PIUS XI
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

presents

RUMORS

By NEIL SIMON
October 31-November 3, 2019
Directed by JONATHAN DAVIDSON
Assistant Direction by GRACE GIERACH
Production Design by KATIE JOHNSON

Rumors is performed with special permission by Samuel French, Inc.

— AND —

Music and Lyrics by
WILLIAM FINN

Book by
RACHEL SHEINKIN

Conceived by
REBECCA FELDMAN

Additional Material by
JAY REISS

Originally Directed on Broadway by JAMES LAPINE

Originally produced on Broadway by
David Stone, James L. Nederlander, Barbara Whitman, Patrick Catullo
Barrington Stage Company, Second Stage Theatre

Based upon C-R-E-P-U-S-C-U-L-E, an original play by The Farm.

The Barrington Stage Company workshop of The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee was originally co-directed by Michael Barakiva and Rebecca Feldman.

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.mtishows.com

November 14-17, 2019
Directed by JOEY CHELIUS
Musical Direction by THOMAS AJACK
Production Design by KATIE JOHNSON
PIUS XI
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

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135 N. 76th Street | Milwaukee, WI 53213
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The mission of the Pius XI Arts Program is to present outstanding performing arts, visual arts, and arts education programs reflective of Milwaukee's diverse communities and the mission of Pius XI Catholic High School. A central part of the mission is to introduce young people to the performing arts and visual arts, enhance their creativity, and expose them to new experiences and ideas.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES – RUMORS

Set in the nineties, RUMORS, a farce by Neil Simon, is beloved for its laugh-out-loud, fast-paced wit. When a few couples are planning to get together for a quiet dinner party, everything changes before anyone even gets there. Mistaken identities, misinformation, and the police all mix together to make up one of the funniest plays of the 20th century. Currently, we live lives where the truth and reality share a carefully blended line with lies and rumors. I hope you can take this opportunity to sit back, relax, laugh, and enjoy the chaos that arises when the truth is more of a gray area.

—Jonathan Davidson

CAST – RUMORS

Ken Gorman ........................................................................................................................................... Zack Orton
Chris Gorman .............................................................................................................................................. Lindy Girman
Lenny Ganz .................................................................................................................................................. Jimmy Mullooly
Claire Ganz ................................................................................................................................................ Ky Cattett
Ernie Cusack .............................................................................................................................................. Jack Ostap
Cookie Cusack ......................................................................................................................................... Julia Armstrong
Glenn Cooper ........................................................................................................................................... Manny Manzunet
Cassie Cooper ........................................................................................................................................ Klaire Maduscha
Officer Welch ........................................................................................................................................... Elliott Lehman
Officer Pudney ........................................................................................................................................ Indigo Dawn Lubotsky

PRODUCTION STAFF – RUMORS

Director .................................................................................................................................................. Jonathan Davidson
Assistant Director ........................................................................................................................................ Grace Gierach
Production Assistant ................................................................................................................................. Zoe Sanders
Tech Director/Set Designer ....................................................................................................................... Katie Johnson

SETTING – RUMORS

Act 1
The Brock Estate, Evening

There will be one 15 minute intermission

Act 2
One hour later…

Rumors / The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee 3
**Julia Armstrong (Sophomore)** This is Julia’s first Pius XI production! She has taken one acting class through Pius XI and participated in Student Play Festival 2019. She is so beyond happy to be a part of RUMORS and can’t wait for you to see this amazing show! Thank you, mom, dad, and all my friends for keeping me happy and telling me to audition for the Fall productions!

**Ky Catlett (Sophomore)** is performing in their third Pius XI production. Previous shows include MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING, Student Play Festival 2019, and EVERYBODY at the Milwaukee Repertory Theater. They’re so excited to return to the Pius XI stage and work with this amazing cast.

**Grace Gierach (Senior)** is the Assistant Director for Rumors. Previous productions at Pius XI include GREASE, LES MIS, HAIRSPRAY, PETER AND THE STARCATCHER, Student Play Festival 2017, 2018, and 2019 (playwright and actor); Combat Boot Camp Theater 2017 and 2018 at Waukesha Civic Theatre. Other experience includes Pius XI Choirs, orchestra, band, improv team, Tri-M and ITS.

