

ALBERTA HIGH SCHOOL OF FINE ARTS/ FOOTHILLS COMPOSITE
PRESENTS OUR 2014 MUSICAL PRODUCTION...

The 25th Annual Putnam County
SPELLING BEE



Written by Rachel Sheinkin
Music and lyrics by William Finn
Additional material by Jay Reiss

Poster design by Hayley Banyard

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee is presented through special arrangements with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI, 421 West 54th Street, New York, NY 10019. Phone: 212-541-4684 Fax: 212-397-4684 www.mtishows.com





Musical Numbers

mu·si·cal noun

: a play that tells a story with songs and often dancing

- "The Twenty-Fifth Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" – Company
- "The Rules" - Rona and Spellers
- "My Friend, the Dictionary" – Olive and Company
- "Goodbye" – Company
- "Pandemonium" – Company
- "I'm Not That Smart" – Leaf
- "Magic Foot" – Barfee and Company
- "Prayer of the Comfort Counselor" – Madge and Company
- "Chip's Lament" – Chip
- "Woe is Me" – Logainne, Carl, Dan, and Company
- "Spelling Montage" - Panch and Spellers
- "I Speak Six Languages" – Marcy and Company
- "Marcy's Epiphany" - Marcy, Mitch, and Company
- "The I Love You Song" – Olive and Olive's Parents
- "Woe is Me (Reprise)" – Logainne, Mitch, and Company
- "My Favorite Moment of the Bee (Reprise)" - Rona
- "Second" – Barfee, Olive, Rona and Company
- "Finale" – Company
- "The Last Goodbye" – Company

Synopsis

syn·op·sis noun

: a short description of the most important information about something : a summary or outline

F-A-N-T-A-S-T-I-C! That's the only way to spell this musical comedy. *The 25th annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* is the story of how seven young people in the throes of puberty, overseen by grown-ups who barely managed to escape childhood themselves, learn that winning isn't everything and that losing doesn't necessarily make you a loser. This hilarious tale of overachievers' angst chronicles the experience of seven adolescent outsiders vying for the spelling championship of a lifetime. The show's Tony Award-winning creative team has created the unlikeliest of heroes: a quirky yet charming cast of outsiders for whom a spelling bee is the one place where they can stand out and fit in at the same time.

Message from Administration ad·min·is·tra·tion (noun)

:group of people who manage the way the school and its organizations function

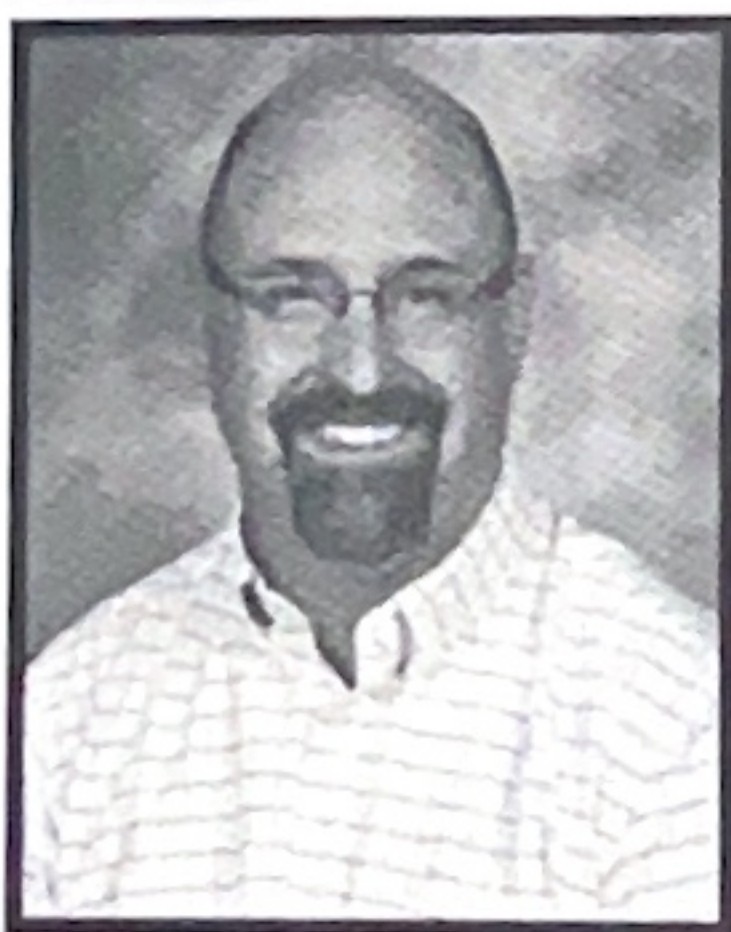
Welcome to this year's Musical Theatre production of *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*. This year's cast brings amazing energy and creativity to the story. Each evening's performance is unique and fresh as the cast responds to the addition of an unexpected and unpredictable element of audience participation. The tech crew and orchestra work hard behind the scenes to make it look and sound seamless. This production is only one example of the many programs and opportunities provided within our building that develop and highlight the depth of talent and character of our student body. We are so proud of the cast, orchestra and crew's efforts as they exemplify our school's core values - courage, commitment and integrity – and what it takes to put on a show of this caliber.

