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Judy Moody & Stink



ArtsPower National Touring Theatre

Gary W. Blackman
Mark A. Blackman
Executive Producers

JUDY MOODY & STINK

Based on the book by
Megan McDonald
Illustrated by Peter Reynolds

Script by Gary Blackman
Music by Ben Diskant
Lyrics by Sami Horneff

Costumes by
Karen Bibbo

Set Illustrations by
Dan Helzer/Blitz Design

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An ArtsPower musical based on the book by
Megan McDonald with illustrations by Peter H. Reynolds

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Read this page to your students.

What Happens in *Judy Moody & Stink?*



ArtsPower’s musical is based on two books from author Megan McDonald’s “Judy Moody and Stink” series: “Judy Moody Gets Famous” and “Stink and the Super-Stinky Sneaker Contest.”

The production features four professional actors who sing live to a pre-recorded orchestra track.

Judy is Stink’s older sister. After she hears that one of her classmates, Jessica Finch, has won the local spelling bee and got her picture in the newspaper, Judy begins to wonder, “How can I become famous, like Jessica?” Judy wants to be recognized for something – *anything* – so that she feels as important and worthy of attention as Jessica.

Her family even has their own “Moody Hall of Fame” which is a space on their refrigerator door where Judy and Stink can post their report cards, blue ribbons, and certificates. But Judy has nothing she feels is important enough to post on the fridge.

While Judy tries to figure out how she can become famous, Stink is preparing to enter his smelliest sneakers in the “All-Time, World’s Worst, Super-Stinky, Sneaker Contest” at school. Jealousy drives Judy to sabotage Stink’s sneakers and put his chances of winning the contest in jeopardy. Realizing what she has done, Judy must now figure out how to make up for her mistake and help her brother.

In the end, Judy discovers something about herself that she never considered: that kindness and thoughtfulness have their own meaningful rewards.

The Characters in the Show

JUDY MOODY

Judy is smart and likeable but can sometimes be a little moody. She seeks to learn more about herself and how she can get famous, like her classmate Jessica Finch.

STINK MOODY

Stink is Judy’s little brother. He looks up to Judy, but sometimes can be quite annoying to her. He has an unusually good sense of smell and looks forward to competing in his school’s stinky sneaker contest.

DAD

Judy and Stink’s dad is a supportive, warm, and loving father. He understands Judy’s moods and is extra patient with her.

JESSICA FINCH

Jessica is Judy’s classmate and rival at school. She does not mind showing off in class, especially after winning the local spelling bee. When Jessica gets her picture in the paper, Judy is even more motivated to discover how she, too, can become famous.

SOPHIE OF THE ELVES

Sophie is one of Stink’s best friends and tries to be helpful, especially when Judy and Stink don’t agree.

LAURA

Laura is a young patient at the local hospital who meets Judy and Stink when they take an injured friend there. Laura is open and honest with her emotions and very grateful to Judy and Stink for speaking with her.

MR. TODD

Judy truly respects her teacher, Mr. Todd. He wants what is best for Judy and she respects him very much.

STEVE MOORE

Steve works at NASA and comes to Stink’s school to judge the Super Stinky Sneaker Contest.



Read this page to your students.



ArtsPower National Touring Theatre

Based in Cedar Grove, New Jersey, ArtsPower is a professional theatre company that creates musical and dramatic theatre productions, based on books for young readers, and then tours them in performing arts centers, cultural centers, university auditoriums, and schools throughout the United States and Canada.

The four actors and one stage manager:

- travel together in a large van that holds the set and props, costumes, and sound equipment needed to present their performance of *Judy Moody & Stink*.
- rehearse together for nine days at a rehearsal studio in New York City.
- are responsible for all the costumes and props (objects that are handled by the actors).
- set up and break down the show after their performances in a venue.
- stay in hotels when they travel.
- sometimes present up to 10 performances in a week.

What Is a Musical?

A **musical** is a story told through spoken words and songs by live actors onstage. The spoken words are called **lines**. The words that are sung are called **lyrics**. The music that was composed just for this show is called the show's **score**. For this performance, the score has been recorded onto an iPad which is operated by the stage manager.

Because reading a book is different than seeing a live performance on stage, the **playwright**, or the person who writes the words the actors speak, must change parts of the story or bring new qualities to the characters that may not found in the book. In other words, the playwright **adapts** the book into a musical play, changing parts of it to turn the words on the page into a live performance.

DISCUSS BEFORE THE SHOW!

Why is ArtsPower called a national touring theatre?

If you were an actor, do you think you would like to travel to different places to perform?

Do you think audiences from different parts of the country respond to the performance in the same way or in different ways? If so, why?

Read this page to your students.

Creating Theatre

Creating a musical theatre production like *Judy Moody & Stink* takes a lot of time, creative energy, and collaboration from a dedicated group of people. Many people, including those cited below, have worked together to make the changes and additions it takes to turn the books into an hour-long musical.

- The **playwright** writes lines that the actors speak.
- The **composer** writes the music.
- The **lyricist** writes the words to the songs that the actors sing.
- The **designers** create sets, costumes, and lighting.
- The **director** rehearses the actors and makes decisions about what happens on stage during the show.
- The **stage manager** oversees all backstage elements of a show.
- The **producers** raise the money to create and manage all aspects of the production and its tour throughout the United States and Canada.

