UC Davis Summer Musical Theatre Intensive presents

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee

Music and Lyrics by William Finn
Book by Rachel Sheinkin
Conceived by Rebecca Feldman

Directed & Choreographed by Mindy Cooper

Additional Material by Jay Reiss
Originally produced on Broadway by David Stone, James L. Nederlander, Barbara Whitman & Patrick Catullo

Main Theatre, UC Davis
September 16-26, 2010

This production runs 95 minutes without intermission. It includes the use of chemical fog and contains mature adult content with profanity. It is rated PG-13. Before the performance begins, please note the exit closest to your seat. Kindly silence your cell phone, pager, and other electronic devices. Video, photographic or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited by law. Food and drink are not permitted in the theatre. Thank you for your cooperation.
The 25th Annual Puntam County Spelling Bee

Director/Choreographer’s Notes

It is my honor and pleasure to present the very first production of the UC Davis Summer Musical Theatre Intensive, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*.

This highly acclaimed and awarded show is a perfect fit for our program’s inauguration, as the original show was created through improvisation. For our production, we attacked the script and score in exercises in a classroom situation first, and then expanded these improvs to become staging and choreography. This gave each actor artistic freedom and ownership of the material. They learned how to create, not mimic, hopefully transcending the cultural norms of this YouTube era.

It is no surprise that the 2005 Broadway production won two Tony Awards. The composer William Finn’s genius for interesting and provoking music drives this smart and funny play. His lyrics are always unexpected, interesting, and his humor resonates loudly with the current generation. He soulfully and comically fulfills the musical theater adage “When you can’t speak, sing.”

I, along with Timothy Orr and Thomas Munn, set out to create a work atmosphere duplicating a repertory theatre situation, where each actor created honest and original work, honed performing skills, and also took on avid roles in other departments like lighting, costumes, and publicity. We sought to create a well-rounded and diverse creative experience for each actor. We think *Spelling Bee* is the ideal launch for our new UC Davis Summer Musical Theatre Intensive, and hope to see you again next year.

-- Mindy Cooper
Director/Choreographer’s Biography

A Broadway veteran for over 25 years, Mindy Cooper began her career as a performer dancing in the companies of Twyla Tharp Dance, The Feld Ballet, The Kansas City Ballet, and Thingseziseem Dance Theatre. She then went on to perform on Broadway in the original cast revival of Chicago, the original cast of Titanic, and Beauty and the Beast, Song & Dance, and Tenderloin.

Her extensive Director/Choreographer credits include: Broadway- Dracula, the Musical, and Wrong Mountain. Off-Broadway- Five Course Love. National Tour- Titanic. New York Credits- The Gospel According to Tammy Faye (Manhattan Theater Club, Staged Reading), Music in the Night, A Tribute to Jerome Kern (Town Hall). Regional Theater- On the Town (Lesher Center), Cabaret (Center Rep), Oklahoma! (Mondavi Center for the Performing Arts), Musical of Musicals, the Musical (Center Rep), Fiddler on the Roof (Nevada Conservatory Theater), Urinetown: The Musical (UC Davis Artist-in-Residence), The New Bozena (Hudson Theater LA), Heart and Soul (St. Petersburg, Russia), Fair Liberty’s Call (World Premiere), and Jesus Christ Superstar (Pittsburg CLO). She has choreographed numerous benefits, industrials, and commercials, as well as for Law & Order Criminal Intent.

Her local theatrical work has won a total of ten Bay Area Theater Critics Awards including 2009 Best Director of a Musical and 2009 Best Musical. She has been honored as UC Davis Granada Artist-in-Residence three times: spring 2007, spring 2009, and upcoming spring 2011.
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presents

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY
William Finn

BOOK BY
Rachel Sheinkin

CONCEIVED BY
Rebecca Feldman

With

Malia Abayon, Jenny Adler, Olufunmilayo Alabi, Matt Dunivan,
Ryan Geraghty, Esteban Gonzalez, Gillian Heitman,
Jacklyn Joanino, Erica Kalingking, James Marchbanks,
Gordon Meacham, Wendy Mumolo, Christina Rabago,
Alison Sundstrom, Elizabeth Tremaine, Jazz Trice

