

something FOR EVERYONE



JUNIE B. JONES

THE TRUE STORY OF THE 3 LITTLE PIGS

SAN JOSE TAIKO



THE GRUFFALO

**ALASKA
JUNIOR THEATER**

2012-2013 PROFESSIONAL FAMILY THEATRE



**31 YEARS OF PROFESSIONAL FAMILY THEATRE
2012-2013 AJT ANNUAL REPORT**

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

Alaska Junior Theater (AJT) is honored to have completed our 31st Season. During 2012-2013, we had three school shows that exceeded capacity so we moved shows to the larger Atwood Concert Hall or added additional days to accommodate the demand. At our Annual Benefit Dinner, we raised a record \$34,000 for AJT education programs, exceeding our goal expectations. Although we did not reach our anticipated sales in all of our public performances this season, we were able to reach new audience members and create stronger bonds within the community, most notably with *Hitler's Daughter*.

I'll volunteer again next season. I wanted to let you know how much I enjoyed the Hitler's Daughter presentation. I think it was one of the best you've offered. You took a very emotional and disturbing genocide History and made it accessible for adolescents and children. I have never seen the audience so quiet and focused. I encouraged my friends to take their second and third grade daughters.

-Tam Agosti-Gisler (Anchorage School Board President)

AJT continues to offer subsidized tickets to age-appropriate school shows with direct ties to Alaska Content Standards, study guides and transportation for students. AJT reached over 45,000 students and teachers and provided 2,079 full scholarships each year, ensuring each child has access to the wonderful world of live performance.

This year was filled with ups and downs! We attempted new fundraising events, made connections with new organizations and witnessed breathtaking performances. We continue to make progress toward reaching our strategic goals through programming and outreach. This fiscal year, AJT accomplished the following:

- A record 14,079 students and teachers attended our school performances of *The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs!*
- Also *Junie B. Jones* and *The Gruffalo* were sold-out and were waitlisted before the season even began.
- **San Jose Taiko** helped to build stronger bonds with the Taiko drumming community through a potluck, a preshow drumming event and several music workshops at the Alaska Center for the Performing Arts.
- At the Halloween night performance of *The True Story of the 3 Pigs!*, AJT partnered with 18 organizations to provide AJT's first community Trick-or-Treat Party after the public show. A new AJT Halloween Tradition.
- Nearly 88.9% of all teachers who attended our shows rated them with a 4 (liked it) or 5 (loved it).
- AJT's Board held a wine tasting event, a garage sale and participated in the Visit Anchorage CharityWalk raising \$6,100 towards our Education Programs.

AJT could not fulfill our mission without the valued support of you, our patrons, our volunteers, our sponsors and donors! Thank you for your continued support. By being involved with AJT, you enrich the lives of young people and families in our communities through the performing arts.

Sincerely,

Sara Kallman

Sara Kallman
Board President



Lainie Dreas

Lainie Dreas
Executive Director



Vic Fischer welcomes the Australian cast of *Hitler's Daughter* at a reception at the Alaska Jewish Campus.



Ushering classes into the theatre for *The Gruffalo* with the help of our volunteers.



Making Wolf Masks with the cast of *The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs!*



Participants in AJT's Halloween Night Trick-or-Treat Party.

About Alaska Junior Theater

Alaska Junior Theater (AJT) is a nonprofit organization that has been bringing the best in professional theater from around the world to Alaska's youth and family audiences for 32 years. Each year, more than 40,000 students attend a variety of live performances, which share the common educational goal of "bringing learning to life." For many students, AJT's school-time presentations are their only exposure to the performing arts.

SUPPORTING EDUCATION

Each show we present has a strong educational theme. Our shows are often able to inspire many students who cannot be reached in a more traditional classroom setting. Teachers also rely on our study guides to prepare their students for what they will see and to create classroom projects in history, social studies, geography, science and other fields. To augment our performances, we offer teacher and student performing arts workshops and master classes whenever they are available.

BUILDING A STRONGER COMMUNITY

AJT is committed to building a stronger community by presenting programs that offer different cultural perspectives to Alaska's children - thereby expanding their horizons, opening new worlds of insight into other cultures, and inspiring them to work towards overcoming barriers. We also offer a public family series, allowing all members of the family to enjoy high-quality entertainment together.

STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS THROUGHOUT ALASKA

AJT continues to work on strengthening partnerships to bring theater, music and dance performances to young people and families into smaller Alaskan communities. For the 2012-2013 season, AJT built upon its relationships with cultural organizations and Alaska Native corporations to facilitate performances in other towns like Seward.

CREATING ACCESSIBILITY

AJT is committed to keeping ticket prices low, allowing children of all financial levels to have a professional theater experience. Our low educational ticket price of \$8 in Anchorage includes not only a performance, but also bus transportation for students and teachers to and from the Alaska Center for the Performing Arts. This price covers half our costs of presenting the shows. To subsidize the remaining \$8 of each ticket, we actively fundraise and rely on the support of corporations, foundations and individuals with a strong community spirit to provide scholarship support. In addition, we fundraise to offer full scholarships, at a cost of \$15 each, to students with financial need. Since our inception, we have presented the best in the performing arts to almost 910,000 children and parents.

2012-2013 Board of Directors

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Pam Robinson

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Leah Lopshire, Education Associate

Emily Rohrabough, Marketing Associate

Michael Cross, Technical Director

Lorrie & Morris Horning, Founders



Pageant winners take time to read stories to the kids before *The Gruffalo*.



A blind student get a personal introduction to the drums used by San Jose Taiko.



The magic of theatre.



AJT imported three Holocaust Photo Exhibits for the entire week of *Hitler's Daughter*.

Achievements

THE MISSION OF ALASKA JUNIOR THEATER IS TO BRING THE BEST PERFORMING ARTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD TO ALASKA'S YOUTH AND FAMILY AUDIENCES, REGARDLESS OF THEIR SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS.

During the 2012–2013 fiscal year, Alaska Junior Theater accomplished the following:

- Provided 2,179 student scholarships to school shows.
- Raised the curtain on 52 performances.
- Reached 50,742 community members through educational performances and outreach activities.
- Partnered with 286 volunteers who contributed 1,107 of hours to ensure youth have access to the performing arts.
- Conducted 32 master classes, lectures or outreach events.
- Allocated 560 complimentary tickets to public shows.
- Distributed pre-performance study guides to teachers in the Anchorage and Matanuska-Susitna Borough School district teachers.

The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs! – AJT held its first Halloween Trick-or-Treat Party after the public show. A new AJT Tradition is started.

It was a delightful musical play that followed the original book just enough and had additional clever aspects. - Kindergarten, Scenic Park.

Junie B. Jones - Several children had great fun at Junie B's own Birthday Party before the public show. ***Junie B. Jones*** sold-out the school shows early in September and we added three extra school shows to accommodate the demand.

The BEST one yet! Loved the way they followed the stories and the music was the best - 1st Grade, St. Elizabeth Ann Seaton.

The Gruffalo – The Tall Stories cast gave a story reading and craft event at the library.

My students were completely taken from the first line of the play. They adored every part of it, but especially loved that the Gruffalo jumped out into the audience! :) - 2nd Grade, Eagle River.

San Jose Taiko – During AJT's week, San Jose Taiko gave a drumming workshop at East High School, Shimé Class, Fué class and a Taiko Class on the Atwood stage to various community musicians. Before the public show, Tomodachi Daiko and Wadaiko Alaska performed a drumming event in the lobby.

My students and I were amazed as we sat and watched these performers play the drums. They did not want the performance to end - 3rd & 4th Grade, Chugach.

AJT's Annual Benefit – San Jose Taiko performed as we celebrated 31 years of bringing the best in professional family theater to Alaska during our annual benefit and raised more than \$34,000.00 for our Education Programs.

Hitler's Daughter – We had a Welcome Reception for the Monkey Baa Theatre cast at the Alaska Jewish Campus with former Mayor Rick Mystrom as emcee and three prominent Jewish speakers: Fran Ulmer, Vic Fischer and Steve Haycox. All four of these prominent people had read the book and spoke eloquently praising AJT for bringing such a thought-provoking and historically explorative piece to Anchorage.

