

The University of Alabama at Birmingham

Department of Theatre

Frank and Joan Dawson,

Mary and Kyle Hulcher

Michael J. and Mary Anne Freeman

W.B. Philips, Jr.

John & Dorinda Smith

present

**THE 25TH ANNUAL
PUTNAM COUNTY
SPELLING BEE**

Music & Lyrics by William Finn

Book by Rachel Sheinkin

Conceived by Rebecca Feldman

Additional Material by Jay Reiss

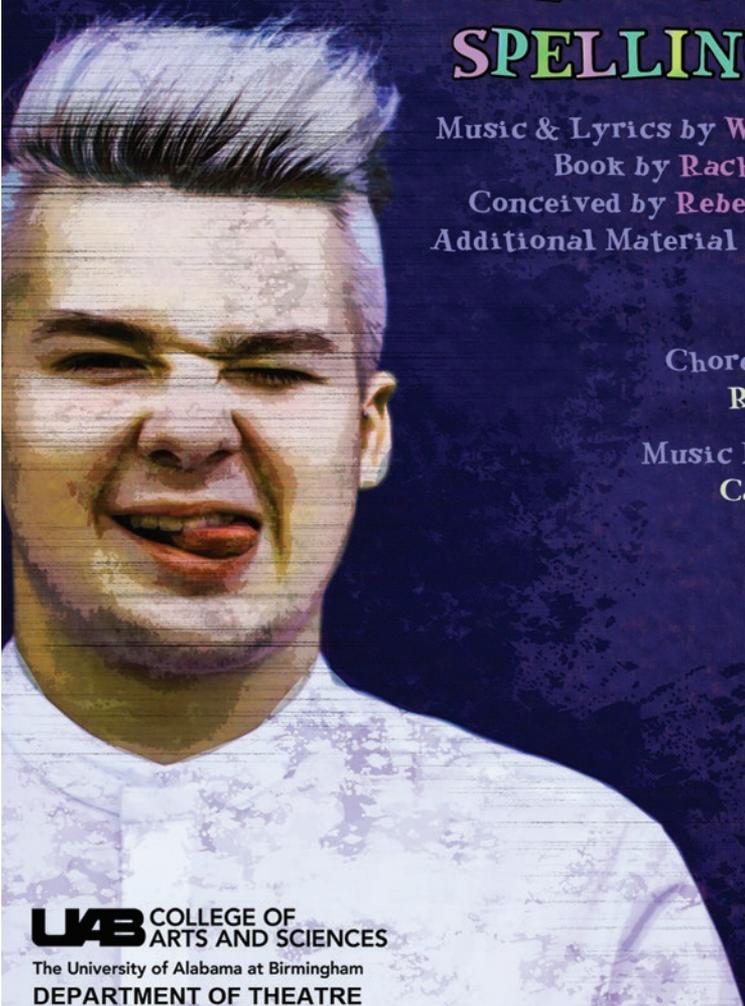
Directed &

Choreographed by

Roy Lightner

Music Direction by

Carolyn Violi



UAB COLLEGE OF
ARTS AND SCIENCES

The University of Alabama at Birmingham

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE

The Sirote Theatre
in the Alys Robinson Stephens Performing Arts Center

OVATION THEATRE UAB

Opening nights at Theatre UAB are OVATION nights. OVATION UAB features refreshments and conversation with the director and designers before the show, as well as a post-performance meet & greet with the cast and crew.

But that's not all. OVATION's mission is to support and sponsor our students working backstage and performing in Theatre UAB productions. Membership dues ranging from \$50 - \$1500+ help off-set the cost of tuition for each student to participate in the productions.

Join us! Park early, socialize, learn about the show and enjoy hors d'oeuvres, desserts, coffee and light refreshments before an evening of great theatre. OVATION THEATRE UAB is a perfect way to assist our talented students and have lots of fun!

