

PURDUE UNIVERSITY
FORT WAYNE

Department of Theatre

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



Directed by
BEV REDMAN

Musical Direction by
HOLLY KNOTT

NOVEMBER 2025
WILLIAMS THEATRE

PFW.EDU/THEATRE

PFW.EDU/TICKETS

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PURDUE UNIVERSITY FORT WAYNE
DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE

presents

THE 25TH ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE

Music and Lyrics By:

WILLIAM FINN

Book By:

RACHEL SHEINKIN

**Conceived By:
REBECCA FELDMAN**

**Additional Materials By:
JAY REISS**

Director
BEV REDMAN

Music Director
HOLLY KNOTT

Choreographer
EMMA HOUSER

Stage Manager
LINDSEY FRANKLIN

Scenic Designer
ROBERT SHOQUIST

Costume Designer
AUSTIN M. RAUSCH

Lighting Designer
COREY E. LEE

Technical Director &
Production Coordinator
ROBERT SHOQUIST

Costume Shop Supervisor
JEANNE PENDLETON

Lighting Shop Supervisor
COREY E. LEE

*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 Barakiva and
Rebecca Feldman.*

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

CAST

(in alphabetical order)

William Barfee/Leaf's Dad.....	CHASE BILLS
Olive Ostrovsky	ABIGAIL COATES
Chip Tolentino/Jesus.....	ISAAC DERBYSHIRE
Marcy Park	TAILOR GRANT
Rona Lisa Peretti/Olive's Mom	GRACE LUDLOW
Vice Principal Panch.....	AYDEN MURPHY
Leaf Coneybear/Carl Grubenierre	NIKOLAS PRATHAFTAKIS
Mitch Mahoney/Dan Schwartz/Olive's Dad	TRISTAN ROBINSON
Logainne Schwartzandgrubenierre/Leaf's Mom	ISABELLE SHENFELD

The play takes place in Putnam County, at the annual spelling bee.

There will be one 15 minute intermission.

This play was selected for its artistic and academic value. The selection and performance of the play do not constitute an endorsement by Purdue University Fort Wayne or Purdue University of the viewpoints conveyed by the play.

Law prohibits the photographing or sound recording of any performance or the possession of any device for such photographing or sound recording inside this theatre without the written permission of the management. Violators may be punished by ejection, and violations may render the offender liable for monetary damages.

Please turn off all cell phones.

As a courtesy to the actors we ask that you remain in your seat until the curtain call is finished.

MUSICAL NUMBERS

Act I

<i>The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee</i>	Chip, Rona, Coneybear, Logainne, Marcy, Olive, Barfee
<i>The Rules</i>	Panch, Logainne, Marcy, Olive, Coneybear, Chip, Barfee, Mitch
<i>My Friend the Dictionary</i>	Olive, Chip, Coneybear, Logainne, Rona, Marcy, Barfee, Mitch
<i>Pandemonium</i>	Chip, Olive, Logainne, Coneybear, Marcy, Barfee, Mitch
<i>I'm Not that Smart</i>	Coneybear
<i>Magic Foot</i>	Barfee, Rona, Chip, Olive, Marcy, Coneybear, Mitch, Logainne
<i>Magic Foot (Reprise)</i>	Barfee, Rona, Chip, Mitch, Marcy, Coneybear, Olive, Logainne
<i>Pandemonium (Reprise)</i>	Panch, Rona, Logainne, Marcy, Olive, Coneybear, Mitch, Barfee
<i>Chip Goodbye</i>	Olive, Barfee, Marcy, Coneybear, Logainne, Chip
<i>Rona Moment #2</i>	Rona
<i>Prayer of the Comfort Counselor</i>	Mitch, Olive, Barfee, Marcy, Coneybear, Logainne, Rona

