



# Holland Civic Theatre's Civic Connection August 2018

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The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee  
2017-18 Award Winners  
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Calendar of Events

## ***HCT Board of Directors 2018-19***

Austin Aikens  
Sue Ann Culp  
Jessica Fritz  
Jim Griffin  
Jason Reimink  
Jon Wilmont

Michael Culp  
Brian Everitt  
Russ Gallas  
Jodi Miller  
Debbie Ruth

HCT Email [hollandcivictheatre@yahoo.com](mailto:hollandcivictheatre@yahoo.com)  
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## ***The Curious Savage***

***The Curious Savage*** by John Patrick, is a comedy which premiered in 1950, and it provides the audience with both laughter and warmth. The play is full of interesting characters that are humorous and endearing. Mrs. Savage has been left ten million dollars by her husband and wants to make the best use of it. Her stepchildren, however, have their own ideas. Knowing that the widow's wealth is now in negotiable securities, and seeing they cannot get hold of the fortune, they commit her to a sanatorium hoping to "bring her to her senses." She maintains her calm and poise and a wonderful sense of humor while dealing with her mean-spirited greedy stepchildren.. The small sanatorium is populated by sweet but mentally ill residents; social misfits, who cannot adjust themselves to life. The inmates immediately surround her with the love and understanding she never received from her own kin. The plays mood is high comedy, and the audience is left with a feeling that the neglected virtues of kindness and affection have not been entirely lost in a world that seems at times motivated only by greed and dishonesty. *The Curious Savage* is a timeless comedy that will capture your heart.

Directed by Michael Culp  
Assisted by Delanie DeCan  
Produced by Deborah Ruth

**B**  
Makenna Van Raalte  
Daniel Knieper  
Jessica Furbush  
Adrian Cooney  
Mia Halm  
Amanda Van Niejenhuis

Andrew Wilmont  
Anna Van Niejenhuis  
Kristen Knieper  
Alex Dannels  
Tyson Faber  
Parker Griffin



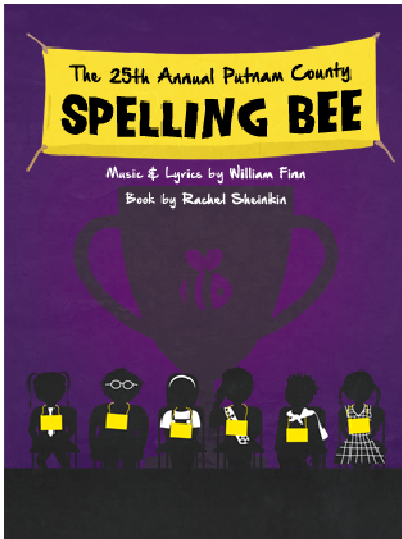
**Shows**  
**August 9-11; 16-18**  
**at 7pm**  
**Matinees on**  
**August 11 & 18**  
**at 2pm**



## 2018-19 Season Opener!!!

*Six awkward spelling champions learn that winning (and losing) isn't everything.*

Winner of the Tony and the Drama Desk Awards for Best Book, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* has charmed audiences across the country with its effortless wit and humor. An eclectic group of six contestants vie for the spelling championship of a lifetime. While candidly disclosing hilarious and touching stories from their home lives, the tweens spell their way through a series of (potentially made-up) words, hoping never to hear the soul-crushing, pout-inducing, life un-affirming "ding" of the bell that signals a spelling mistake. Six spellers enter; but only one survives!



### Cast

Barfee	Michael Culp
Coneybear	Jason Craner
Chip	Morgan Sinclair
Olive	Anna Cormier
Logan	Christine Randall
Marcy	Sonnet Quinn
Paunch	Brian Everitt
Rona	Marilyn Field
Midge	Michelle Knieper

Extras:  
Gail Hering  
Austin Aikens

Kaleigh Dannels

Directed by Sue Ann Culp  
Produced by Lynda DeCan  
Assistant Directors Teresa Bock & Katie Fyneweaver

*Plays 7:30pm on  
October 4-6  
October 12-13  
October 18-20  
2pm on October 14*

***Preview night Thursday, October 4  
Opening night reception Friday, October 5***

HCT is proudly supported by  
Michigan Council for Arts and  
Cultural Affairs and  
The National  
Endowment for



**National  
Endowment  
for the Arts**  
arts.gov

## Ushers, Concessions

Please consider volunteering!