MUSIC DIRECTOR
Pete Nowlen

SCENIC DESIGNER
Karyn Noel

COSTUME DESIGNER
Roxanne Femling

LIGHTING DESIGNER
Thomas J. Munn

STAGE MANAGER
Maria Castro

SOUND DESIGNER
Ned Jacobsen

PROPERTIES DESIGNER
Daniel Jordan

UC DAVIS MUSICAL THEATRE INTENSIVE
CO-DIRECTOR
Tim Orr

DIRECTED AND CHOREOGRAPHED BY
Mindy Cooper
CAST (in order of appearance)

Rona Lisa Perretti .................................. ALISON SUNDSTROM
Chip Tolentino ..................................... JAZZ TRICE
Logainne Schwartzandgrubenniere .......... WENDY MUMOLO
Leaf Coneybear .................................. ESTEBAN GONZALEZ
William Barfee ................................... MATTHEW DUNIVAN
Marcy Park ....................................... ERICA KALINGKING
Olive Ostrovsky .................................. ELIZABETH TREMAINE
Vice Principal Douglas Panch................. RYAN GERAGHTY
Mitch Mahoney ................................... JAMES MARCHBANKS
Jesus/Brook Coneybear .................. JAKI JOANINO
Carl Dad ........................................ GORDON MEACHAM
Dan Dad ........................................ JAMES MARCHBANKS
Cheerleader .................................... CHRISTINA RABAGO
Cleaning Lady ................................... MALIA ABAYON
Leaf’s Mom ...................................... GILLIAN HEITMAN
Leaf’s Sister ..................................... OLUFUNMILAYO ALABI
Leaf’s Sister ..................................... JENNY ADLER
Olive’s Mom ..................................... ALISON SUNDSTROM
Olive’s Dad ..................................... RYAN GERAGHTY

SETTING
Lake Hemingway Dos Passos Jr. High School, 1991
Musical Numbers (in chronological order)

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee- Rona and Spellers
The Rules/Favorite Moment #1- Rona, Panch and Spellers
My Friend the Dictionary- Olive
Pandemonium- Company
I’m Not That Smart- Leaf
Magic Foot- Barfee
Pandemonium (Reprise)- Mitch and Company
Favorite Moment #2- Rona
Prayer Of the Comfort Counselor- Mitch and Company
Chip’s Lament- Chip
Woe is Me- Loggaine, Dads, Rona, Panch and Spellers
I’m Not That Smart (Reprise)- Leaf
I Speak Six Languages- Marcy
The I Love You Song- Olive, Olive’s Mom, Olive’s Dad
Woe is Me (Reprise)- Loggaine and Mitch
Favorite Moment #3- Rona
Second/Weltanshauung- Olive, Barfee and Company
Finale- Company

PETE NOWLEN, Orchestra Conductor

GRAHAM SOBELMAN, Piano/Rehearsal Accompanist
MEAGAN KILPATRICK, Synthesizer
STEPHEN HUDSON, Cello
DONICA LARSON, Woodwinds
DANIEL EISENBERG, Percussion
PERFORMER BIOS

MALIA ABAYON (Cleaning Lady) is excited to be in her third show at UC Davis. She performed last year in the THIRDeYE Theatre Festival as Heather in The Blue Jay’s Song, and as a dancer in Karen Song’s La Muerte Azul in Main Stage Dance Theatre Festival. As a senior Dramatic Art and Human Development double major, she is excited and thankful to perform in her first musical and looks forward to many more in the future!

JENNIFER ADLER (Leaf’s Sister) is very excited to be in this production of Spelling Bee! She was previously seen in last spring’s Granada show: The Matter of Taste. Jenny is a Dramatic Art major and a vocal performance major in the Music Department going into her junior year. She wants to focus on directing but would also like to be in many more shows at UC Davis.

OLUFUNMILAYO ALABI (Leaf’s Sister) Is a senior studying Dramatic Art, Design, and Film Studies. She is happy to be working with Mindy Cooper. She also enjoys watching old romantic films in her spare time while eating frozen yogurt.

MATTHEW DUNIVAN (William Barfee) is excited to be working with such a talented cast and crew. Matthew is pursuing a degree in Dramatic Art and Communications. Past credits include Leon Czolgosz in Assassins, Bottom/Lysander in A Midsummer Night’s Dream, and El Gallo in The Fantasticks.

RYAN GERAGHTY (Vice Principal Douglas Panch, Olive’s Dad) is a sophomore at UC Davis with an undeclared major in the humanities that will soon be changed to a Dramatic Art major. He is happy to be in his third show with the Department of Theatre and Dance. His first two were Hitler in THIRDeYE Theatre Festival’s Fool’s Afloat and a Narrator in Some Things Are Private. He looks forward to being in many more productions here.