15-Minute Intermission

Act II

<i>Chip's Lament</i>	Chip
<i>Woe Is Me</i>	Carl's Dad, Logainne, Dan's Dad, Olive, Marcy, Barfee, Chip
<i>Spelling Montage</i>	Panch
<i>I'm Not that Smart (Reprise)</i>	Coneybear
<i>I Speak Six Languages</i>	Marcy, Rona, Olive, Logainne
<i>Jesus</i>	Marcy, Rona, Olive, Logainne, Panch, Jesus, Barfee
<i>The I Love You Song</i>	Olive's Mom, Olive, Olive's Dad
<i>Woe Is Me (Reprise)</i>	Logainne, Mitch
<i>Rona Moment #3</i>	Rona
<i>Second (Part 1)</i>	Olive, Barfee, Chip, Mitch, Rona, Coneybear, Marcy, Logainne
<i>Weltanschauung</i>	Chip, Mitch, Rona, Coneybear, Marcy, Logainne
<i>Olive & Barfee Pas de Deux</i>	Rona, Chip, Marcy, Mitch, Logainne, Coneybear
<i>Second (Part 2)</i>	Olive, Barfee, Chip, Rona, Coneybear, Marcy, Logainne
<i>The Champion</i>	Rona, Chip, Mitch, Marcy, Coneybear, Logainne
<i>Finale</i>	All



WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

CHASE BILLS (William Barfee/Leaf's Dad) is a junior pursuing a B.A. in Theatre with a concentration in directing. Bills' stage credits include Dog in *Elephant & Piggie's: "We Are in a Play!"*, the Boatswain in *The Tempest*, Old Man Strong in *Urinetown*; Alf in *Peter and the Starcatcher*; and Ernie Mac in *Puffs!*. He was recently the stage manager for *TAPE*.

ABIGAIL COATES (Olive Ostrovsky) is a senior psychology major and a music minor at PFW. She was last seen as Rosie in the PFW production of *Cabaret*, in which she also served as a dance captain. More of her recent stage credits include Abigail in *Hot 'n' Cole*, Little Becky Two Shoes in *Urinetown*, Beth in *Little Women: the Musical*, and as Captain Slank in *Peter and the Starcatcher*.

ISAAC DERBYSHIRE (Chip Tolentino/Jesus) is a junior seeking a B.F.A. in Musical Theatre. His stage credits at PFW include Cliff Bradshaw in *Cabaret*, Nathan Wolfe, A Scientist in *The Catastrophist*, Isaac in *Hot 'n' Cole*, Robby, the Stockfish in *Urinetown*, and Mr. Martin in *The Bald Soprano*. During his tenure at Prairie Heights HS, he was cast in numerous performances. At the Indiana Thespian State Conference, he was awarded twice for Best in Show Duet Acting.

TAILOR GRANT (Marcy Park) is a sophomore seeking a B.F.A. in Musical Theatre. Recently seen on stage as Amy in *TAPE*, a Squirrelle in *Elephant & Piggie's: "We Are in a Play!"*, Nell Shaw in *John Proctor is the Villain*, and Texas in *Cabaret*. Formerly a student at Norwell HS, she regularly was cast in theatrical productions and participated in marching band, show choir, and the National Honor Society.

GRACE LUDLOW (Rona Lisa Peretti/Olive's Mom) is a senior at PFW pursuing a B.A. in Theatre with a concentration in directing. She recently directed the production of *TAPE* by Stephen Belber at PFW's studio theatre. Grace has been seen on stage as Bailey Gallagher in *John Proctor is the Villain*, Fräulein "Fritzie" Kost in *Cabaret*, Mrs. Millennium in *Urinetown*, and Mrs. Martin in *The Bald Soprano*. Ludlow was also the stage manager for *The Tempest* and *Elephant & Piggie's: "We Are in a Play!"*, and was the assistant lighting designer for *The Catastrophist*.

AYDEN MURPHY (Vice Principal Panch) is a junior pursuing a B.F.A. in Musical Theatre. He performed as Gerald in *Elephant & Piggie's: "We Are in a Play!"*, Bobby in *Cabaret*, Ayden in *Hot 'n' Cole* and Mr. McQueen in *Urinetown*. Hailing from Northrop HS, he performed in many roles as well as participated in show choir, which earned him multiple Outstanding Performer awards. Murphy also performed the role of Mr. Pinky in *Hairspray* for the Indiana Music Theater Foundation.