**Lindy Girman (Senior)** At Pius Xi, Lindy has been in ALL MY SONS, GREASE, DOCTOR HORRIBLE’S SING-ALONG BLOG, PETER IN THE STARCATCHER, Madrigal Dinner, DANCING AT LUGHNASA, MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING and Student Play Festival. She has been involved backstage as Assistant Stage Manager for LES MISERABLES, and Stage Manager for HAIRSPRAY, Student Play Festival 2019 and SEUSSICAL JR. Outside of school, she has been in HARRIET THE SPY, ROMEO AND JULIET, Combat Theatre and is a member of First Stage’s Young Company. Lindy is the co-president of the International Thespian Society, Treasurer of Tri-M and is involved in various Pius XI choirs.

**Elliott Lehman (Junior)** is thrilled to back in his fifth production at Pius XI! Previously, he has performed as the Caterpillar in ALICE IN WONDERLAND at the Schauer Center, Jack in INTO THE WOODS at University School, and Fender in HAIRSPRAY at Pius Xi. At Pius XI, Elliott is the vice president of the National Honors Society and the Ukulele Club as well as the co-captain of the Mock Trial team. He would like to thank everyone who has supported him and given him this wonderful opportunity to work with an exceptional cast.

**Indigo Dawn Lubotsky (Senior)** is finally a senior and is overjoyed to be a part of RUMORS. Over the summer, she graduated from the First Stage Theater Academy after eleven snazzy years and continues to participate in its Student Advisory Board. At Pius XI, she is a member of the International Thespian Society and has been in a number of theatre and acting classes. Other Pius XI achievements include acting in the Student Play Festival, costuming for LES MIS, and starring as Mr. Pinky in HAIRSPRAY. Indigo would like to thank the whole cast and crew of RUMORS for the swell time and good jokes.
Klaire Maducha (Freshman) has previous been Miss Hannigan in Annie, Iago in ALADDIN, Mayzie in SEUSSICAL THE MUSICAL, Eurydice in ORPHEUS AND EURYDICE, Mama in JACK AND THE BEANSTALK, and Snow White is PRINCESS WHATSHERNAME. She is a fan of rock music, art, cosplay, and other geeky stuff.

Manny Manzanet (Sophomore) is a proud member of the International Thespian Society and Pius XI Improv Team. Previously, he lent his talent to the Spring production of HAIRSPRAY where he played BRAD! He also was a featured actor for Student Play Festival and is eager to have a hand in more Pius XI productions. Manny enjoys making and watching films and hopes to be a film director in the future.

Jimmy Mullooly (Senior) is excited to perform again at Pius XI. Jimmy has performed in LES MIS, GREASE, HAIRSPRAY, DANCING AT LUGHNASA, TITANIC, and the Madrigal Dinner, as well as numerous school, local, and First Stage productions. Outside of the performing arts, Jimmy competes in forensics and mock trial. Jimmy is also a co-captain of the Improv Team.

Zack Orton (Senior) At Pius XI, he has been a part of SHREK THE MUSICAL JR., VIOLET, GREASE, Student Play Festival, PETER AND THE STARCATCHER, LES MISERABLES, LITTLE SHOP OF HORDORS, HAIRSPRAY. Outside of Pius XI, he has been a part of GODSPELL for CCYM and Combat Boot Camp Theater at Waukesha Civic Theater. He is Vice President of the Pius XI International Thespian Society, as well as a proud member of the Pius XI Tri-M National Music Honors Society and National Honors Society. He has also filmed a commercial for the Milwaukee Archdiocese. In his free time, Zack enjoys writing, art, traveling, spending time with family and friends, and playing the guitar. He also enjoys singing in the Pius XI Concert Choir.

Jack Ostap (Junior) RUMORS is his third Pius XI show. Jack has been involved in other theater productions such as LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS, MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING, and Student Play Festival. He is excited about doing this play and working with the wonderful cast.

