

# Tulare County Office of Education

*Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools*

April 25, 2017

## **Media Alert**

**Contact:**     **Robert Herman**  
Public Information Officer  
559/733-6606 (office)  
559/303-8568 (cell)

## **Tulare County Office of Education Announces: Theatre Company's *James and the Giant Peach JR.* opens next week**

### **Four shows offered April 27-29 at Rotary Theater, Visalia**

The Theatre Company is preparing to bring to the stage two musicals inspired by popular and quirky Roald Dahl books: *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory* and *James and the Giant Peach JR.* Opening April 27 with four shows, the production will feature a pre-show with musical selections from *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory* performed by younger students. Following the pre-show performance, 4th through 12th grade students will perform *James and the Giant Peach JR.* This musical is the work of Oscar and Golden Globe winners Benj Pasek and Justin Paul, composers for the musical movie *La La Land*.

*James and the Giant Peach JR.* is the story of an orphaned boy sent to live with his conniving aunts, Spiker and Sponge in Dover, England. When James is sent to chop down their old fruit tree, he discovers a magic potion that grows a giant peach which rolls into the ocean and launches a journey of enormous proportions. James befriends a collection of singing insects that ride the giant peach across the ocean to New York City, facing hunger, sharks and plenty of disagreements along the way. Once he lands in New York, James must face his aunts again.

# Tulare County Office of Education

*Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools*

## **Show Times**

Evening Shows (7:00 p.m.): April 27, 28 and 29

Matinee Show (2:00 p.m.): April 29

## **Show Ticket Information**

Tickets, which are \$12 for general admission seating, are available at Tulare County Office of Education locations in Visalia: 6200 S. Mooney Blvd. and 7000 Doe Ave., Monday through Friday during normal business hours. Cash or check only. Tickets may also be purchased at the door 30 minutes prior to each show.

## **Cast**

<u>Character</u>	<u>Actor</u>
James	Zion Sears, 4 <sup>th</sup> grade, Eleanor Roosevelt Community Learning Center
Spiker	Bobbi Gonzalez, 12 <sup>th</sup> grade, El Diamante High School
Sponge	Emily King, 12 <sup>th</sup> grade, Exeter Union High School
Earthworm	Parker Chalabian, 10 <sup>th</sup> grade, Redwood High School
Grasshopper	Andrew Cantelmi, 10 <sup>th</sup> grade, Redwood High School
Spider	Kaley McConnaughey, 12 <sup>th</sup> grade, Redwood High School
Ladybug	Emilie Walker, 9 <sup>th</sup> grade, Redwood High School
Centipede	Jonah Mejia, 12 <sup>th</sup> grade, Visalia Charter Independent Studies
Ladahlord (narrator)	Tristan Beck, 12 <sup>th</sup> grade, El Diamante High School, Visalia

# Tulare County Office of Education

*Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools*

For information, call the Tulare County Office of Education's Theatre Company at (559) 651-1482.

-TCOE-