NIKOLAS PRATHAFTAKIS (Leaf Coneybear/Carl Grubenierre) is a senior studying for a B.F.A. in Musical Theatre. His PFW stage credits include *Nikolas* in *Hot 'n' Cole*, and *Billy Boy Bill* in *Urinetown*. He comes to us from Rochester Community HS, where he performed several roles. He was a participant in the Indiana Ambassadors of Music European Music Tour in 2023. He was also named a gold medalist in the Solo and Ensemble Regional and State Competition in 2022.

TRISTAN ROBINSON (Mitch Mahoney/Dan Schwartz/Olive's Dad) is a senior BFA Musical Theater major. After a five-year break from PFW, he is glad to be back on the stage. Stage credits include *Antigone* and *Once Upon A Mattress* at PFW, and *The Little Mermaid* and *The Color Purple* at the Fort Wayne Civic Theatre. Robinson was awarded the Anthony Award from the Civic for Best Male Dancer in the 2023-2024 season.

ISABELLE SHENFELD (Logainne Schwartzandgrubenierre/Leaf's Mom) is a junior pursuing a B.F.A. in Musical Theatre. Previously seen on stage as Piggie in *Elephant & Piggie's: "We Are in a Play!"* and as a Class Student in *John Proctor is the Villain*. Hailing from Leo HS, her theatrical credits included many lead roles in musicals. She also performed at the Excelsior Youth Theatre and with the Indiana Musical Theatre Foundation.



WHO'S WHO IN THE PRODUCTION STAFF

EMMALYN BROCKHAUS (Assistant Stage Manager) Emmalyn Brockhaus is a sophomore pursuing a B.F.A. in Musical Theatre. Typically a performer, this is her second crew position at PFW, as she was previously on wardrobe crew for *John Proctor is the Villain*. Her recent stage credits include Tribe in Three Rivers Music Theatre's *Hair*, Squirrelle in Purdue Fort Wayne's *Elephant & Piggie's: "We Are in a Play!"*, and Cinderella in New Haven HS's *Into the Woods*.

LINDSEY FRANKLIN (Stage Manager) is pursuing a degree in Theatre and is in her junior year. She has been credited for stage managing the play *John Proctor is the Villain*, assistant stage managing *Urinetown, The Musical*, and *Cabaret*. Her previous stage credits include the Chorus in *Antigone Now* and Eulampia Petrovna and others in *Black Snow*. She looks forward to a professional career in stage management.

DR. MATTHEW GIALLONGO (Vocal Coach) has been praised for his "beautiful voice and singing with great depth of feeling." Equally at home on the operatic and concert stages, he has appeared with Opera Fort Collins, South Bend Lyric Opera, Indianapolis Opera, Actors Theatre of Indiana, and the Portsmouth Symphony Orchestra. Favorite roles include Papageno (*Die Zauberflöte*), Nardo (*La finta giardiniera*), Belcore (*L'elisir d'amore*), Silvio (*I pagliacci*), and Picasso in Tom Cipullo's *After Life*.

As a teacher and mentor, Dr. Giallongo has guided students to success in competitions, graduate schools, and summer programs across the country. His students have earned admission to institutions such as the University of Michigan, the Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, and Indiana University, as well as young artist and training programs that prepare the next generation of professional singers.

Dr. Giallongo's scholarly work focuses on comparative vocal pedagogy, with an emphasis on French methods at the turn of the 20th century. He recently completed the first English translation of Jules Lefort's *Méthode de chant* and published an article in *Inter Nos*, the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) *Inter Nos* titled "Notes in Conflict: The Voice Teacher as Music Director." He is also a frequent presenter at conferences, with upcoming work including a presentation at the National NATS Conference in San Antonio.

He currently serves as Director of Vocal Studies at Purdue University Fort Wayne and has previously held faculty appointments at Eastern New Mexico University, Louisiana Tech University, Grambling State University, and Colorado State University-Pueblo.