Zoe Sanders (Senior) has directed and acted in Student Play Festival and was assistant director for HAIRSPRAY. She also appeared in ONLY WE KNOW BEST at the Edinburgh and Milwaukee Fringe and is a member of the Pius XI Concert Choir.
Congratulations

Jimmy (Hansel), Lindy (Gretel and Fiona) and Zack (Shrek). It’s great to see you performing together once again!

Congratulations Grace!

We are so proud of you!

Love, Mom & Dad
Break a leg, Zach!

We love you, and your hair, Mr. Coneybear!

~Dede and Mom
Congratulations TJ, 'BEE' GREAT!

Love, Mom, Dad, Maggie, Grandma & the rest of your family!

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Michael,

Your performance knocked us off our feet!

Love, Mom, Dad, Rebecca and Rachel

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Now is the time to seize the day!

We are so proud of you!

We love you so much!

-Mom, Dad, Brittany, Brent, Colin, Belynda, Henry, Grandma and the whole FAM
And medicine, law, business, engineering, these are noble pursuits and necessary to sustain life. But poetry, beauty, romance, love—these are what we stay alive for. To quote from Whitman, ‘O me! O life!... of the questions of these recurring; of the endless trains of the faithless... of cities filled with the foolish; what good amid these, O me, O life?’ Answer: that you are here—that life exists, and identity; that the powerful play goes on and you may contribute a verse. **That the powerful play *goes on* and you may contribute a verse. What will your verse be?**

-John Keating, “Dead Poets Society”

KATHRYN L. KNOWLTON
414.202-2444
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I was a weird kid. I was skinny, awkward, and obsessed with high fantasy and science fiction. I think the strangest thing about me, however, was that I was obsessed with the arts of storytelling, directing, and film. I’d write my own movie scripts, cast children on the playground, and walk the asphalt like some sort of 10-year-old Brian De Palma. You might chuckle about the prospect of a 4th grader planning his acceptance speech at the Academy Awards, but pretty soon you will also realize that you were a pretty weird kid too. You had dandruff or a mouth full of vibrantly colored braces. You danced to terrible pop music on the radio. You followed whatever bizarre fashion trend was popular at the time, whether it be bellbottoms, shoulder pads, or JNCO jeans. You had a secret passion like band, crafting, or Star Trek. Every person who was ever a kid was once a weird kid afraid that all the other weird kids would also realize that they too were weird. What’s so beautiful is that the things that made you “weird” are the things that then make you an individual as you grow older. That is also what excites me most about THE 25TH ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE. Yes, it is a broad musical comedy about kids in a Spelling competition. However, when you pull back the layers, what’s left are six kids not only fighting to win a competition, but to conquer the turbulent time in life when one becomes their own unique individual. Please enjoy.

—Joey Chelius

CAST – THE 25TH ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE

Rona Lisa Peretti .............................................................................................................................. Rona Lisa Peretti
Douglas Panch ............................................................................................................................ Douglas Panch
Mitch Mahoney ............................................................................................................................ Mitch Mahoney
Olive Ostrovsky ............................................................................................................................. Olive Ostrovsky
William Barfee ............................................................................................................................. William Barfee
Logainne SchwartzandGrubenierre ............................................................................................... Logainne SchwartzandGrubenierre
Marcy Park ...................................................................................................................................... Marcy Park
Leaf Coneybear .............................................................................................................................. Leaf Coneybear
Chip Tolentino .............................................................................................................................. Chip Tolentino

PRODUCTION STAFF – THE 25TH ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE

Director ........................................................................................................................................... Director
Music Director ................................................................................................................................. Music Director
Tech Director/Set Designer ............................................................................................................ Tech Director/Set Designer
MUSICAL NUMBERS – THE 25TH ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE

ACT 1
The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee.................................................................Company
The Spelling Rules/My Favorite Moment of the Bee 1........................................Panch, Rona & Spellers
My Friend, the Dictionary.......................................................................................Panch, Rona, Olive & Company
The First Goodbye......................................................................................................Company
Pandemonium.............................................................................................................Chip & Company
I'm Not That Smart .................................................................................................... Coneybear
The Second Goodbye ..................................................................................................Company
Magic Foot ..................................................................................................................Barfee & Company
Pandemonium Reprise/My Favorite Moment of the Bee 2...........Chip, Mitch, Rona & Company
Why We Like Spelling ...............................................................................................Spellers
Prayer of the Comfort Counselor ............................................................................ Mitch & Company

