Alaska-born hunter-actress stars in Clackamas Repertory’s ‘Philadelphia Story’

Dennis Kelly, Jayson Shanafelt, Tom Walton and Hillarie Putnam in "The Philadelphia Story."

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Actress Hillarie Putnam plays spoiled socialite Tracy Lord in the Clackamas Repertory Theatre season opener "The Philadelphia Story." The Lord character, which was written for Katharine Hepburn, was a marksman. In real life, Putnam is an expert with a firearm.

Originally from Wasilla, Alaska, Putnam spent the last several years in Los Angeles appearing in film, television, commercials and modeling. She also has considerable stage experience.

But her most recent project is "The Hunt," an eight-episode series for the History Channel that started June 8. The series follows a select group of hunters on rugged Kodiak Island as they head into the wilderness to pursue the largest land predator on Earth -- the Kodiak brown bear.

Putnam drew one of the limited Kodiak hunting tags and headed out into the wild with her father armed with two 50-caliber muzzleloaders. The weapons are considered a primitive weapon and require the hunter to get closer, have better aim and know the best way to make a killing shot, as only one bullet can be loaded into the gun at a time.

The series followed them out on the island for 15 days on the hunt. Throughout the hunt they encountered other animals, extreme hikes, crazy weather, and some unexpected twists. It is very much a "coming of age" story as time winds down to land the bear and Putnam is left out on her own in big bear country. The show airs at 10 p.m. Sundays.

Catch Putnam on the stage with the CRT's Philadelphia Story, opening June 27. Performances take place Thursdays through Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. with Sunday matinees at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, June 27-July 20.

All performances are in the Osterman Theatre at Clackamas Community College. Season tickets and single tickets may be purchased at www.clackamasrep.org or by calling 503-594-6047. The low-price preview is...
June 26.

-- Janet Paulson, Clackamas Community College public information officer

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