OVATION THEATRE UAB Membership Forms are in our Theatre UAB Season Brochure or contact Program Manager, Mel Christian at 934-3237 or cmel@uab.edu. We'd love to see you at our next OVATION!

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR CURRENT OVATION UAB MEMBERS

Founding Members

Russell Drummond, Col. Daniel D. Hall, Patty McDonald, Carol Odess, Chandler S. Smith, Jane Paris Smith, BBS Martha Moore Sykes Fund

2018-2019 Members

Susan Atwood, Peter & Miriam Bellis, Anne Marie Brown, William & Mary Ellen Capps, Wendy Gunther Canada, Peggy Carlisle, Betsy & Joe Cooper, Don & Kathy Davis, Frank & Joan Dawson, Chuck & Mary Dunham, Ben & Ellen Erdreich, Mary Jane & Ray Faircloth, John R. & Linda Frawley, Michael J. & Mary Anne Freeman, Randy & LaDonna Gibbs, Dr. Robert & Mrs. Barbara Glaze, Myrna Goldstein, Lanny & Darlene Gray, Virginia & Boyce Guthrie, Dr. Ward & Mrs. Martha Haarbauer, Frank & Rona Harper, Mary & Kyle Hulcher, Michael and Catherine Hulcher, Bill & Hettie Johnson, Bill & Judy Lewis, Allen & Cele Montgomery, Patrick & Mary Morrissey, William & Patricia Moulton, Carol Odess, James & Angela Owen, Steve & Laura Parker, Bill Paracca, W. B. Philips, Jr., Beverly & David Radford, Miriam Kirklín Reed, James & Dawn Ribe, Leigh Robinson, John & Deborah Sellers, Arnold & Fran Singer, Dorinda & John A. Smith, Phil & Beverly Stine, Charles Turnbough, Jr., Nancy Whitt, Joyce Whitten

THE KENNEDY CENTER

The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival 50th, part of the Rubenstein Arts Access Program, is generously funded by **David and Alice Rubenstein**.

Special thanks to The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust for supporting the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts' Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival.

Additional support is provided by The Honorable Stuart Bernstein and Wilma E. Bernstein; the Dr. Gerald and Paula McNichols Foundation; and Beatrice and Anthony Welters and the AnBryce Foundation.

Support for JKFC: A Centennial Celebration of John F. Kennedy is provided by Ambassador Elizabeth Bagley, Chevron, the Blanche and Irving Laurie Foundation, and Target.

Kennedy Center education and related artistic programming is made possible through the generosity of the National Committee for the Performing Arts and the President's Advisory Committee on the Arts.

This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF). The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for a response by a regional KCACTF representative, and selected students and faculty are invited to participate in KCACTF programs involving scholarships, internships, grants and awards for actors, directors, dramaturgs, playwrights, designers, stage managers and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for invitation to the KCACTF regional festival and may also be considered for national awards recognizing outstanding achievement in production, design, direction and performance.

Last year more than 1,300 productions were entered in the KCACTF involving more than 200,000 students nationwide. By entering this production, our theater department is sharing in the KCACTF goals to recognize, reward, and celebrate the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.

Theatre UAB Faculty and Administrative Staff

Kelly Dean Allison, Professor.....	Chair
Valerie Accetta, Assistant Professor.....	Head of Musical Theatre Performance
Jack Cannon, Assistant Professor.....	Acting/Intro to Theatre
Ward Haarbauer	Professor Emeritus
Cheryl Hall, Assistant Professor.....	Intro to Theatre
Karma Ibsen.....	Professor Emerita
Marlene Johnson, Professor.....	Acting/Voice
Karla Koskinen, Professor.....	Acting/Directing
Roy Lightner, Associate Professor.....	Musical Theatre Performance/Dance
Dennis McLernon, Professor.....	Head of Performance
Amy Page, Assistant Professor.....	Costume Director
Kimberly Schnormeier, Associate Professor.....	Costume Design
Lee Shackelford, Associate Professor.....	Playwriting
Cliff Simon, Professor.....	Scene Design
Carolyn Violi.....	Musical Director/Accompanist
Vessela Warner, Associate Professor.....	Theatre History
Will York.....	Professor Emeritus
Ed Zuckerman, Associate Professor.....	Production Manager/Technical Director