Artistic and Technical Director James Keary has masterfully prepared this talented cast and crew to be ready for anything in this production of the award-winning show. The music is interesting and challenging. Ms. Hounjet (musical director) has done a terrific job of bringing the best out of the cast and the orchestra. The choreography of Mrs. Van Sluys and Mrs. Fisher adds to the charm of the show. Under their leadership, the cast, crew and orchestra provide the audience with an evening of good, clean fun and entertainment!

The show would not be possible without the efforts of this year's group of energetic and committed parents. Our parent volunteers have managed all of the details of putting on the show - from set construction to ticket sales. Their generosity, energy and teamwork has been amazing and it has been a great privilege to work with every one of them.

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our sponsors and loyal supporters whose generosity continues to provide funding and donations to our Scholarship Fund and silent auction. It is with great appreciation we acknowledge the continued support of Foothills School Division and the staff of FCHS/AHSFA who are key to making this production possible.

The best thing about *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, besides the tuneful score, hilarious script and the talented cast, is its heart. Be prepared to laugh, cry, and possibly have your spelling abilities put to the test! We are most grateful to you – our audience - for joining us tonight and celebrating the talents of our cast, orchestra and crew. T-H-A-N-K Y-O-U for coming



Todd Schmekel
Assistant
Superintendent



Vince Hunter
Principal



Dorothy Paszkowski
Vice Principal



Jordan Rhodes
Vice Principal



Kathryn Strilchuk
Vice Principal

Directors di·rec·tor (noun)

:a group who manages an organized group of people or a part of an organization (such as a play)



Artistic & Technical
Director

James Keary: James began his stage and film career in Toronto in the late 70s. Headlining himself as “Jim” on his headshot and resume, his last name was often mispronounced and confused with the rubber-faced funny-man. (Now who would you say is dumb if not dumber?) Obviously this is a proven fact by following a career in education. Now, not only is he old and poor; he is bald; perhaps the funny man could loan him a mask! With all joking aside, James is very proud of the commitment by so many people from student performers and technicians, colleagues, parents, and the community over the past years to support this program and to keep drawing crowds. Every year we try to do something different artistically and technically; this year our show will include audience participation and involve video projection. Along with our movable and rotating LED lighting system, the AHSFA theatre is unique and one-of-its-kind in the province. Enjoy the show – now let’s get Bee-sy!



Musical Director

Nicole Hounjet B.Mus.,Ed.: Ms Hounjet, (Music Director ,Vocals ,and Orchestra) grew up studying piano, saxophone, and voice seriously through private study and some of the top school music programs in the province. She attended the University of Alberta, receiving her Bachelor of Music specializing in Secondary Education; and the University of Calgary, receiving her Bachelor of Education in the Masters of Teaching program. Ms Hounjet has been a music director at FCHS/AHSFA for the past 9 years and this is her 10th musical. During her time at FCHS/AHSFA her ensembles have excelled at the Alberta Band Festival and Choralfest. They have performed in Vienna, Salzburg, Prague, Vancouver. An accomplished conductor, Ms Hounjet has continued to study with Eichenberger, Boers, and Nace. Ms Hounjet also conducts Anacrusis and the Westwinds Women’s Choir.



