Junie B. Jones Is NOT a Crook

A play by Allison Gregory
Adapted from the book series by Barbara Park
Directed by Beth Lopes
Jan. 26–Feb. 11, 2018
Welcome

Be sure to check out our website for the Junie B. Jones Is Not a Crook study guide, which features additional information about the play, plus a variety of other educational resources.

scr.org

Use this space to collect autographs or take notes!

South Coast Repertory
THEATRE FOR YOUNG AUDIENCES

Julianne Argyros Stage • January 26–February 11, 2018

presents

Junie B. Jones Is NOT a Crook

BY ALLISON GREGORY
ADAPTED FROM THE BOOK SERIES BY BARBARA PARK
DIRECTED BY BETH LOPES

SET DESIGNER KEITH MITCHELL
COSTUME DESIGNER KATHRYN POPPEN
LIGHTING DESIGNER KARYN D. LAWRENCE

SOUND DESIGNER EARS UP SOUND DESIGN

PRODUCTION MANAGER JACKIE S. HILL
CASTING JOANNE DENAUT, csa
STAGE MANAGER TALIA KRISPEL

HONORARY PRODUCER APIEM ADVISORS

Produced by special arrangement with Playscripts, Inc. (www.playscripts.com)

The Theatre for Young Audiences program is made possible in part by a major grant from THE SEGERSTROM FOUNDATION
NO BABES IN ARMS ALLOWED. Everyone must have a ticket; children under the age of four will not be admitted to Theatre for Young Audiences performances.

To cause the least disruption, SCR patrons who have not entered the theatre when the performance begins will be asked to watch the monitors in the lobby until an appropriate break in the performance. Latecomers, as well as those who leave the theatre anytime during the performance, may be assisted to alternate seats by the House Manager at an appropriate interval and may take their assigned seats at intermission. SCR accepts no liability for inconvenience.

Special seating arrangements may be made in advance for disabled patrons by calling South Coast Repertory's Ticket Services Department at (714) 708-5555.

As a courtesy to all patrons and the actors, please turn off all electronic devices or switch them to non-audible mode before the performance begins. The photographing, videotaping or other video or audio recording of this performance is strictly prohibited.

The Actors and Stage Managers employed in this production are members of Actors’ Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.
Sometimes Junie B. and her classmates have trouble keeping track of their personal possessions. Can you find the following objects in this picture?

- Furry mittens
- Baseball cap
- Sunglasses
- Lunchbox
- Pen
- Backpack
- Lacy socks
Instructions: Each player can move five spaces on each turn. Start on the platform and try to reach the end of the slide. Players may cross bridges to take shortcuts. Players must find the objects listed on the space they land on—the objects are hidden throughout the pages of this program. The first player to reach the end wins!
JOSEPH ABREGO
(Ricardo/Principal/Lucille’s Grandpa)
I grew up in Northern California and started acting and singing when I was in middle school. I moved down to Southern California to attend UC Irvine and studied theatre and singing there with talented and passionate professors who taught me a lot about acting, music, artistry and humanity. I graduated from college in 2016 and since then, have had the pleasure of taking part in musicals such as Evita, Carousel, Man of La Mancha and In the Heights. I hope you enjoy Junie B. Jones just as much as I did when I was a kid.

ROSEMARY BROWNLOW
(Junie B. Jones)
I’m so happy to be making my SCR debut with this great play! When I was in kindergarten, my teacher was Miss Lee and I had a turtle named Kelly. I was like Junie B., but I liked learning and listening at school a little bit more. I went to college in a town called Walla Walla in Washington state and then got my MFA in acting from UC Irvine. I have done plays at lots of theatres all over the country. My favorite roles I’ve played, besides Junie B., are Rosalind in As You Like It and Rachel in My Name is Rachel Corrie. My advice to girl nutballs: try to channel most of it, probably, but never, ever lose it. Thanks and love to Carolyn, the first person who believed in me, for showing me what children’s theatre can do, and “hi” to my favorite people: my husband, Tyler, and our puppy, Clarinet!

PAUL CULOS
(Meanie Jim/Mitten Crook/Grandpa Frank Miller)
Like Junie B., I was a troublesome grade schooler, struggling to sit still, keep quiet and pay attention. There were plenty of timeouts and visits to the principal’s office for me. Those impulses eventually sparked my passion for theatre, which seemed to scratch all of those itches. After training for acting at Western Michigan University, British American Drama Academy and UC Irvine, I began my professional career in Los Angeles. As a member of the Antaeus Company in LA, I regularly perform classics, including the recent production of Les Liaisons Dangereuses. Right after that, I starred in Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley at Ensemble Theatre Company during this past holiday season. You can also catch me on TV in “Modern Family,” “The Middle,” “Superior Donuts” and “Shameless.”