Adjunct Faculty

Carlton Alexandra	Intro to Dance
Tiffany Heimbach	Tap I
June Mack.....	Intermediate Narrative Filmmaking
Mary Margaret Scalici	Ballet II
Mel Christian.....	Program Manager/Tour Coordinator
Nora Whitten.....	Administrative Associate

Theatre UAB is a proud member of...



The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee

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

Stage Manager

Rita Pearson-Daley

Scenic Design

Elana Brooks

Costume Design

Kimberly Schnormeier

Lighting Design

Ed Zuckerman

Sound Design/Engineer

Jay Tumminello

Properties Design

Rita Pearson-Daley

Text Coach

Marlene Johnson

Assistant Directors

Lilly Bateh & Jenn Palmieri

Musical Direction
Carolyn Violi

Director/Choreographer
Roy Lightner

Opening Night: Wednesday, October 17, 2018, 7:30 p.m.

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee contains adult language and situations.

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

CAST

Rona Lisa Peretti.....	Alyse Rosenblatt
Logainne SchwartzandGrubenierre.....	Elizabeth Forman
Olive Ostrovsky.....	Peyton Overstreet
Marcy Park.....	Briana Hernandez
Mitch Mahoney.....	Royzell D. Walker
Chip Tolentino.....	Nick Linhardt
William Barfee.....	Brian Wittenberg
Leaf Coneybear.....	Diego Villanueva
Douglas Panch.....	Joey Parker

Understudies:

For Marcy & Logainne.....	Jenn Palmieri
For Rona & Olive.....	Lilly Bateh
For Barfee, Chip & Panch.....	Joe Condon
For Leaf & Mitch.....	Gary Fuqua

THE ORCHESTRA

Conductor - Carolyn Violi

Carolyn Violi.....	Keyboard I
Richard Byrd.....	Keyboard II
Eboni Booker.....	Keyboard III
Lori Ardovino.....	Reeds
Patty Pilon.....	Cello
Drums.....	Joe Cooley

The play will be performed without an intermission.

Originally produced on Broadway by
David Stone, James L. Nederlander, Barbara Whitman, Patrick Catullo,
Barrington Stage Company, Second Stage Theatre

Based upon C-R-E-P-U-S-C-U-L-E, an original play by The Farm.

The Barrington Stage Company workshop of The 25th Annual
Putnam County Spelling Bee was originally co-directed
by Michael Baravika and Rebecca Feldman.

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee Songs

There will be some S-O-N-G-S.

Follow @musicaltheatreuab on Instagram to check out the photos taken onstage tonight!

Special Thanks

For YOU! And coming to the show tonight!

To those who do not take photos during the performance.

For unwrapping your candy prior to the show beginning.

For those who showered today.

Additional thanks to those with good hygiene.

To you for choosing to Theatre & Chill.

Finally, to *Hooked On Phonics!*

Very Special Thanks

John Eldridge & Richard Byrd (Keyboard Programming)

UAB Department of Chemistry

The Alabama Ballet

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.

423 West 55th Street, Second Floor, New York, NY 10019

Phone: 212-541-4684 Fax: 212-397-4684

www.MTIShows.com

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Theatre UAB Production Staff