Sign up today at:  
[www.signupgenius.com](http://www.signupgenius.com)

Use [laurievanark@gmail.com](mailto:laurievanark@gmail.com) to find the sign up

And the winners are.....

**Rising Star**  
Adrian Cooney  
as "Tweedle-Dum"  
*Dorothy in Wonderland*



**Rising Star**  
Catelyn Danckaert  
as "Dorothy"  
*Dorothy in Wonderland*



**Rising Star**  
Isabella Fisher  
as "Tulip"  
*Dorothy in Wonderland*



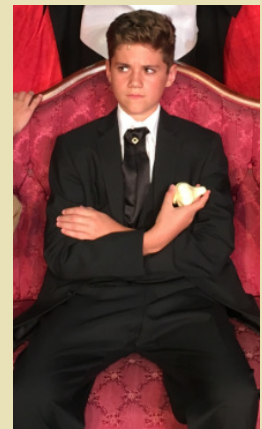
**Rising Star**  
Alex Dannels  
as "Boris"  
*Dracula, The Musical?*



**Rising Star**  
David Dannels  
as "Dracula"  
*Dracula, The Musical?*



**Rising Star**  
Jack Waalkes  
as "Van Helsing"  
*Dracula, The Musical?*



**Rising Star**  
Kayleigh Dannels  
as "Louise/Margaret"  
*Nuncrackers*



And the winners are.....

**Supporting Actress**

Lauren Vesbit  
as "Honey"  
*Who's Afraid of Virginia*



**Supporting Actor**

Jason Bock  
as "Rod"  
*Calendar Girls*



**Outstanding Actress**

Teresa Bock  
as "Annie"  
*Calendar Girls*



**Outstanding Actor**

Don VandenHeuvel  
as "George"  
*Who's Afraid of Virginia*



**Outstanding Director**

Debbie Ruth  
*Deathtrap*



**Outstanding Production/  
Technical Aspects**

Jo-Ellen Ming & Laurie Van Ark  
*Calendar Girls*



## Nona Penna Lifetime Achievement Award

Nona Penna was one of the original members of Holland Civic Theatre. She enjoyed spreading the knowledge of theatre to all ages. In addition to her work on stage, she shared her talents with the youth of the area in helping them find the joy of theatre.

In memory of her long-term steadfast devotion to theatre, this award was created to honor those who follow in her footsteps.

The Nona Penna Lifetime Achievement Award or Volunteer Service Award is to recognize a living person who exhibits through action, commitment and dedication h\is/her long-term support of Holland Civic Theatre.

The Nona Penna Lifetime Achievement Award is presented by the Holland Civic Theatre Board to those individuals who have given valuable and significant service to the organization for at least 10 years. Nominations will come from the membership by July 1 and will be voted on by the Board of Directors and presented at the Annual Membership Meeting. The Board of Directors reserves the right to award each year or not.

# 2018 Nona Penna Lifetime Achievement Award

## Gail Hering

The nominee moved to Holland from the east side of the state where she taught English, Speech, and Theatre. She also directed and was involved in over 50 productions during that time. In moving to Holland in 1975 she changed hats and became a business woman.

She was active in many of the organizations that helped support Holland businesses. She also became involved in civic organizations, especially those involving theatre and the arts. Her interest in theatre brought her down to Holland Civic Theatre behind the scenes in the 1970s and 80s but she was too busy to do more. Finally in the early 90's, she felt she had time, and auditioned for Cinderella. She talked her son David into helping with the lighting – it was the first time they had worked together on a show – the first of many to come.

She joined HCT's Board of Trustees and Board of Directors where her business acumen helped the organization grow. She represented us on various Arts Council committees seeking to build a Performing Arts Center for the city.

