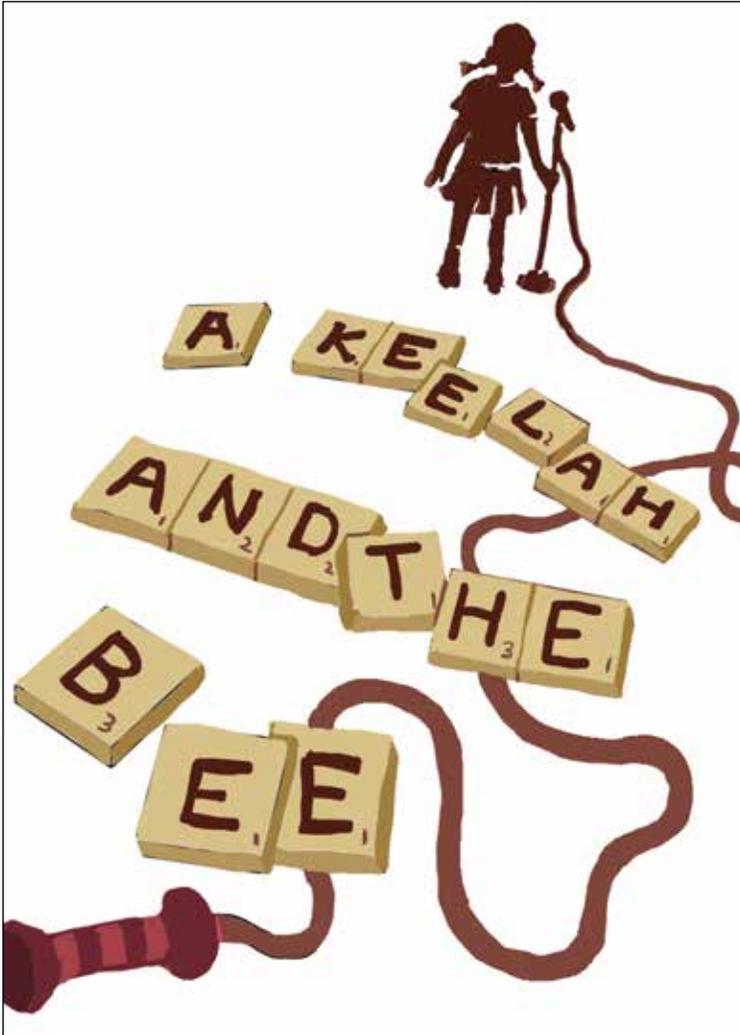


**SENSORY-  
FRIENDLY  
PERFORMANCE**



# **CHILD'S GUIDE**

**Sunday, February 16 at 7 p.m.**



# Akeelah and the Bee

By Cheryl L. West

Based on the screenplay by Doug Atchison

## About the show

Life for 11-year-old Akeelah Anderson isn't easy, especially after losing her father and growing up in a tough neighborhood in Chicago. Akeelah finds school boring and doesn't apply herself even though she's academically gifted. Through the encouragement of teachers and the coaching of a special mentor, she conquers the regional bee and sets her sights on the Scripps National Spelling Bee. But will she overcome her own self-doubt and the pressures of her personal life to bring home the prestigious honor? This uplifting, family-centric story celebrates "winning" in more ways than one.

## Show sponsors

Cam Newton Foundation, SPX, Robinson Bradshaw, Kristin Black & Todd Day, Ashley & Matthew Joseph, Florence & Edward Kim, and Anita & Bruce LaRowe

## Special thanks



to Julie Higginbotham of Precious Developments. Julie has worked as our consultant in the creation and preparation of our sensory-friendly performances. We're grateful for this valued partnership.

## Akeelah and the Bee



**From all of us at Children's Theatre of Charlotte, we hope you enjoy the show.**

## Follow along the performance of *Akeelah and the Bee*



Meet Akeelah Anderson and her family! They take care of each other, especially when life get tough.



Akeelah lives in a building with so many wonderful people - they're all so different, but they come together to make a great village for each other!



Uh-oh, Rhonda isn't exactly a friend to Akeelah, is she? What do you think about her behavior when the principal shows up?





