

Proudly Presents

THE 17TH ANNUAL MALCOLM X. JEFFERSON ELEMENTARY TALENT SHOW

WRITTEN BY GREGORY T. BURNS



THE 17TH ANNUAL MALCOLM X. JEFFERSON ELEMENTARY TALENT SHOW

WRITTEN BY GREGORY T. BURNS

IMPORTANT: PLEASE READ

This play is intended for educational classroom readings and performances. There are no royalties for performances, and directors may make photocopies for their students; however, it is strictly forbidden to share copies of this script with other individuals or schools within the same school district or otherwise. Also, this script is not to be stored in any form, or incorporated into any retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, which includes posting videotaped performances of this script on any social media site without the prior written permission of the publisher, Theatre Fresh. Violations of the above terms will result in legal action and will include punitive damages against the offender. Public performances in which a program is distributed must include the following statement: "Produced by special arrangement with THEATRE FRESH and TheatreFresh.com."

Inquiries should be addressed to the publisher.

ISBN 978-1-942109-00-6

Characters:

Mrs. Jones, the principal
Man in Audience, a parent
Miss Hooch, the school secretary
Mrs. Belcher, the cafeteria lady
Mr. Yield, the school bus driver
Mr. Bates, the school janitor

Time: The present

Location: The cafeteria stage of

Malcolm X. Jefferson Elementary

Mrs. Jones: (Looking out into the crowd) Well, it looks like a full house tonight. My name is Mrs. Jones. I am the principal here at Malcolm X. Jefferson Elementary, and I want to welcome all of you to our 17th Annual Talent Show. If I may, I'd like to make a few announcements before we begin tonight's festivities. As you know, each year we put on this little fundraiser to purchase something useful to enhance the learning environment here at Malcolm X. Jefferson, and this year the funds raised will be used to purchase a new mascot uniform. Before I continue, I would like to thank all of you who sent cards and attended the funeral of Mr. Armand, our late, great, assistant principal. For those of you who are unaware, at this year's Homecoming Parade, which...unfortunately coincided with the opening of deer season, Mr. Armand was kind enough to wear our school mascot costume... a six-point antlered buck. Sadly, an unsuspecting hunter, traveling to his deer lease in another county, shot Mr. Armand to death during the parade. The hunter, a Mr. Charlton Heston, not related to the famous actor, said he was confused by what looked like...the largest trophy buck in history... walking on two legs...throwing assorted Hershey miniatures from a sack full of candy to smiling children on the sidewalk...but decided to...and I quote, "Bag the prancing 'Rudolph' before he had a chance to get away." We have asked the company, who will be designing our new mascot uniform, to not make it look...too realistic this time. So (For lack of anything else to say, Mrs. Jones puts one hand in the air quickly as though she were doing a cheer.) go Bucks! For those of you who have ever attended one of our talent shows before, you will notice that we will be doing things a little differently this year. Miss Highnote, our Choral Director, who is officially in charge of the talent show, suggested we have an all-faculty talent show this year, because as she put it, there simply weren't any talented children audition. So, before we begin our little talent show, our school secretary, Miss Hooch, has a quick announcement. Miss Hooch?

Man in Audience: Whoo-hoo! Hoochie Mama!

Miss Hooch: Thank you, Mrs. Jones. (Points to man in audience) And thank you for noticing the new implants! Well, I just wanted to remind everyone that we do have refreshments on sale outside the cafeteria, and all proceeds will be donated to the Armand family in their time of need. We have cupcakes with little pretzels sticking out of the icing that look like little reindeer, and all sorts of treats and goodies. Our own cafeteria ladies prepared these delicious snacks, and they just look scrumptious. Speaking of which, our first performer tonight is none other than the lead cafeteria lady herself, Mrs. Belcher. Let's have a big hand for...well, a big lady. Mrs. Belcher, come out here and entertain these fine folks!

Mrs. Belcher: (Striking a formal, first-position dance stance.) An original poem by yours truly, Mrs. Belcher. (She belches and smiles.) The kids always love it when I do that. (She regains her composure and formal stance.)

"Mashed Potatoes"

Fifty-gallon vats Of white starch. Lumps, like hidden warts, Stirring on the stove.

Small weevils scurry, Afraid of getting caught.