Dr. Giallongo holds degrees from Gettysburg College (B.M. in Vocal Performance), Temple University (M.M. in Vocal Performance), and Colorado State University (M.M. in Vocal Pedagogy). He pursued postgraduate study

at the University of North Texas before earning his D.M.A. at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, where he studied with William McGraw.

EMMA HOUSER (Choreographer) is a senior pursuing a B.A. in Theatre. Stage credits include her performances in *The Love Talker*, *Elephant & Piggie's: "We Are in a Play!"*, *Hot 'n' Cole*, *The Tempest*, and *Urinetown*. Houser was dance captain for *Urinetown*, *Hot 'n' Cole*, and choreographed for *The Tempest*, and *Elephant & Piggie's: "We Are in a Play!"*. She has crewed for *Peter and the Starcatcher*, *Little Women*, and *The Catastrophist*. Houser studied dance for 13 years at Fort Wayne School of Dance.

HOLLY KNOTT (Music Director) has been the instrumental music director at Purdue Fort Wayne for more than twenty years, working on such shows as *Cabaret*, *Urinetown*, *Little Women: the Musical*, *Sondheim on Sondheim*, *The World According to Snoopy*, *On the 20th Century*, *How to Succeed...*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *Oliver!*, *Into the Woods*, and *Little Shop of Horrors*. She has served as music director for Fort Wayne Civic Theatre's productions of *I Love You*, *You're Perfect*, *Now Change*, *The Rocky Horror Show*, *White Christmas*, and *Waitress*. She has played piano and keyboard in local theaters for more than 30 years at venues including Arena Dinner Theatre, Grey Lite Theatre, and several area high schools. During the day, she accompanies the Leo High School choir.

COREY E. LEE (Lighting Designer) is a Clinical Assistant Professor of Theatre for the department and a graduate of Purdue Fort Wayne. Lee holds an M.F.A. in theatre design and production (University of Memphis), a B.A. in theatre, and a B.S. in secondary education with an emphasis in earth/space science (PFW). Before returning to Purdue University Fort Wayne, he served as the Visiting Assistant Teaching Professor in Lighting Design for the Department of Theatre and Dance at Ball State University, where his designs included *Gloria*, *Kinky Boots*, and *Groove: Interlocking Cultures Through Movement*. Lee was previously the lighting designer and technical director at the Fort Wayne Civic Theatre. His designs include *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*, *Jekyll and Hyde*, *Matilda*, *Rock of Ages*, *The Rocky Horror Show*, *Disney Newsies*, *Avenue Q*, and *Memphis*. Previous lighting design credits also include *Sondheim on Sondheim*, *The Glass Menagerie*, *Into the Woods*, *The Laramie Project* (PFW), *Peter and the Starcatcher* (Arena Dinner Theatre), *Holiday Pops* (Fort Wayne Philharmonic) and, *Seussical* (University of Saint Francis). Corey has also worked with Huntington University, Mikautadze Dance Theatre, Fort Wayne Youtheatre, Embassy Theatre, Manchester University, Fort Wayne Ballet, Fort Wayne Summer Music Theatre, Summit City Music Theatre, Three Rivers Music Theatre, Fort Wayne Dance Collective, and Northrop High School.



JEANNE PENDLETON (Costume Supervisor) graduated with distinction in 2002 from Humboldt State University in Arcata, California, with an M.F.A. in costume design. After receiving her degree, she moved to Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, to costume shows for Dollywood, as well as create garments for the namesake of the park, Dolly Parton. Prior to her arrival at Purdue Fort Wayne, Pendleton worked at the LORT D Clarence Brown Theatre in residence at the University of Tennessee–Knoxville. While there, she supervised the construction of costumes for many professional and regionally known designers. As an active freelance costume designer, she regularly collaborates with Mikautadze Dance Theatre as well as several other area theatre companies.

