



EXPERIENCING



AT THE VON BRAUN CENTER PLAYHOUSE A SOCIAL STORY

ABOUT THE PLAY:

Every full moon 5 Huntsville kids convene for their secret space society and this month, they seek to induct a new member. But when the new inductee has never heard of America's infamous Space Monkeys, the 5 set out to share the 65 year old courageous story! It's 1959 and two brave monkeys lead the charge for space exploration- Baker and Able! Buckle up and hold on tight for an adventure of galactic magnitude. A story of friendship, bravery, sacrifice, and dreaming big, this world premiere play will inspire all ages. Join us as we honor this special chapter of Alabama history set at our very own U.S. Space and Rocket Center and brought to life with a little Fantasy Playhouse magic.

Baker & Able are REAL monkeys that went to space in 1959. This play is a fictional retelling of their journey. Characters are fictional representations of real life historical figures surrounding Miss Baker & Able.

Today I am visiting the Von Braun Center (VBC) Playhouse.
The outside of the Von Braun Center Playhouse looks like this.



I am seeing ***Space Monkeys! The Adventures of Baker & Able*** at the VBC Playhouse.
This play was written and directed by Stephen Tyler Davis.



Stephen Tyler Davis
Artistic Director, Director & Playwright

I will walk inside the VBC Playhouse and down the hallway to the lobby.

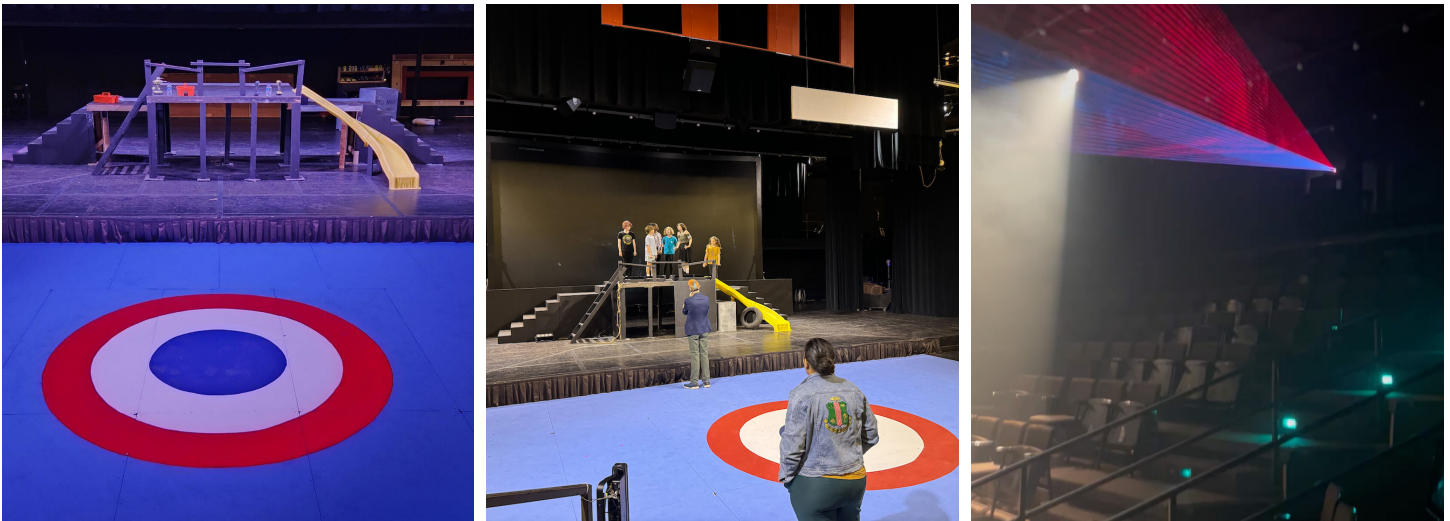


The lobby is a big room where people wait outside the theater.



When I enter the theater to see Space Monkeys! The Adventures of Baker & Able (Space Monkeys!), it will look like a tree house with embellishments! It might remind me of a place I have seen before! Space Monkeys! is set in present day Huntsville and 1959.

I am in safe in my seat at the Von Braun Center in Huntsville, AL.



The actors perform on a set with special scenery.

Special lights, sounds, animated projections, lasers, and smoke also help the actors to tell the story. The light and sound won't hurt me. I can put on my sunglasses if the lights are too bright.

There will be moments in the play where there will be sounds of laughter, cheering, and music.

The actors are not hurt. If there are sounds I don't like, I can wear my ear protection or I can cover my ears.