ESTEBAN GONZALEZ (Leaf Coneybear) is excited to be in his first production at Main Theatre and his second at UC Davis. He was the crazy, drug-induced Berger in the Studio 301 production of Hair and now comes to you as an eleven year old outcast. And remember, life is random and unfair.

GILLIAN HEITMAN (Leaf’s Mom) is a third year Dramatic Art major. This is her second show at UC Davis following her performance in last year’s THIRDeYE Theatre Festival as Francesca in Fool’s Afloat. Her previous credits include The Odd Couple (Gwendolyn Pidgeon), Twelfth Night (Lady Olivia), and Little Shop of Horrors (Ensemble).

JAKI JOANINO (Jesus, Brook Coneybear) has learned a lot and enjoyed participating in this first ever Summer Intensive with some fun-tastic, talented, and inspiring people! She is going into her second year as Dramatic Art and Political Science double major and looks forward to working in more UC Davis productions.
CHRISTINA RABAGO (Cheerleader) is a fourth year NPB and Dramatic Art double major who is overjoyed to be apart of The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee. This is her first show at UC Davis, but hopefully not her last. She has had a wonderful experience working with all those involved and truly believes she has made some amazing friends through this process. Though this is her final year at UCD, she plans on expanding her theatre experience considerably before the school year is out.

ALISON SUNDSTROM (Rona Lisa Peretti, Olive’s Mom) is pleased to start her sophomore year at Davis by performing in The 25th Annual Putnam Spelling Bee. Her previous roles include Helena and Snug (A Midsummer Night’s Dream), Crissy (Hair), Cinderella (Roger and Hammerstein’s Cinderella), Marian Paroo (The Music Man), Carnelle (The Miss Firecracker Contest), Cassie (A Chorus Line), and Mary Warren (The Crucible). She is a second year Dramatic Art major and is excited to begin another season here at UC Davis.

WENDY MUMOLO (Logainne Schwartzandgrubenniere) is thrilled to be a member of this cast! Some of her favorite roles from previous productions are Queen Aggravain in Once Upon A Mattress and an Apostle in Jesus Christ Superstar. This is Wendy’s first and only show at UC Davis; as of September 10 she is an alumna with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology and a minor in English. She could not possibly imagine a better way to say goodbye (in song!).
Man, Charlie Brown (Crossroads Theatre), and Sharpay in High School Musical (California Theatre Arts). Please enjoy the show.

JAZZ TRICE (Chip Tolentino) is a fifth year super-senior majoring in Dramatic Art with minors in English and Psychology. He’s performed with UC Davis Theatre and Dance as Backwards Soldier in #5 The Angry Red Drum, Cleomenes in The Winter’s Tale, and Jamie Hudson in the self-penned Empty All The Boxes. Credits with Studio 301 Productions include Schroeder in You’re a Good Man Charlie Brown and Hud in Hair. Hi mom and dad!

CONCEPT ARTIST BIOS

MARIAG C. CASTRO (Stage Manager) has had an amazing time stage managing her first show for the UC Davis Department of Theatre & Dance. Her previous stage management experiences include Studio 301’s productions of A Midsummer Night’s Dream and Macbeth.

ROXANNE FEMLING (Costume Designer) is a highly skilled manager and an award-winning costume designer with more that 25 years experience in costume construction/design and costume shop management. Femling has designed costumes for numerous professional, regional, educational and community theatres. She won a Drama-Logue award for her designs for George Bernard Shaw’s Man and Superman, produced by A Noise Within (Glendale, CA) in 1992. Femling’s most recent design work at UC Davis includes Man of La Mancha, Esailama Gedo Diouf’s dance, Sauce, and Margaret Edson’s Pulitzer-prize-winning play, Wit. She continues to work outside the university as a freelance costume designer and producer of embroidered garments specializing in blackwork and stumpwork techniques. She has worked as a costume/wardrobe manager for Universal Studios Hollywood Theme Park, Sacramento theatre Company, the Old Globe Theatre (San Diego). Other professional design credits inculde work for the former Club Disney (initial site Ventura), Sacramento Ballet Company and the Sacramento Music Circus. She holds a BA in Dramatic Art (Costume Design & Construction) from UC Davis.

