

## **Spring 2021 Mainstage Troupe: Spelling Bee Audition Packet**

### ***When are auditions?***

February 10th, 6:30-8pm

### ***What do I need to prepare?***

- You should each pick ONE musical theatre song to sing 30 seconds.
- You may wish to review audition sides & character descriptions, which you will find in this packet.
  - Be familiar with your sides, but do not plan to memorize, as cold sides will be presented at the audition.
  - There is NO guarantee you will get your top choice role.

### ***What will I do at auditions?***

- Sing 30 seconds of your selected MT song
- Be familiar with the sides, but do not plan to memorize, as cold sides will be presented at the audition.
- Students may prepare 30 seconds of any "special skill" you may have. This can be ANYTHING - any style of dance, playing an instrument, a cheer routine, gymnastics, baton twirling, step team, a foreign language, yoga, a sport, origami, puppetry, rubik's cube, magic tricks, etc.\*\*

\*\*The special skill portion of auditions is required for students auditioning for the role of Marcy Parks. It is welcomed but optional for all other students.

### ***When will I find out about casting?***

We will send out the cast list as soon as it's been finalized. Certain roles might be double cast. Everyone will be considered for every available part that they are suited for.

Parents, remember that much thought goes into casting, and we understand that **most** actors are not cast as they hoped. Please be prepared to lift them up, and encourage them to put their best efforts into the role in which they are cast. As great acting teacher Constantin Stanislav famously said, "There are no small parts, only small actors." Director's selections on casting are **final**.

**Rehearsals & Performance**– Rehearsals will be held on Mon 5:30-8pm (choreography and blocking) and Weds 6:30-8pm (music rehearsal and blocking) and Wed 4:30-6:30 (choreography and blocking), from Feb 15-May 12. **Tech Week** is the week of May 17-20 –

rehearsals will be held DAILY 6-9pm, and are mandatory for all cast members.

**Performances** are Fri, May 21 and Sat, May 22, at 8:30pm at **an outdoor location, TBD.**

- Cast members are encouraged to participate in group acting and dance classes included with Troupe and/or enroll in voice lessons to support their training.
- Cast members will have access to a shared on-line drive containing all music and videos needed for **at-home practice! Students must review weekly director's notes and apply corrections.**
- Cast members should bring script and pencil to **every** rehearsal, and work to memorize all lines, music, and choreography quickly and thoroughly.
- **Cast members should support one another and themselves with positivity, remembering that this is a learning process for all and should be a FUN and REWARDING experience for everyone involved!**

### **Vocal Auditions/ Sides**

Your audition song must be memorized. You will perform it acapella. You should also be mindful of your stage presence, energy, projection, diction, and acting in general.

Audition sides should not be memorized, but you can find corresponding sides for each character linked below.

**Audition sides:** *(click to access)*

[Leaf & Panch](#)

[Schwarzy & Dad](#)

[Rona & Panch](#)

[Mitch](#)

[Marcy, Jesus, & Rona](#)

### **Principal Character Breakdown**

#### **Chip Tolentino**

An athletic, social, boy scout and champion of the Twenty-Fourth Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, he returns to defend his title, but he finds puberty hitting at an inopportune moment.

C4 - B5

#### **Logainne Schwartzandgrunenierre (Schwartzy)**

Logainne is the youngest and most politically aware speller, often making comments about current political figures. She is driven by internal and external pressure, but above all by a

desire to win to make her two fathers proud. She is somewhat of a neat freak, speaks with a lisp, and will be back next year.

A3 - F5

### **Leaf Coneybear**

The second runner-up in his district, Leaf gets into the competition on a lark and finds everything about the bee incredibly amusing. He is home-schooled and comes from a large family of former hippies. He has severe Attention Deficit Disorder and spells words correctly while in a trance.

A3 - A5

### **William Barfee**

A Putnam County Spelling Bee finalist last year, he was eliminated because of an allergic reaction to peanuts and is back for vindication. His famous "Magic Foot" method of spelling has boosted him to spelling glory, even though he only has one working nostril and a touchy, bullying personality. He develops a crush on Olive.

E4 - B5

### **Marcy Park**

A recent transfer from Virginia, Marcy placed ninth in last year's nationals. She speaks six languages, is a member of all-American hockey, a championship rugby player, plays Chopin and Mozart on multiple instruments, sleeps only three hours a night, hides in the bathroom cabinet, and is getting very tired of always winning. She is the poster child for the Over-Achieving Asian, and attends a Catholic school called "Our Lady of Intermittent Sorrows." She is also not allowed to cry.

C4 - E5

### **Olive Ostrovsky**

A young newcomer to competitive spelling. Her mother is in an ashram in India, and her father is working late, as usual, but he is trying to come sometime during the bee. Having found comfort in its words and vastness, Olive made friends with her dictionary at a very young age, helping her to make it to the competition. She starts enormously shy, and shyly blossoms.

B3 - F5

### **Rona Lisa Peretti**

The number-one realtor in Putnam County, a former Putnam County Spelling Bee Champion herself, and the returning moderator. She is a sweet woman who loves children, but she can be very stern when it comes to dealing with Vice Principal Panch and his feelings for her. Her interest in the competition is unflagging and drives it forward.

B3 - F5

### **Douglas Panch**

The Vice Principal. Frustrated with his life, he finds the drive of the young spellers alien to him. After five years' absence from the Bee, Panch returns as judge. There was an "incident" at the Twentieth Annual Bee, but he claims to be in "a better place" now, thanks to a high-fiber diet and Jungian analysis. He is infatuated with Rona Lisa Peretti, but she does not return his affections.

**Mitch Mahoney**

The Official Comfort Counselor. An ex-convict, Mitch is performing his community service with the Bee, and hands out juice boxes to losing students. He has no idea how to offer comfort, but does find himself wishing he could find a way to make the kids feel better.

E4 - A5

**Carl Dad**

Schwarzy's main trainer, the more intense and competitive of Schwarzy's fathers.

G3 - D5

**Dan Dad**

the more laid back and ineffectual of Schwarzy's fathers.

G3 - D5

**Jesus Christ**

Deity invoked by a speller in need. Normally played by the actor playing Chip. Leaf's Mom, Dad, And Siblings All more academically gifted than Leaf, they are even more surprised than he is by his success.

**Olive's Dad**

A fantasy version of Olive's dad coming to the bee from work.

E4 - B5

**Olive's Mom**

A fantasy version of Olive's mom at her Ashram in India.

D4 - E5