It's time for the first spelling bee. How do you think Akeelah is feeling about it?



Miss Ruth really takes care of the girls, doesn't she? She's so happy to hear about Akeelah's spelling bee win, too!



Akeelah is getting curious about these spelling bees. Let's see what she can find out from the videos....





Well, Akeelah is going to meet with Dr. Larrabee to see what he can do to help her with spelling bees. It doesn't exactly go the way she thinks it's going to go...



It's back to the spelling bee research for Akeelah.



The heat is on to find out who gets to go to the state spelling bee tournament. The students are about to learn some important lessons about competition, and Akeelah makes some new friends.





Akeelah has some great news, but not everyone is ready to hear it right now.

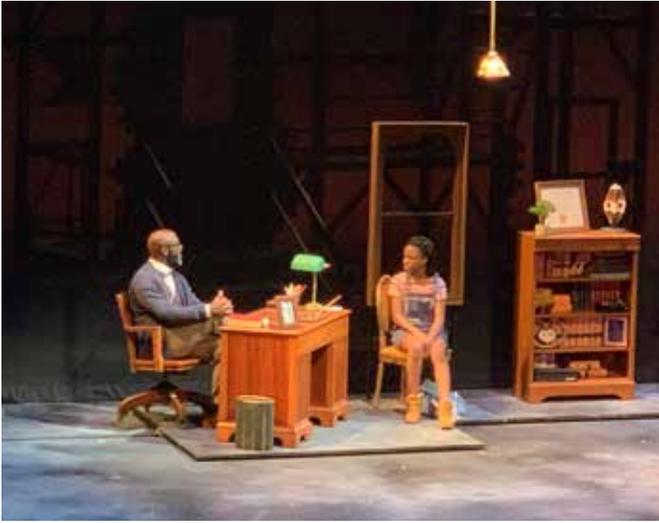


Akeelah and Georgia go to a party with Akeelah's new friends, but it's not what they're expecting at all.



No one knew Akeelah was going to that party with Georgia, and now everyone is worried about them.





Akeelah goes back to see Dr. Larrabee and tries really hard to show him a different, softer side of herself. But what do you think about the decision she makes to keep herself in the state spelling be tournament?



It's time for a quick break! Get ready to settle in for the rest of this story right after a brief intermission.....

*Enjoy a stretch break while we get ready for the rest of the show! We'll bring you back into the start of the second act so you'll be ready for it.*



Wow, Akeelah has been working really hard! Now, Dr. Larrabee needs to help her learn how to compete with the other students.





All this spelling bee work is changing Akeelah's relationships with her village. It's also changing her perspective on a lot of other things. But life seems to be turning around for her and her family.....



Akeelah is back to work with Dr. Larrabee, but she needs help with more than the words she's learning to spell.



Akeelah's mother still doesn't know that she has continued on with the spelling bee training. Things get harder for her family again, and her secret is getting harder to keep.





The state spelling bee tournament is finally here! The competition is tough, but the challenges today include more than spelling words.....



After Akeelah's triumph, the family gets some bad news.



Akeelah has some more big questions, but is Dr. Larrabee ready to help her talk through them again?





Akeelah and her mother are trying to work through a lot of really tough things together, and Akeelah is finally ready to share the rest of her secrets.



The countdown is officially on, and Akeelah is in the final stretch of her training to get ready. Her whole village is ready to help her study, but wait until you see who is included in that team.....



Akeelah goes to see Dr. Larrabee one more time before she heads to the national spelling bee competition. She has a lot to say to him - how do you think he will react?





It's finally here - the national spelling bee competition! We won't ruin the surprise - keep watching to see what happens when the students go head to head for the title!

Thanks for joining us at Children's Theatre of Charlotte for this special performance.  
Learn more and buy tickets to other sensory-friendly performances at [ctcharlotte.org](http://ctcharlotte.org).  
Click on **Shows & Tickets** and look for **Accessibility & Inclusion**.

**Upcoming sensory-friendly performances include:**

***GRIMMZ Fairy Tales***

Sunday, March 8 @ 4 p.m.

***Dragons Love Tacos***

Sunday, April 26 @ 4 p.m.



[ctcharlotte.org](http://ctcharlotte.org)