NICOLE ERB
(Lucille/Grouchy Typing Lady)
When I was growing up, I used family parties as an excuse to perform. I forced family members to sit and watch my shows that were part-singing, part-very-bad-dancing and part-stand-up comedy. My performances always started with a fake fall (pratfall). I’ve always loved making people laugh, even if it made me look silly. I feel very lucky to get to continue to tell stories, sing, badly dance and make people laugh. My advice to you: keep practicing fake farts, silly voices and weird walks because someday, someone might even pay you for them! You might have seen me in commercials, in movies or on TV in shows like “Big Time Rush.” I’m a sketch comedy writer and performer (silly voices and wigs) at Upright Citizens Brigade. I studied theatre and playwriting at Temple University and acting at UC Irvine.

Who’s Who in the Cast

1110
Before ALLISON GREGORY (Playwright) wrote her first play, she didn’t even know that you could be a playwright! She studied English and dance in college because she loved dancing since she was about 6 years old (ballet class!). After that, she traveled around the country dancing in concerts and at fairs and even in the back of a pick-up truck in a parking lot. It was hard work! But that’s what got her into an actual real play: she was cast as an Amazon (a tall person), even though she’s a shorty. Hooray, that all those dance classes paid off! After that, she studied acting and then, what do you know, she started acting in plays. But that is not the best part, because (yay-yay-hooray), she became a playwright and wrote this play! And, also, some other plays. Her family is very supportive of her writing.

The late BARBARA PARK (Author) grew up in Mt. Holly, New Jersey. She said of her childhood, “It was a small town surrounded by farmland…the kind of town where you greet people by name on Main Street. It was only an hour’s drive to the ocean, so every summer we spent family vacations on Long Beach Island. My brother and I would ride the waves during the day and play miniature golf at night.” She and her husband, Richard, lived half of the time on Long Beach Island and the other half in the Arizona desert. In the words of Junie B. Jones, Park was a “lucky duck.” Park wrote many middle-grade novels, early chapter books and picture books for kids. And, just like Junie B. Jones, she got into a bit of trouble as a kid and was sent to the principal in first grade for talking.
“There were lots of notes sent home that year, as well.” Park said her sense of humor was “a little bit off-center”—at the movies, she would laugh at parts that no one else thought were funny.

**BETH LOPES (Director)** At a very young age, my parents started taking me to theatre and my interest was ignited. (Thank you, parents!) I was lucky enough to attend a high school with exceptional drama teachers who encouraged me to pursue a career in the arts. I traveled all the way from California to New York City to study acting at New York University and that’s where I encountered brilliant mentors and friends who guided me towards my true theatre love: directing. I traveled back to California to become a better director under the instruction of the extraordinary professors at UC Irvine. It was through them that I was first introduced to the wonderful people and artists at South Coast Repertory and I couldn’t be more thrilled to be here directing this lovely play about the fabulous Junie B. Jones!

**KEITH MITCHELL (Set Design)** I have designed many shows based on books you may have read, like Ella Enchanted, Junie B. Jones and a Little Monkey Business, Mr. Popper’s Penguins and Anne of Green Gables. I enjoy reading and painting and even illustrated a book written by JoAnn Dickinson, called I Love to Go Camping, because, guess what? I love to go camping! Sometimes, I make sets for commercials for Taco Bell, KFC and Star Wars TV Dinners (spoiler alert: tie fighters are chicken nuggets) Last year, I made a spaceship, a cabin, a haunted house and a giant winter throne with snowboards and skis and hockey sticks, for all the 2018 Winter Olympians to sit in! Also, I meet lots of famous celebrities. In fact, I’ve met Elmo, the Cookie Monster and Smokey the Bear! I am a University of Southern California Trojan alumnus.

**KATHRYN POPPEN (Costume Design)** My theatrical career all started when I ran away to the circus. That is, to Music Circus in Sacramento, where I interned while in high school. I realized theatre allowed me to combine my favorite subjects (art, history and literature) with my favorite hobby (sewing) to tell a story through the characters’ clothing. Since earning a BFA in design from the University of Southern California, I’ve worked all over the country designing and assisting. I bedazzled Pee-Wee Herman, crafted an entire show of paper, created backyard wrestler costumes, designed a chicken Elvis and bought a lot of socks. The shows I’ve costume-designed at SCR are Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing and The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane. Last year, I designed costumes for SCR Summer Player’s Into the Woods.