AUSTIN M. RAUSCH (Costume Designer) is an Assistant Professor of Theatre – Costume Design at Purdue University Fort Wayne. He holds an M.F.A. in Costume Design from The Pennsylvania State University and a B.A. from St. Edward's University in Austin, TX. Notable PFW design credits include *The Love Talker*, *Cabaret*, *The Tempest*, *Urinetown*, and *Little Women: The Musical*. Professionally, he has designed for Bigfork Summer Playhouse (*Something Rotten!*, *Footloose*, *The Addams Family*) and Purdue University West Lafayette (*Dead Man's Cell Phone*). Austin's pedagogical research explores fear and creativity, with presentations at national conferences and a publication in the *International Journal for Education and the Arts* titled "Fear and How It Inhibits Creativity." He also recently co-presented "Bridging Creativity and Connection: UDL-Driven Gamification for Powerful Analysis" at the 2025 CELT Fall Teaching Conference. In addition to design and pedagogy, Austin directed *Black Snow* at PFW in April 2023.

BEV REDMAN (Director) is the chair of the Purdue University Fort Wayne Department of Theatre and former chair of the Theatre and Dance Department at Ursinus College in the Philadelphia region. She also held faculty positions at Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, and the University of Texas at El Paso, where she served as director of graduate studies in theatre. Redman holds an M.A. in English from Georgetown University, an M.F.A. in theatre directing from the University of California, Irvine, and a Ph.D. in theatre history, dramatic literature and performance studies from the joint-campus program of the Universities of California, Irvine and San Diego campuses. She is also a certified teacher of Fitzmaurice Voicework®.

ROBERT SHOQUIST (Scenic Designer/Technical Director/Production Coordinator) holds an M.F.A. in stage design (Northwestern University) and a B.A. in directing and design (Boise State University). At Purdue University Fort Wayne, Shoquist teaches stagecraft, introduction to stage management and theatre production I and II. His scenic designs include *The Love Talker*, *Elephant & Piggie's: "We Are In A Play!"*, *Cabaret*, *Hot 'n' Cole: A Cole Porter Celebration!*, *The Bald Soprano*, *Little Women: the Musical*, *Peter and the Starcatcher*, *Sondheim on Sondheim*, *The Laramie Project*, *Grease*, *Ghetto*, *A Year with Frog and Toad*, *Once Upon a Mattress*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Pride & Prejudice*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Blithe Spirit*, and *Stupid F*%@ing Bird*. Regional and local credits include *Ghost Girl* (Workshop Theatre, NYC); *Marry Me A Little* (Harbor Lights Theater, NYC); *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *Nunsense*, *The Honky Tonk Angels* (West Virginia Public Theatre); *My Fair Lady*, *Anything Goes* and *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* (Allenberry Playhouse, Penn.); and *Shrek the Musical*, *Les Misérables*, *A Few Good Men*, *Cabaret*, and *Spamalot* (FW Civic Theatre).

BAILEY WEAVER (Assistant Stage Manager) is a junior at PFW pursuing a Theatre B.A. in acting. He was last seen on our stage as Jon in *TAPE*, Classroom Student in *John Proctor is the Villain*, and Likospastov in *Black Snow*. Previous stage credits come from his tenure at Elkhart HS. Bailey performed the roles of Sergei in *Matilda: The Musical*, Gilbert Blythe in *Anne of Green Gables*, and Odysseus in *The Iliad*, *The Odyssey*, and *All of Greek Mythology*.



AUTHOR BIOGRAPHIES

WILLIAM FINN (Music and Lyrics) Mr. Finn was 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 also wrote 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). 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. He wrote *Painting You for Love's Fire*, a piece commissioned and performed by the Acting Company, based on Shakespeare's sonnets. For television, 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. Finn wrote 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 taught a weekly master class at the NYU Tisch Graduate Program in Musical Theatre Writing. Other 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 (Book) 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. Sheinkin 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.

REBECCA FELDMAN (Conceiver) Rebecca Feldman is the conceiver of *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* for which she won a Lucille Lortel Award, Drama Desk Award, and Tony Nomination for Best Musical. She directed its world premiere at Barrington Stage Company in the summer of 2004.

