

AUDITION NOTICE

THE 25th ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE

Music & Lyrics by William Finn

Book by Rachel Sheinkin

Directed by Mario D'Alimonte

Musical Direction by Ellen Kestenberg

Produced by Merle Garbe

**ALL AUDITIONS, REHEARSALS, AND PERFORMANCES WILL TAKE PLACE AT
THE TORONTO CENTRE FOR THE ARTS, 5040 YONGE STREET**

PERFORMANCES: October 28 to November 7, 2010 (Sunday performances are at 2:00 p.m., no Monday shows). It is possible that there will be one or two weekday matinees for schools. Everyone who is cast must be available for these. Dates of weekday matinees to be confirmed in September 2010.

REHEARSALS: As a general rule, rehearsals will be held on Monday and Wednesday evenings and Sunday afternoons beginning in mid-August. Not everyone will be needed for every rehearsal.

Please note that everyone cast in this show MUST be available for every performance.

ABOUT THE SHOW

Tonight is the championship round of the 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee. Six spellers – Chip, Leaf, William, Logainne, Olive and Marcy – are vying for the title. They are overseen by Ms. Peretti, Vice Principal Panch and Mitch Mahoney (3 grown-ups who barely managed to escape childhood themselves). The contestants have to deal with puberty, family, loneliness and friendship, success and failure. *Spelling Bee* has an ensemble cast of nine, all of whom need to be good character actors with the ability to improvise and interact with the audience.

AUDITION DATES and TIMES

Sunday, June 13 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Monday, June 14 from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Tuesday, June 15 from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

(Please note: we normally book approximately 6 people per hour, at the same time, and they are seen in the order they arrive)

CALL BACKS

Sunday, June 20 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

Please prepare one song that demonstrates your vocal range and strengths. Sheet music must be provided to the accompanist and all sheet music must be in the correct key.

Part of the audition may involve the testing of vocal range and other technical exercises.

Please prepare a brief comic monologue (no longer than one minute, as the audition will include re-direction).

Performers from all ethnic backgrounds are invited to audition.

THE ADULTS

Rona Lisa Peretti..... Soprano, C#4 - Ab5 --Age 30-45 A former winner who is passionate about spelling, Ms Peretti is the moderator of the 'Bee'. The actor playing this role needs to have strong improvisational skills.

Vice Principal Douglas Panch...Baritone (no solo singing) --Age 30-50

Returning to the 'Bee' after an unfortunate incident some years previously, V.P. Panch is the announcer and the adjudicator. The actor playing this role needs to have strong improvisational skills.

Mitch Mahoney.....Tenor, E3 - A4 (B4) --Age 25-40

Mitch is an ex-con serving community service hours as a "comfort counsellor" for the spellers who are eliminated.

THE KIDS

The spellers are aged 10 to 14 but the roles are played by young adults (16 - 30ish).

Olive Ostrovsky.....Soprano, B3 - F#5

Kind and gentle, Olive longs for the affection of her absent parents. Her best friend is her dictionary.

William Barfée.....Tenor, Eb3 - Bb4

Touchy and obnoxious with a chronic sinus condition, William spells with the aid of his "Magic Foot".

Logainne Schwartzandgrubenierre.....Soprano, C4 - D5

The youngest speller, Logainne is afraid of failing and disappointing her two dads. She may have a speech impediment.

Marcy Park.....Mezzo Soprano, B3 - E5

Marcy is a classic overachiever who is under pressure to be the best at everything. Some dance, baton or acrobatic ability is required.

Leaf Coneybear.....Baritone/Tenor. A2 - G4

Quirky and naive, Leaf makes it to the spelling bee by default. His family tells him that he is “not that smart”.

Chip Tolentino..... Tenor, C3 - B4

Winner of last year’s ‘Bee’, Chip is confident of repeating his success until he is hijacked by his hormones.

**For further information, or to book an audition,
please email: lindaramsay25@hotmail.com**

If you need to speak to a live person, call Linda Ramsay at 416-267-9666

Produced by Encore Entertainment.

Non-paying.