NED JACOBSON (Sound Designer) is the Staff Sound Supervisor, Designer and Sound Instructor for the UC Davis Department of Theatre and Dance. Ned’s most recent sound designs include Noises Off and Elephant’s Graveyard at UCD, Arranged Marriage at Sacramento Theatre Company and Grease at Delta College in Stockton. Ned received his BS from Lewis Clark State College in Lewiston and his MFA from UC Davis.

DANIEL JORDAN (Properties Designer) is in his last year at UC Davis. This is his second time working with Mindy Cooper and as always it has been a very enjoyable experience. While not acting he likes to design. He last designed Oklahoma!, Winters Tale and Steele Magnolias.
THOMAS J MUNN (Lighting Designer) UC Davis credits include Elephant’s Graveyard; Nest; Big Love; Rocky Horror Show, Carmen, Urinetown. Lighting Director/Designer for the San Francisco Opera 1976-2001. For that company alone, he has designed in excess of 200 productions. He has designed Lighting and/or Scenery for Broadway, Off Broadway, Regional Theater, Ballet, Dance, Industrials and Television (Emmy Award). Recent productions include The Yellow Leaf and Julius Caesar for the Pioneer Theatre Company in Salt Lake City; Samson and Delilah for San Diego Opera; the TV production of Mahagonny for LA Opera, Marriage of Figaro for Boston Lyric Opera and Rodelinda for Portland Opera. He continues to work as theatrical lighting consultant for various architectural projects. Upcoming UCD productions: Tilly Nobody in October and Bluebeard’s Castle in February.

KARYN NOEL (Scenic Designer) is thrilled to be designing for the first time at UC Davis! She has been actively involved in theatre for the past four years, working as a student set designer for City Theatre at Sacramento City College and as properties master and carpenter for the Sacramento Shakespeare Festival. Karyn’s passion is sharing the magic of theatre with her city and her goal is to someday give back to the community college system by becoming a teacher.

PETE NOWLEN (Music Director) is pleased to return for his sixth UC Davis production, having previously been music director for Little Shop of Horrors, The Rocky Horror Picture Show, Falsettos, Urinetown: The Musical, and Man of La Mancha.

Other theatrical credits include Company, La Bohème, Hansel and Gretel, Amahl and the Night Visitors, Billy the Kid and Façade. Pete is also UCD Concert Band Director and Horn Instructor, Artistic Director of the VITA Academy of Northern California, Instructor of Horn and Chamber Music at Sacramento State University, and an active professional French hornist.

TIM ORR (UC Davis Musical Theatre Intensive Co-Director) is an actor, composer and theatre lecturer with credits nationwide. For five years he was a resident artist with The Foothill Theatre Company acting, writing, composing and producing theatre with artists from all over the world. For three seasons he has appeared at the Colorado Shakespeare Festival (Measure for Measure, The Fantasticks, Hamlet, Two Gentlemen of Verona, A Child’s Christmas in Wales, A Christmas Carol). Composing credits includes songs and incidental music for Colorado Shakespeare Festival, TheatreFIRST (Oakland), Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival, and The Foothill Theatre Co. He teaches acting and musical theatre at UC Davis, Colorado University at Boulder, and is a faculty member of the Berkeley Repertory School of Theatre. Timothy holds degrees in music, arts management and a Master of Fine Arts degree in Acting from UC Davis.
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<tr>
<td>Production Manager</td>
<td>ERIC STEGGALL</td>
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<td>Technical Director</td>
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<td>Facilities Manager/Audio Supervisor</td>
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<td>STEPHANIE PRESSLER</td>
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<td>PRERNA DUDANI</td>
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<td>Photographer</td>
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<td>Production Assistant</td>
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Production Team

Stage Manager Advisor
Scotty Gray

Scenic Design Advisor
John Iacovelli

Costume Design Advisor
Maggie Morgan

Lighting Design Advisor
Thomas J. Munn

Sound Design Advisor
Ned Jacobson

Assistant to the Director
Ulysses Morazan

Assistant Lighting Designer
Glenn Fox

Assistant to the Lighting Designer
Alison Kellar

Lighting Assistant
Christina Deniz

Assistant Stage Manager
Anika Tinsley

Costume Production Crew

Jenny Adler
Gillian Heitman
Gordon Meacham

Dressers
Karyl Goodwin

Charge Scenic Artist
John Murphy

Scenery Production Crew

Elizabeth Andrews

Lighting Technicians
Sarah Norton
Kelby Wood

Sound Technician
Christian Savage

Stage Crew

Michael Lutheran
Won Joon Yoon
Alison Garcia Kellar
Eric Williams

Special Thanks

Andy Ramirez of the UC Davis Department of Campus Recreation
Tom Coil, Custodial Services Assistant Director, UC Davis Student Housing
San Jose Repertory Theatre
Debra Jordan, Crestmont Elementary
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KIM PEARSON
VICTORIA DYE
KRIS CARPENTER
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SOCORRO FIGUEROA
BARBARA OLIVIER
KELLI SHOLER