The Creative Team for *Judy Moody & Stink*



GARY BLACKMAN (Playwright) is ArtsPower’s founding co-director. *Judy Moody & Stink* is his first produced play. Gary is also a composer and trumpet player who toured with jazz legend Clark Terry and his Big B-A-D Band. He and his wife Amy are the proud parents of Emma, a fledgling composer and singer.



RICHARD DEROSA (Orchestrator) is a Grammy-nominated composer who presently is Associate Professor and Director of Jazz Composition and Arranging Studies at the University of North Texas. Richard has composed and orchestrated the scores to all but three ArtsPower productions. jazz.unt.edu/derosa



BEN DISKANT (Composer) is a composer/lyricist working in New York City. *Judy Moody & Stink* is his first collaboration with ArtsPower. He is currently developing the musical "The Pirate Princess" and "Elinda" with collaborator Sami Horneff (Lyrics). Ben has performed his songs at 54 Below and with NY Theatre Barn. He is a graduate of the BMI-Lehman Engel Musical Theatre Workshop.



KAREN BIBBO (Costumer) Karen Bibbo is a graduate of Syracuse University’s S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications. While at Syracuse she majored in public relations and minored in marketing and psychology. As Company and Production Manager, Karen is responsible for all operational aspects of ArtsPower’s productions and their tours. She recently celebrated her 14th anniversary at ArtsPower.



SAMI HORNEFF (Lyricist) was born and raised in New York City and is a proud graduate of Brown University with a degree in Theatre Arts. She is a graduate of the world-renowned BMI Lehman Engel Musical Theatre Workshop and was recently named as one of the York Theatre Company’s "New Emerging, Outstanding (NEO) Writers." She is writing the lyrics to *Coming Attraction*, a new musical about the life of Greta Garbo.



GARY (left) and MARK BLACKMAN (Producers & ArtsPower’s Founding Co-Directors) founded ArtsPower in 1985. The Blackmans are graduates of Columbia College, Columbia University and Florida State University’s College of Music. Gary serves as ArtsPower’s Managing Director while Mark is Director of Development and Marketing.



Read this page to your students.

Some Things Mentioned in the Show . . .



Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell: In the first line of the show, Judy mentions that she wants to be as famous as her favorite heroine, Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell, the first woman to earn her M.D. degree from an American medical school and become a doctor.



Mealworms: In Mr. Todd’s class at school, Judy studies mealworms. Mealworms are insects that are the babies, or larva, of the beetle family. Students are able to observe mealworms as they transform, or go through a metamorphosis, from larva into adult beetles.



White Card: Mr. Todd will issue students a White Card if he observes them misbehaving. The punishment for receiving a White Card is staying after school and helping him with classroom chores.



NASA: NASA is the acronym for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. At the All-Time, World’s Worst, Super Stinky, Sneaker Contest at Stink’s school, Steve Moore, an employee at NASA, is a judge because he is a professional smeller for the space program.



Golden Clothespin Award: This award is given to the winner of the All-Time, World’s Worst, Super Stinky, Sneaker Contest by a panel of expert judges.

DISCUSS BEFORE THE SHOW!

If you have younger siblings, do you always get along? Is it easy to make up if you have an argument? During the show, notice how Judy and her younger brother speak to one another.

Do you ever get jealous if someone else has success at something? Are you able to congratulate that person or do you feel sad? See how Judy deals with the success of one of her classmates.

What does it mean to be famous? Do you have dreams of being a famous person, and if so, why?

For more information about Judy Moody, Stink, and their books by Megan McDonald and Peter H. Reynolds, visit www.judymoody.com.



How to Draw *Judy Moody*



by Judy Moody artist
 Peter H. Reynolds

Start
 with a
 letter "U"



Add the
 swoopy
 hair



Add
 3 or 4
 bits of
 hair on
 each side.



Add her
 famous curl.



Dot eyes
 Flat "U"
 nose and
 mouth



Add shading.

Add her neck
 and collar

I've started—
 you can
 finish!



Reprinted from <https://judymoody.com/wp-content/uploads/JM-KIT-DRAW-JUDY.pdf>

DISCUSS AFTER THE SHOW!

Did you enjoy the performance? Why or why not?

What do you think about what Judy and Stink did to help Laura?

How do you think Judy's attitudes and behavior changed from the start of the show to its end?

Have your thoughts about being famous changed at all after seeing the show?



Let Us Know What You Think!

After you see *Judy Moody & Stink*, use the space below to write to us OR send us a picture showing your favorite part of the performance. Please send them to **ArtsPower, 9 Sand Park Road, Suite 6, Cedar Grove, NJ 07009**. You may also visit us online at <http://www.artspower.org> and click on "Contact Us." Thanks!

Your school _____

School's city and state _____

Date _____

Dear ArtsPower,

I saw *Judy Moody & Stink* at: _____

Here's what I enjoyed about the performance: _____

Here's why: _____

Here's what I would change about the performance: _____

Here's why: _____

From,

Your Name: _____