

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

PHOENIX THEATRE @ UVIC  
PO Box 3025 STN CSC  
Victoria, British Columbia V8W 3P2 Canada



DATE: October 10, 2024

**Experience the SPELLbinding Magic of Broadway's  
*The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee!***

**When:** November 7-23, 2024

**Where:** Phoenix Theatre at UVic

**Tickets:** \$18-\$34

**Box Office:** 250-721-8000

**Event Link:** [Website](#)

**Creators:** Music & Lyrics: William Finn | Book: Rachel Sheinkin

Conceived by Rebecca Feldman with additional by Jay Reiss

Get ready to laugh, cheer, and spell your heart out as the Phoenix Theatre proudly presents this much-loved Broadway hit complete with a live band. The **Tony and Drama Desk Award-winning musical** follows the antics of six quirky adolescents as they navigate the highs and lows of the ultimate spelling showdown, each vying for the coveted title of spelling champion. Audiences will be treated to a hilarious and heartwarming tale filled with unique characters, challenging (possibly made-up!) words, and touching stories from the contestants' home lives. With catchy tunes, unexpected twists, and opportunities for audience participation, this fast-paced gem has captivated theatregoers worldwide.

The Phoenix Theatre is thrilled to welcome back internationally renowned guest **director and choreographer Jacques Lemay**. Lemay last directed the Phoenix Theatre's critically acclaimed production of *The Drowsy Chaperone*, which delighted sold-out audiences and was hailed as one of the best shows ever presented at the Phoenix. With an extensive background in Canadian theatre and international productions, Lemay has earned numerous accolades, including the Queen's Jubilee Medal. His impressive career spans roles as a consultant for the Canada Council for the Arts and various provincial and territorial arts councils. In 2021, Lemay was appointed to the Order of Canada for his outstanding contributions to the performing arts.

Joining Lemay is **music director Stephanie Sartore**, fresh from her remarkable work on the Phoenix Theatre's *100 Years of Broadway* (2024), another sold-out success. Together, they promise to deliver an unforgettable theatrical experience. Don't miss your chance to experience one of Broadway's most popular musicals!

Presented by special arrangement with Music Theatre International. All authorized performance materials are supplied by MTI. [www.mtishows.com](http://www.mtishows.com). [Music Theatre International official show page](#) for more information.

## CREATIVE TEAM:

**Guest Director & Choreographer:** Jaques Lemay

**Music Director:** Stephanie Sartore

**Piano & Conductors:** Heather Burns, Jim Hill

**Set Designer:** Hana Ramsay

**Costume Designer:** Shael O'Brien

**Lighting Designer:** Nadia Myroon

**Sound Designer:** Theo Falkiner

**Stage Manager:** Emilie Shjarback

## SHOW DATES:

**November 7-23, 2024**

Evenings: Nov. 7 & 8, 12-16, 19-23 at 8 p.m.

Matinees: Nov. 9, 16 & 23 at 2 p.m.

Pre-show public lecture: November 8 at 7 p.m.

## TICKETS:

By phone: **250-721-8000** or in person at the Phoenix Theatre Box Office (Phoenix Building at UVic)

Friday & Saturday Evenings: \$34

Wednesday, Thursday Evenings & Saturday Matinees: \$30

Tuesdays: \$18

[Box Office hours](#) | [Box Office Location](#)

Presenting Sponsor:



Alumni Ticket Sponsor:



**The Phoenix Theatre at the University of Victoria** in British Columbia is one of Canada's most comprehensive and immersive theatre programs. Its productions are integral to the academic requirements of students enrolled in the Department of Theatre's Bachelor of Fine Arts and Master of Fine Arts degrees. Renowned for its innovative productions and commitment to theatrical and academic excellence, the Phoenix Theatre emphasizes a hands-on approach to learning, and students are deeply involved in every aspect of production.

## CONTACT

### Media Inquiries

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