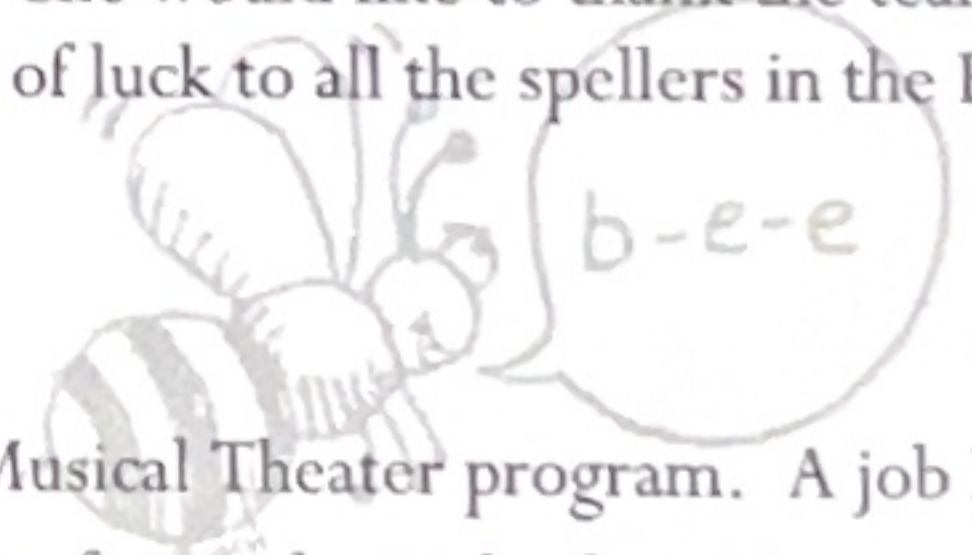
Choreographer

Michelle Fisher: This is Michelle’s first year as choreographer at FCHS/AHSFA. She took on the role part way through the production to step in for Mrs. Kelly van Sluys while she is away. Michelle was very inspired by the work that Kelly had already choreographed, and was honored to have the opportunity to complete the production. Michelle’s background brought her up in many dance schools around Medicine Hat, specializing in ballet while training in various styles of dance. While studying for her B.Ed., she has enjoyed opportunities to train at company programs including Toronto Dance Theatre, The School of Alberta Ballet and Citie ballet. Michelle has loved her time working with the talented cast while sharing her knowledge and passion of dance. She would like to thank the team of directors for their commitment and hard work! ...Best of luck to all the spellers in the Bee!



Producer

Rob Kunz: This is the 2nd year I have produced the Musical Theater program. A job I have enjoyed very much, I have come to appreciate a lot of special people along the way. Many hands that have contributed in some fashion to this musical, sharing their time, resources and skill, making this production a reality for the kids you see on stage tonight. From funding from the Foothills School Division, school administration staff, 4 teacher directors, the “teckies”, our talented Orchestra and Cast, all supported by an amazing parent volunteer group. Who have quietly worked behind the scenes supporting tonight’s show. This year the talent level is high, the kids have worked very hard to bring this show to you; it is not an exaggeration to describe them as FANTASTIC! I thank all involved; it has been my privilege to work with you.



Cast Biographies *bi·og·ra·phy noun.*

:the story of a real person's life written by someone other than that person



Jordan Kunz: Jordan really enjoys the Musical Theatre program. This is Jordan's second production with the Alberta High School of Fine Arts. She especially enjoys the great friends she has made through this program. "It's way more enjoyable than doing homework!"

Character: **Olive Ostrovsky**

Kate Aldacosta: Kate is in her second year of Musical Theatre and can't believe how much her skills have improved over the last year. "Mainstage" has helped her discover herself as an actor, singer, and performer. This production provided a challenging learning experience and all the hard work she continues to put into developing her skills has definitely paid off!

Character: **Rona Lisa Perretti**



Grant Taggart: This is Grant's second year in the Musical Theatre program. Last year he played the role of Alf Bueller in Back to the 80s and has also performed with the Dewdney Players in Present Laughter. Grant is excited to be playing the loveable, A.D.D. enhanced, Leaf Coneybear. Grant is planning to study theatre after he graduates this year.

Character: **Leaf Coneybear & Dan Schwartz**

Marley Corrigan: Marley is in her third and final year of Musical Theatre. She has thoroughly enjoyed her "Mainstage" experience and the amazing people she has met while in this program. She would like to dedicate her performance to her parents who have been hugely supportive throughout her musical theatre journey. "Thank you, Dad for building us a fantastic set!"

