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PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Auditions for COS Spring Musical Scheduled for January 30 and 31

Weed / COS - The College of the Siskiyous Theatre and Music Departments are collaborating to produce the popular musical, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*. This hilarious tale of "overachievers' angst" chronicles the experience of six adolescent outsiders vying for the spelling championship of a lifetime. The show's Tony Award-winning creative team, (music and lyrics by William Finn, book by Rachel Sheinkin, and conceived by Rebecca Feldman,) fashioned this hit musical out of the unlikeliest of heroes, a quirky yet charming cast of outsiders for whom a spelling bee is the one place where they can stand out and fit in at the same time. A unique part of this show is that it calls for nightly audience volunteers to participate as on-stage guest spelling bee contestants. This guarantees that each night will have a new set of hilarious and unexpected experiences. COS production team consists of Neil Carpentier-Alting - Director, Mette Kolding – Assistant Director, Elaine Schaefer – Music Director, and Rick and Peggy Nixon as Choreographers. There are nine to fifteen acting roles, a pit orchestra and many back stage jobs to be filled.

Auditions will be held Monday, January 30 and Tuesday, January 31 from 3:30 to 6 p.m. in the COS Theater (room TBA). Those interested in auditioning must perform a song from a musical (memorized) and a 2-minute monologue. More details will be announced soon, but you WILL need to bring piano sheet music for our accompanist. Those interested in back stage jobs will interview with Mr. Carpentier-Alting and those interested in the pit orchestra, will need to talk with Ms. Schaefer. Rehearsals will be held every day from 3:30 to 6:20 p.m. and evening rehearsals will be held during the week of opening. Actors in the production will need to be enrolled in the 'Musical Comedy Workshop' classes in both the theatre and music departments and 'Musical Choreography.' Back stage hands need to register for just the 'Musical Comedy Workshop' in Theatre.

Performance dates for *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* will be Friday and Saturday, April 13, 14, 20, and 21st, at 8 p.m. and Sunday, April 22 at 2 p.m. in the COS Kenneth W. Ford Theater. School matinee performances have been scheduled for April 18 and 19 at 10 a.m. For the latest information please visit our website: www.siskiyous.edu/theatre or contact Neil Carpentier-Alting at (530) 938-5206 or Elaine Schaefer at (530) 938-5315.