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CELEBRTY GUESTS TO PARTICIPATE IN BERKELEY PLAYHOUSE'S *THE 25th ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE*

Print quality production images can be found at

<http://www.berkeleyplayhouse.org/about/press-room/press-photos/>

Berkeley, CA (April 8, 2014) – Berkeley Playhouse is pleased to announce two Celebrity Guest Spellers at this Saturday's performances of **THE 25th ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE**. Naomi Kyle (*The Daily Fix*, and the upcoming *Geeks*) and Jason Brock (*X-Factor* finalist, *Love is Not Enough*) will each join three other audience members at the Saturday, April 12 1pm and 6pm performances respectively. Part of the hilarity of **SPELLING BEE**, is the incorporation of improvisation and audience participation. Each performance, four audience members are selected to join the cast on stage as additional contestants in the bee. Some 'use it in a sentence' examples are improvised, making each show of this hilarious musical a unique experience.

Berkeley Playhouse is pleased to bring these two talented individuals to Berkeley Playhouse and hope to announce further Celebrity Guest Spellers in the near future.

ABOUT THE CELEBRATY GUESTS:



Naomi Kyle is an actor and current on-air host for IGN Entertainment's video productions including its award-winning news show, *The Daily Fix*. She is a pioneer in the video game industry as one of its original gamer girls leading her to work in acting, gaming and entertainment. Naomi was landed her first gaming gig as Gameloft's podcast host. In 2011, IGN Entertainment made her their new, on-camera talent resulting in Naomi gaining recognition from IGNs gaming and entertainment fans across the world. As well as IGN Naomi has acted in indie features, shorts and is in pre-production on her own media content.



Jason Brock is a television, film, and stage star. He was recently seen in as a finalist on *X-Factor* singing songs like "New York State of Mind." Jason also starred in the film, *Love is not Enough*, which played at film festivals all over the world, including Frameline Film in San Francisco. Jason has played Hedwig in *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* at the Boxcar Theatre and a demented flower girl in Taylor Mac's *The Lily's Revenge* at Magic Theatre. Jason began his San Francisco career singing jazz, pop and R&B tunes at Martuni's Piano Bar.

ABOUT BERKELEY PLAYHOUSE:

Berkeley Playhouse was founded in 2007 by professional theatre actor, director, and teacher for over 25 years **Elizabeth McKoy**. Along with Managing Director **Lauren Hewitt**, Artistic Director McKoy has developed Berkeley Playhouse into a professional musical theatre providing children and families a unique and sophisticated experience. Berkeley Playhouse offers a range of skill and performance classes for ages 3–17 through several after-school and school break educational programs. In 2009, Berkeley Playhouse made the historic Julia Morgan Theater its permanent home.

WHERE:

Berkeley Playhouse at the Julia Morgan Theater. 2640 College Ave. Berkeley, CA 94704

TICKETS:

For tickets (\$17–\$60) or more information, the public may visit www.berkeleyplayhouse.org or call (510) 845-8542 x351. Group rates available for 10 or more people.

PHOTOS:

High-resolution photos for **THE 25th ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE** are available at berkeleyplayhouse.org/about/press-room/ or upon request by emailing ken@berkeleyplayhouse.org