ACT 2
Chip's Lament .............................................................................................................. Chip
Woe Is Me ..................................................................................................................Schwarzandgrubeniere, Dads & Company
I'm Not That Smart (Reprise).................................................................................. Coneybear
I Speak Six Languages ............................................................................................. Marcy & Girls
The I Love You Song............................................................................................... Olive, Rona as Olive's Mom, Mitch as Olive's Dad
Woe Is Me (Reprise) ................................................................................................ Schwarzandgrubeniere & Company
My Favorite Moment of the Bee 3/Second ............................................ Rona, Olive, Barfee & Company
Finale .......................................................................................................................... Company
The Last Goodbye .................................................................................................... Company
Maggie Baisley *(Sophomore)* has been doing theater since seventh grade at various places around Milwaukee and Waukesha counties. *PUTNAM* is her second show at Pius XI, her first being *HAIRSPRAY*. Outside of theater, Maggie is in Advanced Mixed Choir as well as Vocal Jazz and Ladies in Waiting. She wants to thank her awesome cast-mates, directors, and her family for this opportunity.

Noah Bayer *(Senior)* has been in *GREASE*, *MARRIAGE OF BETTE AND BOO*, Madrigal Dinner, Honors Choir, *MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING*, and Student Play Festival. He loves to act, sing, and play instruments, and plays and musicals are a great way to express himself and connect with other performers!

TJ Kaczkowski *(Senior)* is returning to the stage after his performance in *HAIRSPRAY*. TJ has taken multiple theatre classes at Pius XI, has performed in Student Play Festival and is also a co-captain of the improv team.

Michael Kraetz *(Senior)* was Leroy Evans in *VIOLET*, The Bishop of Digne in *LES MISERABLES*, Father Jack Mundy in *DANCING AT LUGHNASA*, and Don Pedro in *MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING*, as well as various other shows. Michael is Co-President of the International Thespian Society with RUMOR’S Lindy Girman; he is also a member of Tri-M. He dreams of being a choral teacher as he finds it both fun and entertaining. Michael spends his time listening to music, watching movies, and doing almost anything involving Star Wars. He wants to say “hi, Mom,” as well as thank all the caring people in his life, for without them, he wouldn’t know what to do with it.

Maddie Ostap *(Sophomore)* has been in past Pius XI shows including a part of the trio in *LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS*, Amber in *HAIRSPRAY*, and assistant stage manager for Student Play Festival. She has taken several performing arts classes including Ladies in Waiting, Women’s Vocal Jazz, Basic Improvisation, and Acting 1. She is a part of clubs at Pius XI including the Improv Team and International Thespian Society. This year, Maddie was a part of the WSMA State Honors Choir. One of the quotes Maddie lives by is “Who is hip? We are hip!”—Mr. Ajack

Selma Rivera *(Freshman)* is rhapsodic to be playing Rona in the 25TH ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE, her Pius XI Theater debut! Selma’s other theater credits include *OUR TOWN* (The Milwaukee Rep), *BIG RIVER*, *GIRLS IN THE BOAT*, *A CHARLIE BROWN CHRISTMAS*, *JUNIE B. JONES IS NOT A CROOK* (First Stage), and *ALICE’S ADVENTURES IN WONDERLAND*, *ESPERANZA RISING*, *HONK JR.*, *TWELFTH NIGHT*, *MR. POPPERS PENGUINS*, *NUMBER THE STARS*, *STUART LITTLE*, *A MIDSUMMER NIGHT’S DREAM*, and *THE LITTLE MERMAID JR.* (Milwaukee Youth Theater). Selma is also a member of First Stage’s Young Company.
Zach Rolf (Junior) has been a part of many Pius XI productions. In seventh grade, he was a part of WIZARD OF OZ in the children's ensemble. He has also been a part of the ensembles of LES MISERABLES and HAIRSPRAY, as well as providing the voice for Audrey II in LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS. Zach has recently finished the production of HOW TO SUCCEED IN BUSINESS WITHOUT REALLY TRYING with Musical Masquers in West Bend. In the summer of 2018, Zach traveled to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival with Pius XI to perform the original musical ONLY WE KNOW BEST. His play PINHEADS was also chosen with nine others for the Milwaukee Chamber Theatre's Young Playwrights Festival. Zach is a proud member of Forensics and Madrigals Choir.

