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## 'Putnam County Spelling Bee' play opens this weekend at UOG Fine Arts Theatre

The University of Guam Fine Arts Theatre is reopening its doors with six performances of the musical comedy "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee."

The performances will be at 7 p.m. this Thursday, Friday, and Saturday as well as at 7 p.m. on April 28, 29, and 30.

The storyline follows six quirky adolescents competing to win first-place in the Spelling Bee, which is run by equally quirky grown-ups, who learn valuable life lessons of their own throughout the competition.

Originally produced on Broadway by James Lapine in 2005 and a nominee for six and winner of two Tony Awards, the show is fun and filled with catchy tunes and improvised moments. Members of the community may even be called up to participate.

The cast is comprised of Tristan Doyle, Mel Etumai, Mariam Kuhja, Jeffrey Morales, Justine Losinio, Peggy Pixley, Kalani Sisson, Derek Smith, and Rinisa Torres.

The show is suitable for families. Admission is \$10 for general admission, \$20 for families of up to six people, \$5 for seniors, \$5 for youth under age 12, and free for UOG and Guam Community College students. Tickets are available at the door beginning at 6:30 p.m. each night of the show.

For more information, call Jeannette at (671) 735-2700, email Troy at tmcvey@triton.uog.edu, or visit the UOG Theatre <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Instagram</u> pages.

## Photo captions:



**Photo 1:** (From left) Mel Etumai as "Mitch," Mariam Kuhja as "Rona," and Jeffrey Morales as "Panch" during an April 20 dress rehearsal for the upcoming performance of "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" at the UOG Fine Arts Theatre. The show opens Thursday with additional performances Friday and Saturday and April 28–30. All shows are at 7 p.m., and tickets can be purchased at the door.



**Photo 2:** Rinisa Torres, playing the part of "Logainne," steps up to the Spelling Bee mic during an April 20 dress rehearsal for the upcoming performance of "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" at the UOG Fine Arts Theatre. The show opens Thursday with additional performances Friday and Saturday and April 28–30. All shows are at 7 p.m., and tickets can be purchased at the door.



**Photo 3:** The cast of the musical comedy "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" sings one of many catchy tunes in a dress rehearsal on April 20 at the UOG Fine Arts Theatre. The show opens Thursday with additional performances Friday and Saturday and April 28–30. All shows are at 7 p.m., and tickets can be purchased at the door.

Photos by Victor Consaga and courtesy of the University of Guam