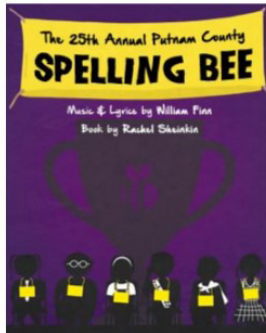
She also got involving on stage when time allowed, appearing in *Rumors*, *Once Upon a Mattress*, *On Golden Pond*, *Two by Two*, and her favorite – Abbie in *Arsenic and Old Lace*. Our Tulip Time audience as well as our regular patrons this year enjoyed her performance in the production of *Calendar Girls*. During her long association with Holland Civic Theatre the nominee could be found gathering props and furniture for a production, crawling around the stage floor painting scenery. She also worked around town delivering posters or passing out flyers to advertise the productions. Her long association with the performing arts has totaled more than 100 productions to date and she is still adding to the list. The nominee was very supportive with new ideas to promote the organization and provide financial help when the need arose. She is a great people person and helps casts and crews work together for the whole production.

Gail has contributed over forty years to Holland Civic Theatre and it is with great pleasure the Board awards the 2018 Nona Penna Volunteer Service Award to Gail Hering.





## 2018-19 SEASON!

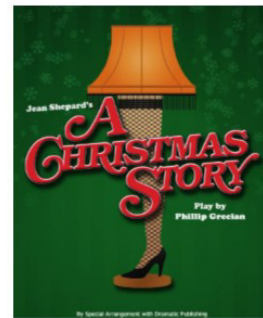


An eclectic group of six contestants vie for the spelling championship of a lifetime. While candidly disclosing hilarious and touching stories from their home lives, the tweens spell their way through a series of (potentially made-up) words, hoping never to hear the soul-crushing, pout-inducing, life un-affirming "ding" of the bell that signals a spelling mistake. Six spellers enter; but only one survives!

*Auditions July 29-31st at 6:30pm*  
*Shows October 4-6, 12-14, 18-20*

Humorist Jean Shepherd's memoir of growing up in the midwest in the 1940s follows 9-year-old Ralphie Parker in his quest to get a genuine Red Ryder BB gun under the tree for Christmas. Ralphie pleads his case before his mother, his teacher and even Santa Claus himself, at Higbee's Department Store. The consistent response: "You'll shoot your eye out!" All the elements from the beloved motion picture are here, including the family's temperamental exploding furnace; Scut Farkas, the school bully; the boys' experiment with a wet tongue on a cold lamppost; the Little Orphan Annie decoder pin; Ralphie's father winning a lamp shaped like a woman's leg in a net stocking; Ralphie's fantasy scenarios and more!

*Auditions September 17-18 @ 6:30pm*  
*Shows November 23-25, 29. December 1, 6-8*



Unable to sleep, Elaine Wheeler paces the living room of her Manhattan townhouse, troubled by unsettling memories and vague fears. Her husband tries to comfort her, but when he steps away for a moment Elaine screams as she sees (or believes she sees) the body of a dead man in the window across the way. The police are called, but find nothing except an empty chair. Elaine's terror grows as shortly thereafter she sees still another body—this time a woman's—but by now the police are skeptical and pay no heed to her frantic pleas. Her husband, claiming that Elaine may be on the verge of a breakdown, calls in a lady psychiatrist, who agrees with his suggestion that Elaine should commit herself to a sanitarium for treatment. From this point on, the plot moves quickly and grippingly as those involved—Elaine's old friend and house guest Blanche; the inquisitive and rather sinister man who lives next door; and the nosy German maid Helga—all contribute to the deepening suspense and mystery of the play as it draws towards its riveting and chilling climax.

