

**For more information and tickets,  
visit [purchaseplayers.com](http://purchaseplayers.com) or call  
the box office: 270.251.9035  
302 W. Water Street**



**Please note: This production is recommended for theatre goers 13 and over.**

## CAST (in order of appearance)

RONA LISA PERETTI / OLIVE'S Mom.....Donna Gream  
CHIP TOLENTINO/ JESUS.....Joshua M. Byrne  
LOGAINNE SCHWARZ and GRUBENEIRE.....Meredeth Wright  
LEAF CONEYBEAR / DAN DAD.....Adam Heath  
WILLIAM BARFÉE.....Jordan Belcher  
MARCY PARK.....Tori Keeling  
OLIVE OSTROVSKY.....Samantha Doran  
DOUGLAS PANCH.....Justin Spraggs  
MITCH MAHONEY.....Chris Travis  
CARL DAD / OLIVE'S Dad.....Jonathan Bennett  
Marcy / Schwarz's understudy.....Kelsey Booth

## SPECIAL THANKS

First United Methodist church  
GCHS Athletic Dept.  
Playhouse in the Park  
Barry Heath  
Ashley Henley  
Tom Waldrop  
Pat Poat  
Paula Hash  
Matthew Bennett



## MUSICAL NUMBERS

### Act 1

"The Twenty-Fifth Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" – Company  
"The Spelling Rules"/"My Favorite Moment of the Bee" – Rona & Company  
"My Friend, the Dictionary" – Olive and Company  
"Pandemonium" – Panch, Spellers and Mitch  
"I'm Not That Smart" – Leaf, Spellers and Panch  
"Magic Foot" – Barfée, Rona and Company  
"Pandemonium (Reprise)"/"My Favorite Moment of the Bee (Reprise)" – Rona & Company  
"Prayer of the Comfort Counselor" – Mitch, Panch and Spellers

### Act 2

"My Unfortunate Distraction (Chip's Lament)" – Chip  
"Woe is Me" – Logainne, Carl, Dan and Company  
"I'm Not That Smart (Reprise)" – Leaf  
"I Speak Six Languages" – Marcy, Rona and Girls  
"The I Love You Song" – Olive, Olive's Parents, and Panch  
"Woe is Me (Reprise)" – Logainne and Mitch  
"My Favorite Moment of the Bee (Reprise)" – Rona, Panch, Barfée, Olive & Company  
"Second" – Rona, Panch, Barfée, Olive & Company  
"Finale" – Rona and Company  
"The Last Goodbye" – Company



## UPCOMING EVENTS

*The Christmas Belles*

AUDITIONS 9/23 & 9/24

Performance dates Nov 8-10 & 15-17



## CREW

DIRECTOR: Cheryl Hartig

STAGE MANAGER: Jeanna Rogers Elliott

ASST. STAGE MANAGER: Willie Mitchell

VOCAL MUSIC DIRECTOR—Jonathan Bennett

ACCOMPANIST/ORCHESTRA DIRECTOR—Justus Wright

KEYBOARD & COSTUMES—Debbie Jetton

SET DESIGN: Cheryl Hartig, Ronn Moyers

PROPS: Donna Gream, Barry Heath, Shannon Thomas

CHOREOGRAPHY—Cheryl Hartig, Tori Keeling

LIGHTING DESIGN & TECHNICIAN: Don Fleming

SOUND TECHNICIAN: Weston Sellars

REHEARSAL VOLUNTEER: Raymond Burnett

### From the director:

The first time I saw this play performed, I literally laughed until I cried. It is so genuinely funny, and the characters are all too believable. It certainly struck a chord with me—evoking the memory of being in a district bee as the MMS representative in 8th grade! Even though 30+ years have passed, I still remember the nerves and excitement, and the word that became my nemesis....c-e-r-t-i-f-i-c-a-t-e. Wrote it down correctly, but spelled it with an S for the judges. Eliminated! Just like the spellers in the Putnam County Bee, I learned that "Life is random and unfair". But they will also learn that winning isn't everything, and losing doesn't necessarily make you a loser—

I have had a blast being part of this production, and working with such a talented cast. It has been quite a ride watching these quirky, nerdy, awkward and vulnerable characters come to life on stage. The journey was made even sweeter for me having my son as the vocal music director—love you, Jonathan! 🎵

Thanks to my family for supporting my theatre obsession for the last several weeks—couldn't do it without your help. Thanks to Jeanna & Willie for keeping everything organized and on track—you are the best! Jonathan, Justus & Debbie—the music makes me laugh, and cry, which is just as it should **bee!** Thanks for all your hard work. Ronn Moyers, as always, I am humbled by your talent. Thanks for taking my pencil scribbles and rendering another cool set. Debbie—thank goodness for your sewing skills & thank you so much for sharing them with us in costuming the cast! Thanks to Donna, Barry and Shannon for helping make the set complete, and to Weston and Don for the finishing touches of sound & lighting. Tori—thank you for choreographing a beautiful waltz scene, as well as staging fights and falls safely. Raymond—thanks for being a rehearsal volunteer every night for weeks!