Production Manager/Technical Director.....Ed Zuckerman
Costume Studio Supervisor.....Sharon Morgan
Stage Electrics Director.....Sean Doyle
Properties Master.....J. Marc Quattlebaum
Assistant Technical Director.....David Page
Scenic Studio Assistants.....Ashley Cobb, Dustin Green, Mel McComber,
Brian Wittenberg, Lew Williams
Electrics Assistants.....Katherine Montgomery, Rita Pearson-Daley, Spencer Webb
Costume Assistants.....Olivia Bowles, Addie Counts, Marissa Hebson, Sam Mathews
Properties Assistants.....Allie Nichols, Rita Pearson-Daley, Anna Whitlock
Media Relations.....Shannon Thomason
Videography.....Michael Wolter
ASC Manager of Patron Services.....Jeremie Kirkwood
ASC House Management.....Noah Andrews, Joel Corley
ASC Associate House Managers.....John Bryan, Terrie Entrup, Mary Washburn

Staff for this Production

Assistant Stage Managers.....Addie Counts, Briana Scott
Wardrobe Head.....Anna Shows
Scenic Charge.....Elana Brooks
Paint Charge.....Brian Wittenberg
Scenery/Lighting Construction/Electrics.....Lucas Bradley, Charlotte Clark,
Emily Donahue, Bailey Dumlao, Matias Dupree, Anna Frey,
Dustin Green, Terencea Holtzclaw, Jackson Perry, Travis Roddy,
Jonathan Roth, Briana Scott, Katie Strickland, Caiden Vincent,
Amanda Waller, Alyssa Wilke, Evan Wilson
Scenic Painters.....Elana Brooks, Hannah Butler, Victoria Cruz, Bailey Dumlao
Dustin Green, Mel McComber, Cliff Simon, Katie Strickland,
Evan Wilson, Brian Wittenberg, Deundra Walker, Deztanee Woods
Scenery/Properties Running Crew..... Tess Lenzen, Ryan Morrell
Costume/Craft Construction.....Camilla Almond, Lilly Bateh, Rachel Biggs,
Victoria Cruz, Tanier Dutton, Nia Evans, Robert Flannery, Marissa Hilton,
Lauren McInnis, Anna Medders, Morgan Newton, Allie Nichols,
Jenn Palmieri, Zoe Gage, Ashlynn Jones, Randi Mitchell, Sunday Owens,
Kierra Price, Gracie Roth, Anna Shows, Katie Strickland, Lew Williams
Dressers.....Brooke Payne, Anna Shows
Properties ConstructionDevin Franklin, Deundra Walker
Light Board Operator.....Courtney Emmons
Follow Spot Operators.....Madi Carr, Megan Smith
Sound Deck.....Nina Ballon, Rachel Kate McGee
Cover/Poster Design.....Cliff Simon

Spelling Bee Production Biographies

Lilly Bateh (Understudy Rona & Olive/Assistant Director)

Home Town: Jacksonville, FL

Education: The Bolles School

Recent Production Work: Acting: *2018-19 Broadway Cabaret Touring Company, Hairspray, Working, 2017-18 Cabaret Touring Company, A Little Night Music* (UAB,) *Grease, George Washington Slept Here* (The Bolles School), *The Wizard of Oz* (FSCJ), *Fiddler on the Roof* (Providence School of Jacksonville.)

Elana Brooks (Scenic Design/Scenic Charge)

Home Town: Enterprise, AL

Education: Enterprise High School

Recent Production Work: Assistant Scenic Design: *Hairspray* (UAB.) Assistant Wig/

Makeup Design: *Hairspray* (UAB.) Scenic Painter: *You Can't take it With You, Vinegar Tom* (UAB.)

Joe Condon (Understudy Barfee, Chip & Panch)

Home Town: St. Petersburg, FL

Education: Pinellas County Center for the Arts

Recent Production Work: *Evita, Hunchback Of Norte Dame, In the Heights, One Flew Over the Cuckoos Nest* (PCCA,) *Memphis* (Saint Petersburg City Theater.)

Addie Counts (Assistant Stage Manager)

Home Town: Chattanooga, TN

Education: Center for Creative Arts

Recent Production Work: Acting: *2018-19 Tom Sawyer Touring Company, Hairspray, 2017-18 Shakespeare Touring Company, The Real Inspector Hound, Spring Awakening, 2016-17 Kids on the Block Touring Company* (UAB.) *Hello, Dolly!, Shrek, All Shook Up* (CCA,) *9 to 5, Xanadu* (Chattanooga Theatre Centre.)