*Auditions November 12 & 13 at 6:30pm*  
*Shows January 24-26; February 1-3, 7-9*

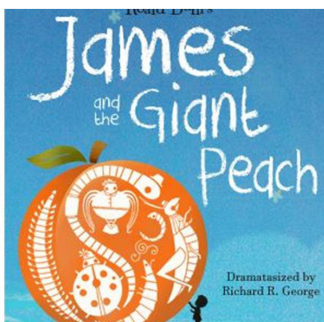
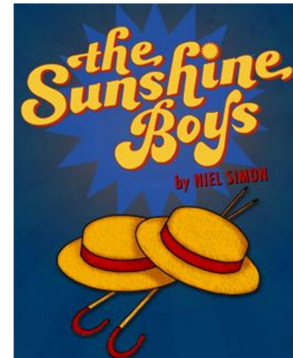
In Between the Mainstage Show—Footlight Festival is a Variety Show—a fun night at the theatre featuring songs, dance, 1 act plays, comedians and more! Come to HCT to see the talent in West Michigan!!!!

*Auditions January 28 & 29 at 6:30pm*  
*Shows February 21-23; February 28-March 2*



Al and Willie as "Lewis and Clark" were top-billed vaudevillians for over forty years. Now they aren't even speaking. When CBS requests them for a "History of Comedy" retrospective, a grudging reunion brings the two back together, along with a flood of memories, miseries and laughs.

*Auditions February 11 & 12 at 6:30pm*  
*Tulip Time Shows May 4-5; 7-11*  
*In town showing April 25-27; May 1, 16-18*

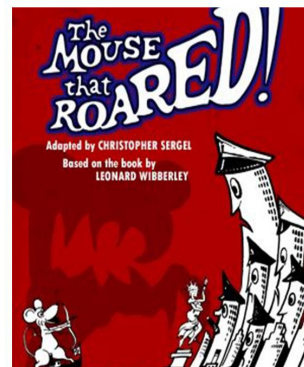


A magical peach! An imprisoned boy! Insect friends! An incredible journey! This amazing adventure of James Henry Trotter will fulfill the fantasy of anyone who has ever dreamed of escape. Roald Dahl's story comes hilariously to life in this delightful dramatization that reveals the wickedness of some, the goodness of others, and the indecision encountered by many when they are faced with crises. You will see James (as he cleverly gets the Peach out of danger), the wise Old-Green-Grasshopper and the pessimistic Earthworm. You will also see James' mean Aunt Spiker and cruel Aunt Sponge come to a suitably sticky end. The action is tied together by the Narrator, a storyteller, motivator, emcee and audience friend.

*Audition Workshop April 13 9am-11am*  
*Auditions April 15 & 16 at 6:30pm*  
*Shows July 11-13; 18-20*

A pretty girl of 22 happens to be the present Duchess Gloriana, sovereign of a microscopic country in the Alps founded centuries ago by a roving band of English bowmen. Gloriana's unique solution to the near bankruptcy of her tiny domain is to declare war on the U.S.! There's some method to her madness, however, for her study of recent history suggests that the surest way to wealth today is to lose a war with the United States, for that country's odd reaction is to pour aid, relief and rehabilitation on the vanquished. When her "declaration" is considered a prank, Gloriana decides to escalate! Tully Bascomb, presently in charge of the bowmen, is to launch an attack so they can surrender and reap the rewards. Serious-minded Tully, however, upsets all calculations when he and his bowmen do the last thing expected—they win! You'll find comment in the comedy crescendo that follows including some pointed kind words for America.

*Audition Workshop April 13 9am-11am*  
*Auditions April 15 & 16 at 6:30pm*  
*Shows August 8-10; 15-17, 2019*



**All our productions are impossible without production staff! If you have interest in being a part of any show, in any capacity, from directors and producers, to painting and set building, to dancing and acting, please contact our Artistic Committee or Board of Directors to express your interest! Any questions can be directed to the theatre at (616)396-2021. Questions may also be asked on our Facebook page; 'Like' us at Holland Civic Theatre!**



# *Dates you don't want to miss!*

**August 2018**

			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 The Curious Savage 7pm	10 The Curious Savage 7pm	11 The Curious Savage 2pm & 7pm
12	13	14 HCT Board Meeting 6:30pm	15	16 The Curious Savage 7pm	17 The Curious Savage 7pm	18 The Curious Savage 2pm & 7pm
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

**Holland Civic Theatre**

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[www.facebook.com/Hollandcivictheatre](https://www.facebook.com/Hollandcivictheatre)

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