Cast—I bow to your talent and dedication to your craft.  
You are all C-H-A-M-P-I-O-N-S in my book!

*Cheryl Hartig*

## CAST B-I-O-S



**RONA LISA PERETTI**—Donna Gream, an active Board Member of Purchase Players, has been involved in theatre all her life. She was cast in her first Purchase Players production in 1980. She has acted in and directed many shows and is very excited to be cast as Rona Lisa. "I wanted this role from the beginning," said Donna, "but at what age do I stop hopping on tables for a good laugh?" Donna is married to Rodney and has one child, Emily Grace Duff (who has graced this stage on more than one occasion). Donna would like to thank her Mom and Dad for their constant support and is excited that her Great Niece, SkyLynn, shares her love of theatre! "I dedicate this performance to my friend, Ann Watson Heath, who appreciates my humor and a good comedy."



**CHIP TOLENTINO / JESUS**—Joshua M. Byrne is an "old hat" at this particular show, having performed in it twice before as Chip at Playhouse in the Park in his native town of Murray. A frequent face to the stage, some of Joshua's favorite roles have been Edna Turnblad (*Hairspray*), Captain Philip Lombard (*And Then There Were None*), Mitch Albom (*Tuesdays With Morrie*), and Orin Scrivello, D.D.S. (*Little Shop of Horrors*). Joshua is glad to be part of this production and to be making his return to the stage in his third Purchase Players production!



**LOGAINNE SCHWARTZ AND GRUBINIERE**—Meredeth Wright graduated from Graves County High School in 2012, and has been in love with theatre forever! A Purchase Players veteran, her most recent role was in *Curious Savage*, playing the lead role of Ethel P. Savage. Her first, and favorite lead! She currently works midnights at Wal-Mart in Mayfield.



**LEAF CONEYBEAR / DAN DAD**—Adam Heath is not a new face at Purchase Players, appearing most recently in last fall's dinner theatre production of *Southern Fried Murder*. His favorite role was as Orin Scrivello, D.D.S. in *Little Shop of Horrors*. Heath is a shift-lead at Walgreen's here in Mayfield, and will soon begin studying accounting at Murray State University.



**WILLIAM BARFÉE**—Jordan B. Belcher is thrilled to make his Purchase Players debut! He is a 2011 graduate from Murray State University with degrees in History and Theatre. He is from Murray, KY. Past performances include: Motel in *Fiddler on the Roof*, Mushnik in *Little Shop of Horrors*, Pap in *Big River*, Harold Bride in *Titanic: A New Musical*, and Peter Quince in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited



## CAST B-I-O-S



**MARCY PARK**— Tori Keeling is a Theatre major at Murray State University. Over the summer she went to the SAFD's (Society of American Fight Directors) National Stage Combat Workshop in North Carolina and is now a recognized Actor Combatant. This is Tori's 5th production here at Purchase Players.



**OLIVE OSTROVSKY**— Sam Doran has been actively involved with Purchase Players for the past fifteen years. Some of her favorite roles included Sara in *Guys and Dolls*, the Fairy Godmother in *Cinderella*, and Tuptim in *The King and I*. She has also worked extensively with the youth program at Purchase Players, directing such productions as *Oklahoma!*, *Once Upon a Mattress*, and several children's shows and camps. She is excited to play one of her dream roles in *Spelling Bee*.



**DOUGLAS PANCH**— Justin Spraggs has been in several Purchase Player productions dating back to 2003. Some of his works include *And Then There Were None*, *Beyond the Glorious Garden*, *Medium Rare*, *Murder in the Magnolia*, and *A Christmas Story*.



**MITCH MAHONEY**— Chris Travis is a Mayfield KY native where he lives with his wife, Tracy, and his two children, Clark and Elizabeth. He is employed as an environmental engineer and is a Naval Reserve Officer. *25<sup>th</sup> Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* is Chris's second performance with Purchase Players. His first Purchase Players show was the 2011 production of *Annie*. Chris also performed in Market House Theatre's 2013 production of *Les Miserables*.



**CARL DAD / OLIVE'S Dad**— Jonathan Bennett is a graduate of Mayfield High School, and currently enrolled at Murray State University in the Liberal Arts dept. A classically trained counter-tenor, he studied under operatic performers Cynthia Lawrence and Heidi Skok at the University of Kentucky; where he was a member of the UK Men's Chorus, and toured the state performing with the UK premier men's a cappella group, the acoUstiKats. He has been involved with Purchase Players since middle school, with roles in *Cinderella*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Aladdin Jr.*, *Mulan, Jr.*, and *Hello Dolly*. He makes his music directorial debut with *Spelling Bee*.