Stage Management: *Savage (Workshop/Reading,) Working, 2017 Festival of Ten Minute Plays* (UAB.) Assistant Stage Management: *Vinegar Tom* (UAB.) Light Board Operator: *You Can't Take It With You* (UAB.)

Elizabeth Forman (Logainne SchwartzandGrubenierre)

Home Town: St. Petersburg, FL

Education: Pinellas County Center for the Arts

Recent Production Work: Acting: *Hairspray, 2018-19 Diva Touring Company, A Midsummer Night's Dream, A Little Night Music, Vinegar Tom* (UAB,) *In The Heights, One Man, Two Guvnors, Les Misérables* (PCCA.)

Gary Fuqua (Understudy Leaf & Mitch)

Home Town: Florence, AL

Education: Florence High School

Recent Production Work: Acting: *Oklahoma!* (Summerstock At The Ritz), *The Addams Family* (Falcon Theatre.) Lighting: *A Murder Is Announced* (Shoals Theatre.) Film: *Sally..., Therapeutic* (Gary Fuqua.)

Briana Hernandez (Marcy Park)

Home Town: El Paso, TX

Education: North Gwinnett High School

Recent Production Work: Acting: *Jekyll & Hyde* (Red Phoenix Theatre Company.)

Marlene Johnson (Text Coach)

Home Town: Allentown, PA

Education: MFA, Virginia Commonwealth University

Recent Production Work: Voice & Text Coach: *Hairspray, Silent Sky, Working, A Midsummer Night's Dream* (UAB.) Vocal Coach: *The Real Inspector Hound, You Can't Take It With You, Spring Awakening, Buried Child, Stupid F***ing Bird, Dancing at Lughnasa, Avenue Q, In The Next Room (or, The Vibrator Play,) Women of War, Urinetown: The Musical, Twelfth Night, Big Love, Charley's Aunt, Proof, Macbeth* (UAB.) Vocal Director: *Vinegar Tom, On The Verge* (UAB,) *Around The World in 80 Days, God of Carnage* (Alabama Shakespeare Festival.)

Spelling Bee Production Biographies

Roy Lightner (Director/Choreographer)

Home Town: Leawood, KS

Education: MFA - Goddard College; BM - Oklahoma City University.

Recent Production Work: Director/Choreographer: *Hairspray*, *Working (UAB)*, *Newsies* (New London Barn,) *2018 Festival Producer* (MTWichita,) *Legally Blonde* (Lyric Opera Arizona - ASU,) *Lucky to Be Me* (NYC Opera, asst. to Peggy Hickey,) *Hairspray*, *Miss Saigon* (Sondheim Center,) *Bring It On* (Music Theatre of Kansas City,) *Hound of the Baskervilles* (Cape Playhouse,) *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (MTKC,) *Best of Broadway Under the Stars*, *Wine Country Speakeasy*, *This Magic Moment*, *Oh, What A Night!* (Transcendence Theatre Company,) *Dogfight*, *A Chorus Line*, *H2\$, Legally Blonde* (Ithaca College,) *Concert Dance Choreography: Oklahoma City Dance Project*, *NYC's Community Dance Project*, *NYC Jazz Enterprise*, plus 2 full length original ballets: *In Your Eyes* and *Under the Covers*. Has performed in over 40 professional productions nationally and internationally.

Nick Linhardt (Chip Tolentino)

Home Town: Andover, KS

Education: Andover High School

Recent Production Work: Acting: *Aida* (Andover HS), *Newsies* (Music Theatre Wichita), *Beauty and the Beast* (Music Theatre Wichita), *Xanadu* (Andover HS.)