Aleana Torres (Sophomore) has previously played Motormouth Maybel in HAIRSPRAY. She is currently part of Advanced Mixed Choir and the Milwaukee Youth Chorale, of Milwaukee Children's Choir.

Gianna Zampino (Freshman) is in Mixed Choir and has been performing for a long time. She read Petal's part in a read-through of THE SISTERS EIGHT for First Stage, and was also an ensemble member in JUDY MOODY AND THE MAD, MAD, MAD, MAD, TREASURE HUNT.

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Mr. Edwin Ornelas ‘19

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

An Evening of Dance  
Saturday, November 23, 2019 | 7:00 PM  
Wendy Joy Lindsey Theater

Band & Orchestra Holiday Concert  
Monday, December 9, 2019 | 7:00 PM  
Wendy Joy Lindsey Theater

Home for the Holidays  
Performing Arts Christmas Concert  
Saturday, December 14, 2019 | 7:00 PM  
Sunday, December 15, 2019 | 2:00 PM  
Wendy Joy Lindsey Theater

Sacred Choral Masterpieces  
Wednesday, February 12, 2020 | 7:00 PM  
St. Joseph Chapel

The Laramie Project  
March 12 - 15, 2020  
Pius XI Black Box Theater

Mamma Mia!  
April 16-19, 2020  
Wendy Joy Lindsey Theater

For tickets and more information visit www.piuspac.org | 414-290-0204
FATHER ROBERT V. CARNEY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
135 North 76th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53213
414.290.0204 | www.piuspac.org | pacinfo@piusxi.org

STAFF
Theater Manager ................................................................. Patrick G.H. Schley
Technical Director ........................................................................... Terry Harvey
Assistant Technical Director ................................................................ Casey Matson
Resident Stagehands ................................................................. Marisa Abbott, Izzy Flores, Molly Schafer
House Managers ................................................................................. Sara Albright, Katie Johnson, Chris Segedy
Ticket Office Volunteers .......................................................... Paula McClelland, Greg Smrz, Turquoise Welch-Loera
Theater Management Intern ................................................................. Emma Knowlton

INFORMATION
Ticket Information: Tickets are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at www.piuspac.org. To order tickets by phone, please contact OvationTix at 866.811.4111. Phone service hours are Monday-Friday, 8am-8pm and Saturday-Sunday 9am-5pm. Our ticket booth is open for walk-up sales one hour prior to each performance in the Wendy Joy Lindsey Theater.

Food and Beverage: At select performances our concession stand offers water and snacks. Proceeds benefit Performing Arts Programs at Pius XI Catholic High School. Bottled water is permitted in the theatre. Food is not allowed in the theatre.

Electronic Devices: Please silence cellular phones, pagers and alarm watches. Photography and recording are strictly prohibited during the performance. Please refrain from using electronic devices or text messaging during the performance.

Latecomer Policy: Latecomers will be seated at a suitable break in the performance, as determined by House Management.

Emergency Calls: In case of emergency, messages may be left with the House Manager by calling 414.290.0204. If possible, please indicate the seat location of the person to be reached.

Lost and Found: Please call 414.290.7000 to inquire about lost items.

Ushers: We welcome volunteers of all ages to usher for performances and see the show for free! E-mail pacinfo@piusxi.org to be added to our volunteer list.

Theater Rentals: The Father Robert V. Carney Performing Arts Center is the perfect place for your next event! Contact Patrick G.H. Schley at 414.290.7454 or pschley@piusxi.org, or visit www.piuspac.org/rentals for rates and information.