Character: **Logainne Schwartz and Grubenniere**



Shelby Salt: Shelby's love for theatre is a direct result of her three years in Musical Theatre and vocal ensemble. Shelby also enjoys science and is planning on being an active member in the scientific society and joining a revolution for biology. She will continue to pursue a fervent passion for asking questions like, "Does Will Carr actually look like Mr. Bean?"

Character: **Rickie Lee Cooper**

Will Carr: This is Will's third and final year performing in the Musical Theatre program. From Will's experience playing Dean in All Shook Up to Mr. Cocker in Back to the 80s and now Chip, Will has found his calling in Musical Theatre. He will be auditioning for the Canadian College of Performing Arts. Although he is sad to leave this stage for the last time this year, he will always remember his time at the Alberta High School of Fine Arts. Enjoy the show!

Character: **Chip Tolentino & Jesus**



Cast Biographies *bi·og·ra·phy noun.*

:the story of a real person's life written by someone other than that person



Morgan Wolfe: Morgan is currently "livin' the dream" in her senior year of Musical Theatre. The days spent with her "Mainstage" buddies will always be unforgettable. She is motivated to graduate this year and travel the world, including Nepal, India, Thailand, and finally, New Zealand. For now, she plans on making the most of every minute and enjoying the little things life has to offer. She would like to dedicate her performance to her mom who has supported her and been part of her productions over the past three years.

Character: **Madge Mahoney**

Chase Thomas: This is Chase's first year performing in Musical Theatre. He finds his time in rehearsal and performance to be a BLAST! Chase considers himself to be a sophisticated person who has a profound love for music. He is looking forward to next year where he hopes to be part of the Alberta High School of Fine Arts musical production once again.

Character: **William Barfee**



Tessa Waddell: Tessa Waddell is excited to be back for her second year of Musical Theater! She loves working with her crazy cast family, and especially loves all the shenanigans they get into together! "And with a show called The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, its hard to take it seriously sometimes!" she adds. Tessa hopes you enjoy the performance to her momma bear, her poppa bear and Hannah. Probably the only three people in the world who still love her after she sings in the shower at one in the morning...Enjoy the show!

Character: **Marcy Park & Olive's Mom**

Richard Cole: This is Richard's first Musical Theatre production. He will be graduating from the Alberta High School of Fine Arts this year and he aspires to go on to the University of Lethbridge to become a teacher. He approaches the role of Vice Principal Panch with courage and commitment. Who knows if it is a foreshadowing of things to come after his final performance of the Spelling Bee.



Character: **Vice Principal Douglas Panch & Carl Grubenierre**



WHEELING BEE





The 25th Annual Putnam County

Orchestra Biographies *or·ches·tra noun*

:a group of musicians who play music together and who are led by a conductor



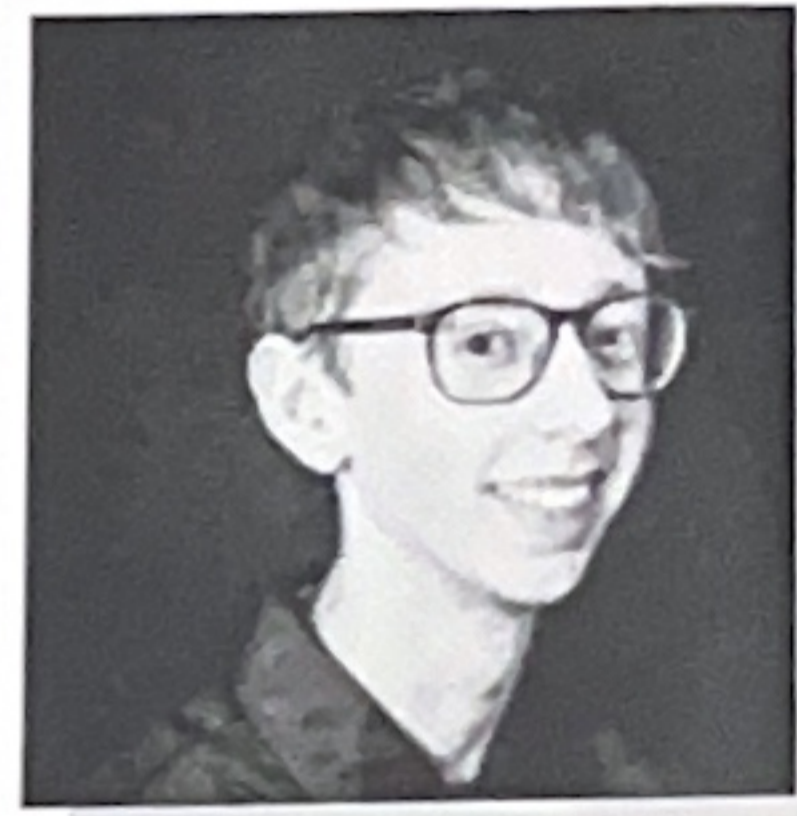
Lucas Willumsen: Lucas is excited to be joining the orchestra community for the second time! This year, he put down the trumpet and picked up the timpani mallets. And the triangle beater. And the finger cymbals. It's been a steep learning curve, but it should be a great show! Enjoy!

