She’s Baaaaaaaaaaaaack!

Barbara Parks’

Junie B. Jones and a Little Monkey Business

February 13 – March 27, 2010

Main Street Theater – Chelsea Market

“There are those who believe that the value of a children’s book can be measured only in terms of the moral lessons it tries to impose or the perfect role models it offers. Personally, I happen to think that a book is of extraordinary value if it gives the reader nothing more than a smile or two. In fact, I happen to think that's huge.”

--Barbara Park

Beloved children’s character Junie B. Jones is back at Main Street Theater! Based on the popular book by Barbara Park, Junie B. Jones and a Little Monkey Business will play Saturdays at 1pm and 4pm from February 13 - March 27 with additional Spring Break performances Monday – Friday at 11:30am from March 15 – 19. **March 19 is also Target Family Day.** 2 for 1 tickets are available for this performance. Beginning at 10:30 there will be snacks and activities for families sponsored by Target.

Performances are at Main Street Theater–Chelsea Market, 4617 Montrose Boulevard in the Museum District. Ticket prices for public performances are $12 for preferred seating and $10 for side seating. Tickets are on sale in person at the Main Street Theater Box Office at 2540 Times Blvd. in Rice Village, via phone at 713.524.6706 or online at mainstreettheater.com. Group rates are available. **No children under 3 are admitted in the theater (including sleeping babies).**

Special performances and rates are available for school matinees. Call 713.524.9196 ext 101 or visit the website.

**About Barbara Park’s Junie B. Jones and a Little Monkey Business**

She’s back! Junie B. Jones, the world’s most precocious kindergartner, mistakenly believes her new baby brother is actually a monkey. She starts taking bids from Lucille and That Grace, her “bestest” friends, for the first look at him, but then Meanie Jim and Crybaby William enter the fray and things get completely out of control. You won’t want to miss seeing the havoc that ensues when Junie B. and friends team up for wild adventures!

Recommended for Pre-kindergarten and up.

More…
About Author Barbara Park

Barbara Park was born in Mt. Holly, New Jersey. She received a B. S. from the University of Alabama in 1969 and married to Richard Park. They have two grown sons. Ms. Park resides in Phoenix with her husband and their golden retriever.

Ms. Park began writing as an adult with her first book, *Operation: Dump the Chump*. Since then she has received numerous awards including the Young Hoosier Award in 1985, the Milner Award in 1986, and Tennessee Children’s Choice Book Award in 1986 for *Operation: Dump the Chump*, and The Library of Congress Book of the Year in 1987 for *The Kid in the Red Jacket*. *Buddies* received the Parents’ Choice Award in 1985. Overall she has received more than 40 awards, including 25 Children’s Choice Awards. While she is most likely best known for her *Junie B. Jones* books, she has also written numerous other books, including a picture book and thirteen middle grade novels.

About Librettist, Composer, and Lyricist Joan Cushing

Joan Cushing, a former elementary school teacher and cabaret performer, is best known for her political satirical revue *Mrs. Foggybottom & Friends*, which opened in 1986 at New Playwrights Theatre, and moved to the Omni-Shoreham Hotel in Washington, D.C., where it ran for 10 hit years, and four years on the road.

More recently, she has adapted 7 popular children's books as musicals, receiving over 200 productions and 2 national tours: *Miss Nelson Is Missing!*, winner of the 2003 Nat’l Children’s Theatre Festival; *Junie B. Jones & a Little Monkey Business!; Miss Nelson Has a Field Day!; Petite Rouge: A Cajun Red Riding Hood* (2007 NY Musical Theatre Festival); *Heidi* (w playwright Martha King De Silva); all commissioned by Imagination Stage, *Lawrence*, commissioned by Gabrieleno High School; and *Brave Irene*, commissioned by Adventure Theatre.

Ms. Cushing lives in Washington, D.C. with her husband Paul Buchbinder.

About the Production

Mark Adams directs *Junie...* after directing this season’s tour of *Stuart Little*. Miriam Daly is the Music Director. Caroline Menefee (*The Best Christmas Pageant Ever, Sideways Stories from Wayside School*) plays Junie. The rest of the cast includes Brittny Bush, Jared Carlin, Meghan C. Hakes, Alan Hall, Jessica Knapp, and Kathryn Noser.

The design team includes Meghan C. Hakes (set design), Eric Marsh (lighting design), Macy Perrone (costume design), Andrew Harper (sound design), and Richard Solis (properties design). Caroline Scott is the Production Stage Manager.

Since 1975, Main Street Theater has produced high quality professional theater for audiences of all ages through its MainStage productions and its Theater for Youth. The Main Street Theater Kids On Stage program offers performing arts classes and camps for children 5 years to 14 years of age. The organization produces plays at two locations, 2540 Times Boulevard in Rice Village and 4617 Montrose Boulevard at Chelsea Market.

Main Street Theater is a member of the Fresh Arts Coalition, a collaboration of 25 arts organizations that work collectively to raise awareness of the size and diversity of the arts in Houston, and a constituent of Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national service organization for not-for-profit theaters. Main Street Theater offers a lively year-round repertory of classic and contemporary plays for audiences of all ages and provides a much-needed showcase for Houston theater professionals. Main Street Theatre is also a member of Actors’ Equity Association and of ASSITEJ, the world theatre network of theatre for children and young people. Main Street Theater is funded in part by grants from the City of Houston and the Houston Arts Alliance, as well as the Texas Commission on the Arts.

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