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LINDENWOOD UNIVERSITY ST. CHARLES, MISSOURI

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Lindenwood Theatre to Present ‘The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee’

St. Charles, Mo.—The Lindenwood University Theatre Department will present the musical “The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee” at 7:30 p.m. on Nov. 11-14 in the university’s Emerson Black Box Theater.

Tickets cost \$15 for general admission and are available at the Lindenwood Box Office, by phone at 636-949-4433 or online at www.lindenwood.edu/center. The box office and the Emerson Theater are located in the university’s J. Scheidegger Center for the Arts, at 2300 West Clay Street in St. Charles, just west of First Capitol Drive.

Directed by Nick Kelly of the Lindenwood Theatre faculty, “The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee” tells of six young people in the throes of puberty, overseen by grown-ups who barely managed to escape childhood themselves, learning that winning isn’t everything and that losing doesn’t necessarily make you a loser. The show is filled with great songs by William Finn with book by Rachel Sheinkin. At each performance, four audience volunteers are selected to participate as on-stage guest spellers, guaranteeing a unique performance each evening.

The cast includes Marlea Jenkins, Gina Greaves, Kayla Doeren, Catherine Neuhart, Devon A.A. Norris, Michael Dowdy, Wes Jenkins, Keith Parker and Adam Loyd. Dowdy is also assistant director. Pam Grooms is musical director, and costumes and set were designed by West Jenkins and Tim Poertner, respectively. Sound designer is Jennings Drew Matney. Other crew members include Danielle Bruns, Morgan Callender, Michael Ginsburg, Abby Powers and Nathaniel Carlson.

For more information about the show or the Lindenwood University Theatre Department, contact Larry Quiggins, director of the theatre, at lquiggins@lindenwood.edu.

Lindenwood University, founded in 1827, is an independent liberal arts university offering 84 undergraduate degree programs and 37 graduate programs in diverse areas of study in traditional and accelerated formats. Lindenwood operates a residential campus in historic St. Charles, as well as 10 extension sites throughout the St. Louis metropolitan area.

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Photo Cutline: Cast members of “The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee” at Lindenwood University include (first row from left) Mike Dowdy, Devon Norris, Marlea Jenkins, (second row from left) Wes Jenkins, Gina Greaves, Kayla Doeren, (third row from left) Keith Parker, Adam Loyd and Catherine Newhart.