Erin Buck: Erin is very excited about playing for the first time in orchestra this year! Erin is highly dedicated to playing music and is hoping to pursue it as a career in the future. She plays flute and guitar. Erin hopes to participate in Mainstage orchestra again next year.



Elena Kokshina: This is Elena's first appearance in Musical Theatre Orchestra. Elena comes to us from Russia. She is passionate about playing piano and flute. She loves drawing and any kinds of sport activities. She loves animals, fantastic stories and poetry. After high school, she wants to travel and continue to play music. She is so excited about playing in this year's show!

Bailey Yanke: This is Bailey's second year in the musical theatre production, and he is excited to move up to the darkness of the loft. In the orchestra, Bailey plays alto saxophone and clarinet, and he is glad to be surrounded by such a fantastic group of musicians. Enjoy the show!



Benjamin Forseth: I play both trumpet and drums. This is my second year in the orchestra for musical theatre and I am once again thoroughly enjoying it. I am very passionate about music and have been learning and pursuing it for longer than I can remember. I hope to continue playing music and have even seriously considered taking it post-secondary or as my future career.

Leighton Fenske:

Having had previous experience with musical theatre, Leighton Fenske is looking forward to his last performance with the Alberta High School of Fine Arts. Piano is his instrument of choice but playing the keyboard has proven to be rewarding. As Beethoven said "Music is a higher revelation than all wisdom and philosophy".



Technical Engineers Biographies tech·ni·cal adjective

a specialist who is trained in the skills and techniques related to running specific equipment



James Benedetti: This is James' first year in Technical Theatre. He is a returning graduate whose interest in make-up led him to taking this class at the first year level. He wishes to pursue an arts degree around design and practical application. His three years commitment to the drama program at the AHSFA peaked his interest in technical theatre for a more well-rounded appreciation of the stage.

Kayla Graham: This is Kayla's first year in Technical Theatre. Kayla is an aspiring make-up artist planning to go to Vancouver to study special effects make-up. She enjoys working backstage where all the "crazy" happens and is looking forward to furthering her experience in future productions. Enjoy the show!



Bailey Maund: This is Bailey's second year doing the show. She enjoys doing hair and make-up for the shows along with her friend Zoe. She is in technical theatre because of the craziness and at the same time her desire is to be back in the program as senior technician next year.

Aaric Innes: Aaric has returned for another semester post-graduation last June to pursue stage management and get his 35 level credits in technical theatre. Aaric plans to pursue technical theatre next year and is looking forward to an upcoming job shadow on a show with a professional stage manager at Alberta Theatre Projects.



Whitney Werth: This is Whitney's first year being Mr. Keary's monkey. She enjoys the sounds of the hustle and bustle in the theatre. She is always called on to get crew coffee. She loves to laugh and have fun with her techie friends. Nothing is as good as a good healthy prank to get ya goin'!

Traci Warner: Traci is a grade 12 student and a second year "techie" and excited about operating the sound board for the show this year. Last year her responsibility was mic-ing the cast and this year, she gets to sit in the driver's seat.



Matt Fetinko: This is Matt's second year in technical theatre. Last year he shared the spot light duty alongside Mackenzie. This year, it is his goal to shadow the lighting board operator on desk so he can better develop his skills for the show in his third and final year at AHSFA.



Technical Engineers Biographies *tech-ni-cal adjective*

:a specialist who is trained in the skills and techniques related to running specific equipment



Barbara Fages: Barbara is a hard working student very committed to the technical theatre program. She has always loved live theatre and hopes one day she can become a well-known stage manager. In this year's show, she will share the stage management duties with one of the senior techies and perhaps receive a job shadow placement with Alberta Theatre Projects in stage management. She is very excited to begin her journey.