Peyton Overstreet (Olive Ostrovsky)

Home Town: Tallahassee, FL

Education: Lawton Chiles High School

Recent Production Work: Acting: *2018-19 Broadway Cabaret Touring Company*, *Hairspray*, *A Little Night Music*, *Vinegar Tom* (UAB,) *How to Succeed In Business Without Really Trying*, *Into the Woods*, *Joni and the Wail* (Young Actors Theatre.)

Jenn Palmieri (Understudy Marcy & Logainne/Assistant Director)

Home Town: Alpharetta, GA

Education: Blessed Trinity High School

Recent Production Work: Acting: *2018-19 Theatre UAB Puppeteers Touring Company*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Real Inspector Hound*, *Vinegar Tom* (UAB.) *9 to 5*, *12 Angry Men*, *Reckless*, *Pippin*, *Noises Off*, *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, *Waiting for Lefty* (Blessed Trinity Theatrical Alliance.) *Sondheim on Sondheim* (Act3 Productions.)

Joey Parker (Douglas Panch)

Home Town: Kansas City, MO

Education: Grandview Senior High School

Recent Production Work: *2018-19 Tom Sawyer Touring Company*, *Hairspray*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *2017-18 Shakespeare Touring Company*, *A Little Night Music*, *You Can't Take It With You*, *2016-17 Kids on the Block Touring Company*, *Spring Awakening* (UAB), *HONK!*, *John Lennon and Me*, *Beauty and the Beast* (GHS Theatre.)

Rita Pearson-Daley (Stage Manager/Properties Design)

Home Town: Montgomery, AL

Education: BTW Magnet High School

Recent Production Work: Props Artisan: New Harmony Theatre. Stage Management: *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Real Inspector Hound* (UAB.) Assistant Stage Management & Assistant Properties Design: *You Can't Take It With You* (UAB.) Assistant Scenic Design: *Hairspray* (UAB.) Sound Board Operator: *13th Annual Festival of Ten Minute Plays* (UAB.) Properties Crew: *Dancing at Lughnasa* (UAB.) Assistant to Scenic Designer: *Spring Awakening* (UAB.) Set Designer: *Crimes of the Heart* (Cloverdale Playhouse.)

Alyse Rosenblatt (Rona Lisa Peretti)

Home Town: Plano, TX

Education: The Shelton School

Recent Production Work: Acting: *Fiddler on the Roof* (Red Mountain Theatre Company,) *2018-19 Diva Touring Company*, *Hairspray*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *A Little Night Music*, *2016-2017 Cabaret Tour* (UAB,) *Hello, Dolly!*, *Once Upon a Mattress* (The Shelton School), *Footloose* (OCU.)

Spelling Bee Production Biographies

Kimberly Schnormeier (Costume Design)

Home Town: Gambier, OH

Education: MFA in Scenography from Northwestern University. BFA in Graphic Design, Miami University

Recent Production Work: Costume Design: *Silent Sky*, *Working*, *A Little Night Music*, *Vinegar Tom*, *Buried Child*, *Dancing at Lughnasa*, *In The Next Room (or, The Vibrator Play)*, *Clybourne Park*, *Urinetown: The Musical*, *Big Love*, *Charley's Aunt*, *Don't Trifle With Love*, *Caucasian Chalk Circle (UAB.)* *Beauty and the Beast*, *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow (Birmingham Children's Theatre.)*

Briana Scott (Assistant Stage Manager)

Home Town: Center Point, AL

Education: Shades Valley High School (JCIB)

Recent Production Work: Directing: *Senior One Acts (JCATD)* Acting: *Heathers 101 (JCATD)*

Diego Villanueva (Leaf Coneybear)

Home Town: Katy, TX

Education: Cinco Ranch High School

Recent Production Work: Acting: *2018-19 Theatre UAB Puppeteers Touring Company*, *Hairspray*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream (UAB.)* *Footloose (HITS Theatre.)* *Working (Theatre Under the Stars.)* *Rock of Ages*, *Honk! (Cinco Ranch Theatre Company)*

Carolyn Violi (Musical Direction/Conductor/Keyboard I)