Feldman is an associate producer on *Transparent*, *The Musical Finale* and served as a staff writer on the finale as well. She is currently developing an episodic drama with Big Kid Pictures, called *La Coyote*, which has been selected to the WeForShe's 2019 Writeher List.

She is an alumna of the Lincoln Center Director's Lab as well as the AFI Directing Workshop for Women where she won the Jean Firstenberg Award for Best Short.

Her short films include, *My First Time Driving* (AFI Jean Firstenberg Award, Best Short at Lake Arrowhead Film Fest, Best of Shorts at Outfest), *A/V Club* (TV Pilot, NYTVF), *Uber Alice* (Woodstock Film Fest), *Dead Cat* (Producer, Tribeca Film Fest) and *Irving* (Official Selection Rhode Island Film Fest, Official Selection USA Film Fest, Ft. Lauderdale Film Fest, Atlanta Jewish Film Fest).

JAY REISS (Additional Materials) is a 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.

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.



STAFF FOR THE 25TH ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE

Assistant Stage Managers	EMMALYN BROCKHAUS, BAILEY WEAVER
Vocal Coach	DR. MATTHEW GIALLONGO
Prop Coordinator.....	ROBERT SHOQUIST
Deck/Prop Crew	JOSEPH BRANDYBURG
Spotlight Operator	EMMA CRITES, SEREK PALMER
Lead Electrician	CARTER THURNALL
Light Board Operator	LOGAN ROMERO
Sound Engineer/Sound Board Operator	ANTHONY KRICK
Wardrobe Crew	ELIZABETH DERBYSHIRE, ASHLYN ST JOHN
Build/Paint Crew	CHASE BILLS, ISAAC DERBYSHIRE, DANNIE EYANSON, LINDSEY FRANKLIN, TAILOR GRANT, GABE HARBART, EMMA HOUSER, LEYNA MACKE, SEREK PALMER, ISABELLE SHENFELD, VERONICA VAUBEL, VANCE WIECHART
Electricians	EMMA HOUSER, SEREK PALMER, ATHENA ROBINETTE, CARTER THURNALL, BAILEY WEAVER
Stitchers.....	OLIVIA ALBERTSON, EMMALYN BROCKHAUS, KALAM DENNEY, ARTIE DORRIS, SYDNEY GREEN, MICHAELA MOONEY, SEREK PALMER, NIKOLAS PRATHAFTAKIS, ATHENA ROBINETTE, ASHLYN ST JOHN, VERONICA VAUBEL, ANGEL WILT
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Box Office Supervisor	LIANE AMBROSE

CREDITS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

John Lennox

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Chair of the Department of Theatre and Professor, Head of Directing	DR. BEVERLY REDMAN
Professor, Head of Acting, Movement, and Voice.....	JEFFREY CASAZZA
Assistant Professor of Costume Design	AUSTIN M. RAUSCH
Assistant Professor-Acting and Musical Theatre	DR. JULIE LYN BARBER
Clinical Assistant Professor, Costume Shop Supervisor ..	JEANNE PENDLETON
Clinical Assistant Professor, Technical Director/Production Coordinator.....	ROBERT SHOQUIST
Clinical Assistant Professor, Lighting Designer/Lighting Shop Supervisor	COREY E. LEE
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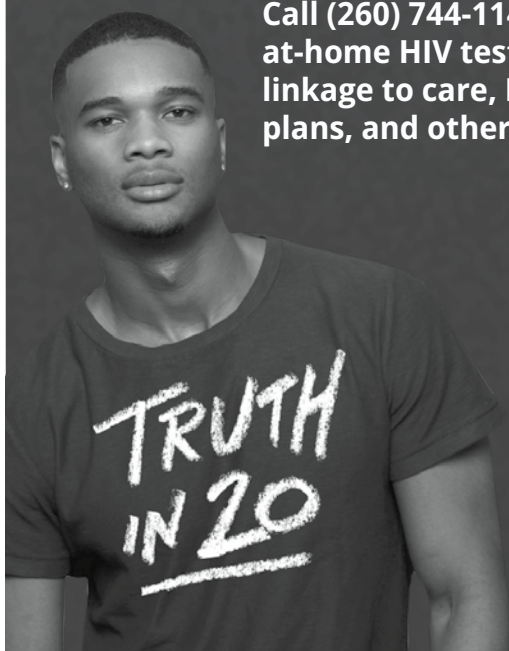
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Indiana Musical Theatre