Joey Scrimshaw: This is Joey's third year teching the show. He has enjoyed his time so much in tech that he will be returning for 1 more semester to get his 35 level tech experience. He hopes to be a film director/screen writer and is planning on studying at either The Vancouver Film School or the Art Institute of Vancouver in 2015.



Mackenzie Laliberte: Mackenzie is very excited about this year's show and the greater responsibilities he has earned in order to tech the production. Mackenzie enjoys working with the lighting crew and loves playing with the lights.

Chantelle McCance: Chantelle is excited to participate in this year's show. She enjoys the fun atmosphere and the people involved in the cast and crew. She is excited to take on more responsibility and further develop her skills and experience as she prepares to move on to Tech 35 next year.



Dakota Zurowski: As a youngster, Dakota had no idea that she had a technical interest in anything never-the-less in theatre. She discovered her love for theatre arts soon after her arrival at AHSFA. Over her three years in tech theatre she has become a real driving force "teching" the musicals, dance showcases, school awards, and student council venues. She has assisted and organized many shows to date and looks forwards to return to sanity sometime soon.

Nicole Koop: Nikkie is 16 years old and this is her first year in technical theatre. She is looking forward to working alongside the senior students to learn the sound board and what it means to be a sound technician. As well as enjoying the "behind-the-scenes" work, she has performed on stage and enjoys playing guitar at community venues.



Lewis McCallum: This is Lewis' third and final year at AHSFA and the technical theatre program. He has enjoyed the past two shows and hopes this show will be as successful. Having survived the past few years, he can't wait for what is next so, "Get On With It!"

Technical Engineers Biographies tech·ni·cal adjective

:a specialist who is trained in the skills and techniques related to running specific equipment



Jesse Armitage: This is Jesse's 2nd year with the technical theatre program. Jesse loved working on the make-up crew last year and can't wait to work with the crew again on this year's show. Jesse has become one of the tech family at this school and loves all the friends she's made in this program. This year will again be..... Fabulous!!

Paige Bews: This is Paige's first year as a technical theatre student. She loves working with all the amazing people in this class and can't wait to shadow the make-up crew for this year's show.



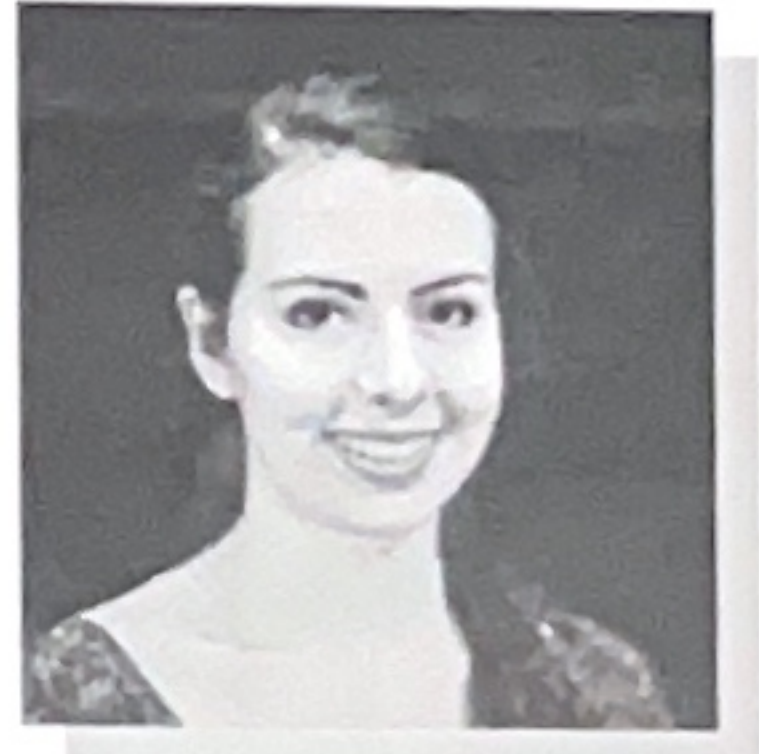
Meghan Petaske: This is Meghan's second year with Musical Theatre. This year, Meghan joins the tech crew again as a "techie" even though she is a performer at heart. She wants to experience all aspects of theatre to become more enriched with a broad-based set of skills and full understanding of the stage. Meghan's passion does not end at the Alberta High School of Fine Arts; she has attended Artstrek and is presently participating in the Mentorship Program from Theatre Junction in Calgary. Meghan continues to enjoy the opportunities and "Mainstage" antics and looks forward to making this year's show another success! Break-a-leg guys!!!