Home Town: Indiana, PA

Education: BS in Music Education, Indiana University of PA

Recent Production Work: Conductor/Musical Director: *Disney's Beauty and the Beast National Tour US and Canada (NETworks Presentations./Disney Theatricals.)*

Conductor: *Goodbye Girl*, *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers (Mainstage Productions.)*

Musical Director: *Hairspray*, *Working*, *A Little Night Music*, *Vinegar Tom*, *Spring Awakening*, *Avenue Q (UAB.)* *Peter and the Starcatcher (City Equity Theatre.)* *West Side Story*, *Menken's Christmas Carol (Alabama Shakespeare Festival.)* *Gypsy (Red Mountain Theatre Company.)* Producer: *Chasing Rainbows: The Road to Oz*, *Hello Dolly (starring Bette Midler.)* *Tootsie (Santino Fontana.)* *A Taste of Things To Come (Broadway in Chicago.)*

Royzell D. Walker (Mitch Mahoney)

Home Town: Cincinnati, OH

Education: Colerain High School

Recent Production Work: Singer/Dancer: *Lights, Camera, Action! (Cedar Point.)*

Acting: *2018-19 Broadway Cabaret Touring Company*, *Hairspray*, *Working*, *A Little Night Music*, *Spring Awakening (UAB.)* *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *Bat Boy The Musical*, *More Fun Than Bowling*, *Over the Horizon (SSU.)*

Brian Wittenberg (William Barfee)

Home Town: Johns Creek, GA

Education: Chattahoochee High School

Recent Production Work: Acting: *Mama Mia!*, *Aladdin (Flat Rock Playhouse.)* *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *The Jungle Book (Mill Mountain Theatre.)* *2018-19 Broadway Cabaret Touring Company*, *Hairspray*, *Working*, *2017-18 Cabaret Touring Company*, *A Little Night Music*, *2016-17 Kids on the Block Touring Company*, *Spring Awakening*, *Dancing at Lughnasa (UAB.)*

Ed Zuckerman (Lighting Design)

Home Town: Philadelphia, PA

Education: MFA, Wayne State University

Recent Production Work: Lighting Design: *Hairspray*, *Clybourne Park*, *Twelfth Night*; or, *What You Will*, *Proof*, *Rhinoceros*, *The Praying Mantis*, *The Piano Lesson*, *The It Girl*, *The Seagull (UAB.)* Scenic Design: *The Real Inspector Hound*, *Dancing At Lughnasa*, *The Next Room (or, The Vibrator Play.)* *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *The Playboy of the Western World (UAB.)*

The Creators of *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*

Rebecca Feldman is the conceiver of The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee for which she won a Lucille Lortel Award, Drama Desk and Tony Nomination for Best Musical. She directed its world premiere at Barrington Stage Company in the summer of 2004. Rebecca conceived, directed, and performed in C-R-E-P-U-S-C-U-L-E, the play upon which Spelling Bee is based, with her company The Farm.

Jay Reiss is playwright. He is a Julliard graduate and provided additional material to the book for THE 25TH ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE. Reiss appeared in the original workshops, Off-Broadway cast, and Broadway cast of the musical as Vice Principal Douglas Panch.