Foundation at USF North

Campus Auditorium

Nov. 14, 15, 16, 20, 21, 22, 23

Gift of the Magi

First Presbyterian Theater

Nov. 16, 17, 18

A Christmas Story

Youtheatre at First

Presbyterian Theater

Dec. 5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 14

Scrooge in Rouge

Arena Dinner Theatre

Dec. 5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 14, 19, 20

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TICKETS

CAMPAIGN for the ARTS

Our students traveled the world this summer, which is something I hold dear to my heart, knowing the transformative power that travel, education, and performance can have on the lives of our students academically, creatively, and in their future careers. We sent a Theatre student to her dream internship in Comedy Studies at The Second City in Chicago, and another to the South Eastern Theatre Conference in Baltimore, where she made invaluable industry contacts and developed audition skills. We sent School of Music students to perform in international music festivals in Italy, Austria, and Chicago, and others to Canada, Detroit, and Berlin to conduct research, just to name a few, and two senior ceramics students enjoyed the adventure of a lifetime at an intensive pottery workshop in Jamaica.

Many of these students receive financial help for this travel from donations by generous people just like you, who believe, as I do, that expanding our students' horizons to include travel experiences is essential to the lifelong value of a strong liberal arts degree.

Please consider continuing your vital support of our students and faculty as they strive to provide the best possible creative and artistic opportunities for all our students. Only with the help of friends like you can we foster the success of our incredible students. Secure gifts can easily be made online at pfw.edu/give.

With sincere appreciation,

John O'Connell, Dean and Professor of Theatre



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2025–26 CHAMPIONS

Your support helps us serve our students and the community with distinction

Platinum

(\$25,000 and up)

Judith and Lowell Beineke
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Helen F. Pyles

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Fritz Thyssen Stiftung
Mark Swaim

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Michael and Emily Elko
Alan and Maureen Grinsfelder
Floyd and Betty Lou Lancia
Irene and Robert Walters

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(\$500 to \$1,999)

Associated Chamber Music Players
Glenn and Janellyn Borden
Debra Boyd
Joan Bryant
Dan Butler
James Campbell
Hans Christensen
Rebecca Coffman
James Edlund
Christina and Eric Egbert
Ben and Sharon Eisbart
James Gabbard
Linda Gaff
Karen Griggs
Lois Guess
Leonard Helfrich
Nancy and John Hrehov
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William Reitz
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Samuel Savage
Whitley County Community Foundation
John O'Connell and James Williams
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Kirk Tolliver
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Century Club**(\$100 to \$249)**

Linda Balthaser
L. Dianne Bezdon
Denise Buhr
Barbara Jane Bulmahn
Nathan Buuck
Barry and Donna Close
Eve Colchin
Deborah and Richard Conklin
Tamara and Matthew Cummins
Susan Domer
Julie Donnell
John Egger
Daniel and Sara Gebhart
Jeremy Grall
Kate Black-Haluska and Bob Haluska
Alan Hofer



Century Club (cont.)

Dee Hoffman

Julia and Larry Hook

Mary and Edward Hutter

Sadrudin and Janet Kamdar

Bruce Kingsbury

Emily and Ryan Keirns

Dorothy Kometani Kittaka

Connie Kracher

Kyle Kracher

Georgia Kuhns

Sean Patrick Maroney

James and Barbara Mast

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Carolyn Papier

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Robertson

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Steven and Janet Sarratore

Melissa Schenkel

Robert Scott

Mary and Robert Short

Jody Thomas

Erica Tobolski

Century Club (cont.)