Laine Wintemute: Laine is a grade-10 student very new to technical theatre and the antics of Mr. Keary and the tech theatre crew. She loves every minute of it and the energy and camaraderie of her peers. She has joined the crew for this year's production in the hopes of being a senior designer or board operator in her graduation year.



Zoe Finan: This is Zoe's third year in technical theatre and second year doing make up for the Musical Theatre productions. She enjoys this class because of the people and all the craziness.

Bonnie Burton: Bonnie is in her first year of the technical theatre program and will be continuing until she graduates. She loves the craziness of the class and all the technical aspects of putting on a show. She will be working with her friend Laine on props. Inspired by a recent field trip, Bonnie is considering a future career as a set designer.



Acknowledgment and Thanks

ac·knowl·edg·ment *noun*
:recognition or favorable notice of an act or service received

Directors

Artistic & Technical Director
Musical Director
Choreographer

James Keary
Nicole Hounjet
Michelle Fisher

2014 Musical Theatre Parent Guild

EXECUTIVE

COMMITTEE LEADS

President **John Waddell**
Vice-President **Ron Taggart**
Secretary **Seline Buck**
Treasurer **Curtis Buck**

PRODUCTION

Producer **Rob Kunz**
Set Construction **Brent Corrigan**
Costumes **Karna Wolfe**
AHSFA Vice Principal **Dorothy Paszkowski**
Video Projection & Graphics Engineer **Ben Liebrand**

Tickets **Lora Fenske**
Front of House **Cory Kunz**
Sponsorship Night **Terri Cole**
Advertising & Promotion **Lisa Forseth**
Program **Valery Davis**
Cast Photos **Rob Kunz**
Sponsorship **Ron Taggart**
Hoodies **Nicole Yanke**
Poster Design **Hayley Banyard**
Graphics Design **Chris Smith**

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE DEPARTMENTS WHO PROVIDED ASSISTANCE

Comm Tech • Carpentry • Cosmetology • Front Office Staff • Custodial Staff

Thank You's for The 25th Annual Putnam County Fair Musical Theatre Production

The Eagle • Clear Choice Glass & Carpentry • Okotoks Honda
Sun Country • Western Wheel • Big Rock Singers • Mr. Ben Liebrand "benliebrand.com" • Bistro Provence • Cactus Club Salon • Cora's • Monkey Mountain • Okotoks Flowers & Things • Planet Beach Contempo Spa • Rylie's Cattle Barn • Safeway Okotoks • Spruce It Up Garden Centre • Tim Horton's Okotoks • The George Traditional House
• Westridge Electric • Speedy Auto Glass Okotoks

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENTIAL TEAM

A note of thanks from the Musical Theatre Parents Association to all the students who have put in so much effort into this years production. These kids find the time to manage all their courses, assignments, after school activities, rehearsals, and maybe, a social life too. Production starts at the beginning of the year and gets progressively more and more demanding until mid January and then... exams!!!

Just before the show begins. (I don't know how they do it!!!!)

Of course this production could not happen without the huge efforts of the Musical Director Ms. Nicole Hounjet, Dance and Choreography by Mrs. Van Sluys and Michelle Fisher, the Artistic and Technical Director Mr. James Keary, and the school Administrator, Vice Principal Dorothy Paszkowski. This tremendously dedicated team of educators raise the bar on the each students' contribution to the show and encourage a level of professionalism for each student to aspire to.

Also a huge thank you to all the sponsors who helped with the essential funding of this production. It goes such a long way in helping the students learn and grow in their musical theatre interests, and can encourage them to post secondary pursuits.

And to the parents. You are fantastic!!! You put in that extra effort in so many ways... driving to rehearsals, looking after costumes, tickets, set construction, front of house, posters, programs, advertising, sponsorship, fund raising, hoodies, production co-ordination, closing night co-ordination, archive and memorabilia, society administration and more. You are behind the scenes, helping each of our kids shine.

Helping our children become all that they can be. Thank you.



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SPELLING BEE

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