William Finn is the writer and composer of Falsettos, for which he received two Tony Awards, Best Book of a Musical (with James Lapine) and Best Original Score. He has also written and composed In Trousers, March of the Falsettos and Falsettoland (Outer Critics Circle Award for Best Musical, two Los Angeles Drama Critic's Awards, two Drama Desk Awards, the Lucille Lortel Award, and Guggenheim Fellowship in Musical Composition). Mr. Finn wrote the lyrics to Graciela Daniele's Tango Apasionado (music by the great Astor Piazzolla) and, with Michael Starobin, the music to Lapine's version of The Winter's Tale. His musical, Romance in Hard Times, was presented at the Public Theater. Recently, he wrote Painting You for Love's Fire, a piece commissioned and performed by the Acting Company, based on Shakespeare's sonnets. For television, Mr. Finn provided the music and lyrics for the Ace Award-winning HBO cartoon "Ira Sleeps Over," "Tom Thumb and Thumbelina," "Pokey Little Puppy's First Christmas," and, with Ellen Fitzhugh, two "Brave little Toaster" cartoons. Mr. Finn has written for Vogue, Harper's Bazaar, and The New Yorker. A graduate of Williams College where he was awarded the Hutchinson Fellowship for Musical Composition, Finn now teaches a weekly master class at the NYU Tisch Graduate Program in Musical Theatre Writing. His most recent projects include Elegies, A Song Cycle (Lincoln Center) and The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee which ran on Broadway and has been produced nationally and internationally, as well.

Rachel Sheinkin's credits include Broadway: The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee (Tony, Drama Desk awards); Off Broadway: Striking 12 (Lucille Lortel nomination), Off-Off: Serenade. Regional: Guthrie, Little House on the Prairie; Center Theater Group, Sleeping Beauty Wakes (Los Angeles Ovation Award); London: Blood Drive. Residencies, fellowships, commissions include: Eugene O'Neill National Theater Center, Baryshnikov Dance Foundation, MacDowell Colony, Manhattan Theatre Club, Deaf West, McCarter Theatre, Playwrights Horizons. Rachel is a volunteer mentor for TDF's Open Doors program, a visiting instructor at Yale School of Drama, and adjunct faculty member of NYU's Graduate Musical Theater Writing Program.

The Farm was founded in 2000 by Rebecca Feldman, Artistic Director. It is a collective of writers and performers, including Jay Reiss, Dan Fogler, and Sarah Saltzberg. The Farm's interest is in the role of improvisation in creating new work for the theatre. The Farm initially designates a two-week intensive period in which to discover, develop, and rehearse a play from the impulses borne mainly out of the pressure of a deadline. Previous projects include "Super" (at Atlantic Theatre Studios), "Why I Hate Florida" (workshop at White Wave in DUMBO) and "C-R-E-P-U-S-C-U-L-E" (at the Present Company Theatorium in October 2002), on which "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" is based. The character and original dialogue of "Beth Marguiles," "Vice President Douglas Panch," "Mr. Barfee," and "Logan Schwarzengrubenierre" were created by Rebecca Feldman, Jay Reiss, Dan Fogler, and Sarah Saltzberg, respectively.

Theatre UAB 2018-2019 Season

THE 25TH ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE

Music & Lyrics by William Finn. Book by Rachel Sheinkin. Conceived by
Rebecca Feldman. Additional Material by Jay Reiss

Directed by Roy Lightner

Music Direction by Carolyn Violi

October 17-20 at 7:30pm

October 21 at 2:00pm

The Sirote Theatre

ANGELS IN AMERICA, PART I: MILLENNIUM APPROACHES

By Tony Kushner

Directed by Jack Cannon & Hayley Procacci

November 7-10, 14-16 at 7:30pm

November 17 at 2:00pm

The Odess Theatre

HAY FEVER

by Noel Coward

Directed by Dennis McLernon

February 21-24 at 7:30pm

February 25 at 2:00pm

The Sirote Theatre

FESTIVAL OF TEN MINUTE PLAYS

Produced by Lee Shackleford

March 4-8 at 7:30pm

The Odess Theatre

SAVAGE

An Original Musical Conceived & Developed by Karla Koskinen

Book and Lyrics by Tommy Newman

Music by Jaime Lozano and Tommy Newman

Translations provided by Dr. Kazadi Wa Mukuna

Directed by Valerie Accetta & Karla Koskinen

Musical Direction by Carolyn Violi

Choreography by Roy Lightner

April 10-13 at 7:30pm

April 14 at 2:00pm

The Sirote Theatre

ASC Box Office: 975-ARTS

Show information at <http://www.uab.edu/cas/theatre/productions>