Someone found a yellow pen on the playground! Can you spot which person found it and will be turning it in to lost-and-found?

**KARYN D. LAWRENCE (Lighting Design)** I am a theatrical lighting designer, which means I love to paint with light! I fell in love with lighting design while studying acting at UC Irvine. From magical twinkle lights to flashy rock ‘n’ roll strobes, I have fun making pretty pictures on stage. I have designed numerous plays and events including SCR’s Theatre for Young Audiences productions of Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing, The Light Princess, A Year with Frog and Toad and The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane, as well as Into the Woods, Beauty and the Beast, Mary Poppins, Peter Pan, Annie and Seussical for SCR’s Theatre Conservatory. One of my favorite designs each year is lighting the haunted mazes for Universal Studios’ Halloween Horror Nights! When I’m not playing with lights, I’m riding my horse in the mountains near my home in Los Angeles.

**EARS UP SOUND DESIGN (Sound Design)** Hi, we’re Matt Caspary and Mark Glenn. We’re great friends who love to work together as a team. We met in graduate school at UC Irvine, down the road from SCR. We love making fun sounds and music that tell stories for people all around the country and the world! We have a sound playground in Los Angeles that we call the “Sonodeck”—it’s our laboratory where we create all kinds of sounds and music for theatre, theme parks and museums. You may have heard some of our sounds right here at South Coast Repertory for the Theatre Conservatory’s Junior Players show. Just last year, Mark created the sound for Pinocchio! We are thrilled to be working together again with this brilliant team of friends to tell you the story of Junie B. Jones!

**TALIA KRISPEL (Stage Manager)** I am a New York-based stage manager. I grew up in Southern California and started seeing theatre at the age of 5 and was in my first production at age 9. One of my favorite roles was being Milky White (a cow!) in a production of Into the Woods. I went to the University of the Pacific as an actor. Shortly after I graduated college, I found my true calling as a stage manager on a Theatre for Young Audiences production of Sarah, Plain and Tall in New York City. My last young audiences production was SCR’s Pinocchio! Working backstage is so much fun—we’re like ninjas! I have been stage managing professionally for 15 years. When I’m not stage managing, I am often child-wrangling at theatres on- and off-Broadway. For Mychal and Dad. taliakrispel.com

**ACTORS’ EQUITY ASSOCIATION**, founded in 1913, is the U.S. labor union that represents more than 50,000 professional actors and stage managers. Equity endeavors to advance the careers of its members by negotiating wages, working conditions and providing a wide range of benefits (health and pension included). Member: AFL-CIO, FIA. #EquityWorks.
Dear Handsome Warren,

I first saw you on the playground while I was playing horses with Grace, my _______________ friend.

Did you see my mittens? They're very _______________ and _______________.

I love these guys, but it's hard to _______________ when I'm wearing them. During recess, you said I was a nutball and that made me _______________.

But only guess what? I can prove I'm not. Would a nutball eat _______________ for breakfast?

Would a nutball draw pictures of _______________ and _______________?

Would a nutball _______________ a _______________? I don't even think so.

Sincerely yours,

Junie B. Jones from Room Nine
Make ’Em Laugh

A lot happens in Junie B. Jones Is Not a Crook. With her vivid imagination and boundless energy, Junie B. gets herself into all kinds of sticky situations. There are a lot of twists and turns along the way, and Junie B. learns a whole bunch of important lessons, but the play is also a lot of fun…and really funny.

The play’s humor is brought to life by seven actors who play 16 different characters. Each actor works hard to build her or his character from the inside out—first thinking about who the person is, what they want, what they like and dislike, etc., and then deciding how they show it on the outside—such as how do they walk? How do they talk? For a play like Junie B. Jones Is Not a Crook, the actors make big and bold choices; it not only helps bring Junie B.’s zany world to life, but also delights the audience.

Do you like to make people laugh? How? Do you like to experiment with silly voices and movement? Would you like the opportunity to create a variety of characters? You can learn more about creating characters, including funny characters, in acting classes at SCR’s Theatre Conservatory. Check out the website at scr.org/classes or call (714) 708-5577 for more information.
Thank You

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