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Academic Personnel Office

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Undergraduate Program Coordination

Faculty

SARAH PIA ANDERSON, Directing
LARRY BOGAD, Performance Studies
DELLA DAVIDSON, Dance
DAVID GRENKE, Department Chair, Dance
LYNETTE HUNTER, Performance Studies
JOHN IACOVelli, Scenic Design
PETER LICHTENFELS, Directing, Acting, Performance Studies
JADE ROSINA MCCUTCHEON, Acting, Playwriting
BELLA MERLIN, Acting
MAGGIE MORGAN, Costume Design
TOM MUNN, Lighting Design
JON ROSSINI, Performance Studies
PEGGY SHANNON, Directing

Visiting Faculty

MINDY COOPER, Musical Theatre Directing/Choreography
ROBIN GRAY, Stage Management
HOPE MIRLIS, Acting/Dance
TIM ORR, Acting/Musical Theatre
COMING SOON

Tilly No-Body: Catastrophes of Love
A Sideshow Physical Theatre Production
Devised by Bella Merlin
Vanderhoef Studio Theatre
Thurs -Sat, Oct 14-16 & Weds -Sat, Oct 20-23, 8pm
Sun, Oct 17 & 24, 2pm

Gallathea
Written by John Lyly
Directed by Peter Lichtenfels
Main Theatre
Thurs - Sat, Nov 11 - 13 & 18 - 20, 8pm
Sun, Nov 14, 2pm

Hinterland
By Granada Artist-in-Residence Lucy Gough
Main Theatre
Weds- Sat, Dec. 1 - 4 8pm
Sat, Dec 4, 2pm

Body of Knowledge
By Karl Frost
Original choreography by graduating MFA candidate
Vanderhoef Studio Theatre
Friday & Saturday, February 11- 12, 18-19, 8pm
Sunday, February 13 & 20, 2pm

The Flood (working title)
Devised and Directed by Granada Artist-in-Residence Dominique Serrand
Main Theatre
Thurs- Sat, Mar 3 - 5, 8pm
Sun, Mar 6, 2pm
Fri - Sat, Mar 11- 12, 8pm
Sun, Mar 13, 2pm
The Edge Performance Festival
Various locations TBA including Main Theatre, Arena Theatre, Wyatt Pavilion Theatre
Fri - Sun, Apr 15 - 17
Weds - Sun, Apr 20 - 24
Various times TBA

Moby Dick Variations (working title)
Devised and Directed by John Zibell
Vanderhoef Studio Theatre, Mondavi Center
Thurs -Sat, May 5-7, 8pm
Sun, May 8 & 15, 2pm
Thurs -Sat, May 12-14, 8pm

The Who’s Tommy
Directed by Granada Artist-in-Residence Mindy Cooper
With Music and Lyrics by Pete Townshend and Des McAnuff
Main Theatre
Thurs - Sat, May 19 - 21, & May 26 - 28, 8pm
Sun, May 22 & 29, 2pm
Mon, May 30, 8pm

UC Davis Film Festival
Produced by the Department of Theatre & Dance and presented by the Davis Varsity Theatre in association with UC Davis Technocultural Studies and co-sponsored by Film Studies and Art Studio
The Davis Varsity Theatre
616 Second Street in Davis
Wed May 25 - Thu May 26, 8:30pm

TICKETS & INFORMATION: theatredance.ucdavis.edu
GIVING

Your support is vital to keeping our Granada Artists and other programs alive at the Department of Theatre & Dance. Please consider making a gift to one of our endowment funds below.

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For more information about the various endowments above, please contact Debbie Wilson, Director of Development for the UC Davis Division of Humanities, Arts, and Cultural Studies at 530.754.2221 or visit our website: theatredance.ucdavis.edu.