Margaret Vegeler

Anastasia Volk-Maroney

Cathleen and William
Westrick**Friends****(\$50 to \$99)**

Margaret Ankenbruck

Cheryl and George Bauer

Mary Darr

Kylie Stultz Dessent

Suining Ding

Jacques Dupuis

Dennis John Fisher

Seth Green

Patricia Kennedy

Maestro Nance, LLC

David and Elizabeth
Mikautadze

Margaret Pachuta

Craig Reynolds

Teresa Riley

William Sauerland

Stephen and Jill Sosenheimer

Contributors**(\$1 to \$49)**

Janet Badia

Javier Bayouth

Heather Berkshire

Margaret Bertelsen

Joseph Bertelsen

Nancy Bremer

John Buteyn

Nicole Evans

Contributors (cont.)

Clarissa Fenker

Kerrie Fineran

Sara Freedman

Norman Greenberg

Jessica Hensley

Michele Hutcheck

Charles Lang

Jade Loeffler

Naomi Palicte

Molly Papier

Nicole Pitcher

Austin Rausch

Beverly Redman

Jane Reineke

Christopher Riley

Kent Sommers

Dolly Szymanski

Jacqueline Warfield

Jack Win

Jonathan Young

Kyla Zehr

Mission Statement

The mission of the Department of Theatre is to:

- educate its students within a broad liberal arts framework in the art, craft, and discipline of theatre through programs offering both classroom study and experiential production activities;
- serve the university community through its productions and general education offerings;
- provide culturally enriching activities to greater northeast Indiana.

Values

The Purdue University Fort Wayne Department of Theatre values:

- the pursuit of knowledge in an environment that encourages free and open inquiry, academic achievement, scholarship, and creativity;
- the cultivation of creativity;
- the highest academic, artistic, and ethical standards;
- artistic and scholarly collaboration;
- interdisciplinary inquiry and scholarship;
- the professional commitment, innovations, and accomplishments of faculty and staff;
- partnership with the community to enhance cultural, creative, and intellectual life in the region;
- diversity.

Vision

The Department of Theatre will be a regionally recognized theatre program, known for its regional impact, and:

- the excellence, value, and accessibility of its training programs;
- its exceptional academic curricula and facilities that foster unique teaching, learning, and student environments;
- the scholarly and creative accomplishments of its faculty, students, and staff;
- its contributions to the quality of artistic and creative life of the region.



2025-26 THEATRE SCHOLARSHIPS

Edward D. and Ione Auer Performance Scholarship

Olivia Albertson	Lindsey Franklin	Leyna Macke
Kyle Barnes	Tailor Grant	Ayden Murphy
Chase Bills	Maxwell Hawn	Serek Palmer
Emmalyn Brockhaus	Emma Houser	Nikolas Prathaftakis
Emma Crites	Izzy Kane	Athena Robinette
Elizabeth Derbyshire	Grace Ludlow	Isabelle Shenfeld
Artie Dorris	Callie McKinney	Bailey Weaver

Ione Auer Arts Scholarship Endowment

Cameron Crouch	Tristan Robinson
Maxwell Hawn	James Vance

Dan Butler Theatre Scholarship Endowment

Ayden Murphy

Anne Waterfield Fine Arts Scholarship

Cameron Crouch	Aiden Stubler
Nicholas Garcia	Veronica Vaubel

Stephen and Brenda Fishbaugh Endowment for Theatre Students

Michaela Mooney

Tolan Theatre Scholarship

Kalam Denney

Herbert and Lorraine Weier Theatre Endowed Scholarship

Chase Bills

O. Franklin Kenworthy Memorial Scholarship

Isaac Derbyshire

Rev. Dr. Richard and Sally Frazier Memorial Endowed Scholarship

Emma Gilbert

Gertrude Weigler Brateman Scholarship

Emma Gilbert

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE PRODUCTION

BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

REIMAGINED BY BARBARA GAINES AND RON WEST

DIRECTED BY JOHN O'CONNELL

THE TAMING OF THE SHREW THE MARCH FOR THE VOTE



poster by Ava Underwood

FEBRUARY 2026

**20, 21, 26, 27, 28
8PM**

**22
2PM**

**PURDUE UNIVERSITY
FORT WAYNE**

Department of Theatre

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