When it gets quiet again, I can uncover my ears. I am safe.

I will know when the show is over when all the actors come on stage and bow.

There are several scenes in the show that are depicted through animated scenes that are playing on a projection screen. Some of these scenes may depict flashing colors or scary situations such as launching into space or the monkeys landing in the ocean.

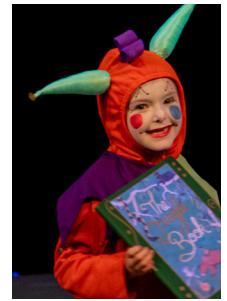
If you have auditory or visual sensitivities, each sensory friendly bag is equipped with ear and eye protection. Please see an usher if you require more assistance.

Some actors will have stage makeup that resembles an animal such as Miss Baker & Miss Able who will have stage make up resembling that of a squirrel and rhesus monkey.

They might look different from me but they are just actors wearing make up.



There will be a pre-show announcement. This means the show is about to start. The show will begin with Fantasy & Fantasy JR. Fantasy & Fantasy JR. are two actors dressed in jester costumes. They are wearing white face paint and brightly colored costumes.



In live theater, the people performing will be right in front of me on the stage. The people on stage are called actors. Some actors will be older and some will be younger.



SENSORY ADVISORIES PER ACT

There are several repeating loud sounds such as rocket launches and beeping. Please be advised. Below you will find some key moments in the show that include potentially anxious moments, loud sounds, lasers, or dizzying projections

Act 1

There are a few visual and sound cues that are loud or flashy.

- The SPAMO kids will count down '3...2...1 BLAST OFF' and there will be a loud space launch sound.
- There is a loud explosion after the Norah says 'WATCH OUT'
- There is a projection (Able's Dream) that has flashing colors, animated imaged, loud music, and dizzying imagery after Miss Baker says "We're going star catching last one to Pluto is a rotten banana!"

During Act I there is a scene where the 26 monkeys are portraying different test they endured during training for their mission to space. The actors movements might be exaggerated and silly.

At the end of Act I, the actors portraying the monkeys are sent to space. The actors are safe on stage at the VBC Playhouse.

Act 2

At the beginning of Act 2 there is an animated scene of the monkeys returning to earth. The sequences show the nose cone dropping into the ocean.

Avi grieves her dead gold fish. The goldfish on stage is a prop and is not alive or dead. It is being used to represent Avi's fish. Avi's actor is not in real distress, she is acting.

Able passes away in Act 2. It is not portrayed on stage but alluded to in conversation. The actor playing Able is safe.

Miss Baker's death is spoken about at the end of the play.

There is a rocket launch sound at the end of the play. It plays after the SPAMO kids count down from 10.

BREAKDOWN OF CHARACTERS

The Moon

They are chillin' on the moon, serenading our story with music of today and back to 1959. A musical sense of humor. He connects past and present.

Avi

Young, driven female with a big heart. A beautiful balance of personalities around her.

Jo

The data enthusiast, organizer, and sometimes scaredy cat.

Norah

The actress. It's all about her. She has a deep rooted affection for Miss Baker. In fact, she is playing Miss Baker in her upcoming school play which she wrote and cast herself as the lead. Yep, she's a diva.

Toad

The almost silent techie who actually knows everything about everything. Always prepared.

Barney

The president of SPAMO, the storyteller, the inspiration Miss Frizzle Astronaut to be.

Skip

New to town and doesn't quite buy all the space monkeys excitement.

Petstore Fran

Owner of the petstore where the monkeys are purchased from.

Admiral Spaysmun

Intense with a short fuse, but a total softie at heart. He puts on a big front to maintain order at times.

Secretary Sherry, Merry, & Terry

Admiral's sidekicks and eventual 'managers' of Miss Baker affairs. They take care in supporting the one in charge.

Miss Baker

She is kind, meek, but spicy! She grows up fast. She embraces conflict and seeks ways to find the good and use hard lessons to be a better monkey.

Spidey Heidi

A spastic spider monkey obsessed with the terrors of 1950s Science Fiction films

Ham

A chimpanzee with his on straight. Suave, smart with a great admiration for Miss Baker

George

Not a science monkey, doesn't care about space, he's not even a smart monkey

Able

A seemingly shy rhesus monkey that just need a little encouragement to be a passionate brave pioneer

Mission Control Larry, Perry, & Barry

The voices of Jupiter-C Launch. They work together to get Baker & Able into space and back down again

There are 20+ roles and 50+ actors in this play! Those not listed on this breakdown are listed in your playbill.