This was one of the best if not the best performance I have attended. The content had direct connection to what students had learned in their social studies classes - 6th Grade, Begich Middle School.



The cast of *The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs!* pose with Trick-or-Treaters.



The kids enjoyed attending Junie B's birthday party before seeing the public performance.



The Gruffalo library reading and craft event.



San Jose Taiko drumming workshop.

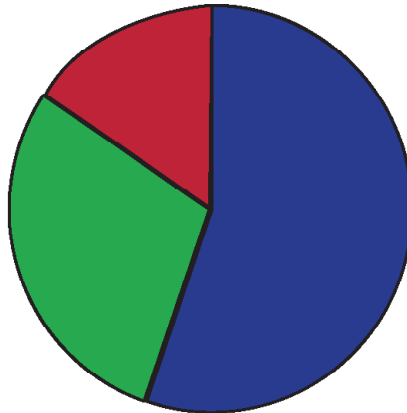


The photo exhibit for *Hitler's Daughter*.

Operating Budget

Total Revenue: \$590,813

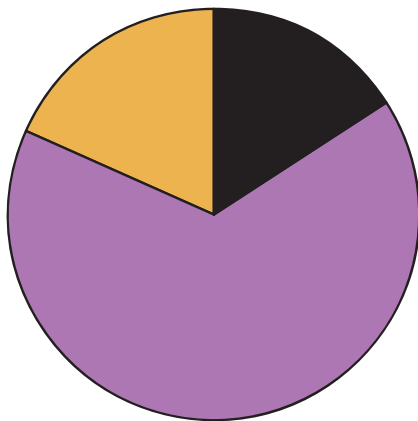
- Earned Income: \$381,941
- Contributions: \$113,263
- Grants: \$95,609



True Story of the 3 Little Pigs!

Total Expenses: \$585,793

- Administrative Expenses: \$89,609
- Production Expenses: \$385,128
- Troupe Fees: \$111,056



Junie B. Jones



San Jose Taiko

Alaska Junior Theater's performances would not be possible without the generous support of our donors. Thank you.



Hitler's Daughter



2012-2013 COMMUNITY SUPPORT



WESTAF



Alaska Airlines



**Jacqueline Holzman, Frank
Jeffries & Jordan Jeffries**



**Jacqueline Carr
The Carr Foundation**



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**Crossroads Production
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Carlile Transportation Systems
Bill Chambers
Dr. Alex & Patricia Cheng
Chepo's Mexican Restaurant Clarion
Suite Downtown
Classic Toys
Coca Cola of Alaska
Cold Stone Creamery
Color Art Printing
Cooper River Seafoods
Copper Whale Inn
Credit Union 1
Michael & Melanie Cross
Crush Wine Bistro & Cellar
Cyrano's Off-Center Playhouse
Kevin Dalzell
Dark Horse Coffee
David's Jewelers
Dell/Force 10 Networks
Denali Graphics & Frame
Dianne's Restaurant & Catering
Dimond Center Mall
Doriola's
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Lainie Dreas+
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Laura & Ross Emerson
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Party World
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Zachery & Christina Ritter
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Round Table Pizza
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Scan Home,
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Scooper Trooper, LLC
Scotty Gomez Foundation
Elizabeth Serrano
Seward Fishing Club
Sheraton Anchorage Hotel & Ice Spa
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Side Street Espresso
Silver Bullet Kenai River Guide Service
Jill & Brian Singleton*
Skhoop Scandinavian Wear, LLC
Skinny Raven Sports
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Snow City Café
Sophisticakes
Spenard Roadhouse,
Kaerin Stephens
Sugar Shack Espresso
Sullivan's Steak House,
Summit Spice & Tea Co.
Dorea Sun
Sunshine Custom Promotion
Sunshine Sports
Marcy Sutton
Pam Tanora
Deanna Teders
Mapuna Theisen
Richard & Janet Tillman
Title Wave Books
Trailside Discovery Camp
Amy & Dave Tullos
Margaret Tuttle
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Shelly Wade* & Dave Soquet
Stacy Walker
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Julie Yadon
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