

# Sally Butts for President

*By Jim Adolf*

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### **DEDICATION**

*To Josie, Maggie, and Michele.*

### **STORY OF THE PLAY**

Mercilessly teased on account of her last name, Sally Butts plots revenge on her chief tormentors, the popular Jack and Mikayla Slade. Sally and her friends – who have unfortunate last names themselves – launch Sally's campaign for school president against Jack. To beat him, they'll have to overcome dirty tricks, cruel graffiti, bad puns, parents who quote poetry, and an excessive amount of glitter. Can a girl named Butts really become president? Running time: 55 minutes.

### **ORIGINAL PRODUCTION**

The show was produced July 19-21, 2019 at the Theater Project in Brunswick, Maine.

Cast: Oliver Ames; Mallory Bowe; Freida Camacho; Lily Creighton; Amelia Feeley; Acadia Hayes; Jordin Hill; Darwin Kohut; Anna Leslie; Miriam Patterson; Althea Piampiano; River Rodriguez; Cadence Sturgeon.

Creative Staff: Josie Adolf (Director); Maggie Adolf (Assistant Director, Stage Manager, Lighting, Sound); Anya Bachor (Assistant Director, Costumes, Sound); Max Legassie (Assistant Director, Props).

## **CAST OF CHARACTERS**

*(7-10 M, 6-9 W.)*

**SALLY BUTTS:** Friendly, likeable, a leader of outcasts, insecure about her name.

**HENRY SPASKY:** Nerdy, finicky, might wear a bowtie.

**ISAAC PHAT:** Sloppy, artsy, scatterbrained.

**CARLOTTA GROSS:** Sharp, enthusiastic, not afraid to take on a fight.

**JACK SLADE:** Cool, popular and mean.

**MIKAYLA SLADE:** Jack's sister and sidekick, also popular and mean.

**MS. KLINE:** A tired and exasperated math teacher.

**MICHEL SATAN:** A French exchange student.

**DAN BUTTS:** Sally's dad; goofy.

**LISA MEYER:** Sally's mom; blunt.

**MILES BUTTS:** Sally's brother, three years younger than she is; world-weary.

**MS. KROCH:** Pronounced "croak" but people often say "crook" or "crock" or "crotch," a by-the-book administrator with a good heart.

**HAYDEN, AIDAN AND KADEN:** Three kids, can be any combination of girls and boys; popular, but not too smart.

**CHAD:** A cool lacrosse bro.

\*Dan, Lisa and Miles can be double cast with Hayden, Aidan, Kaden and/or Chad.

## **AUTHOR'S NOTES**

Stage sets are minimal: a classroom with half a dozen desks and chairs, and a chalkboard or whiteboard; a kitchen table with four chairs; a school lunchroom table with five chairs; a single desk and chair. Scene changes are meant to be quick and easy.

Props also are fairly minimal. They include: a backpack, books, two notebooks and pens, spoon, chalk or dry erase marker, regular markers, tube of glitter, two manila envelopes, large stack of paper ballots, newspaper, letter. The most important props are several pieces of cardboard poster board, including several pre-made campaign posters that read:

- SALLY B. FOR PRESIDENT
- SALLY BUTTS FOR PRESIDENT (*"BUTTS" in glitter.*)
- JACK SLADE FOR PRESIDENT
- There's too much fighting in our school. Time to turn the other CHEEK – vote BUTTS for President.
- Follow your heart – and your PANTS. Vote BUTTS for President.
- Sally Butts FAILED KINDER GARDEN and had to repeat! NOT President Material. (Note: This sign should be intentionally misspelled.)
- Feeling left BEHIND? Vote BUTTS – she understands.
- Sally Butts likes French exchange students better than American exchange students. NOT patriotic.
- I'm a PHAT, and if voting BUTTS means more French fries and more French toast, then count me in! -Isaac P.

**Scene 1**

*(AT RISE: LIGHTS up. A classroom. SALLY sits at a desk. HENRY enters carrying a backpack.)*

**HENRY:** Hey, Sally!

**SALLY:** Oh, hey, Henry.

**HENRY:** How was the end of your summer? I haven't seen you since you went to visit your grandparents.

**SALLY:** It was pretty good. My grandparents introduced me to all their friends in their old-people community – it was kind of awesome, actually. I did water aerobics in the pool with my grandma and all her friends every morning.

**HENRY:** *(Sitting next to her.)* Did they all wear those rubber swimming caps from like the 1940s?

**SALLY:** They totally did! They thought it was pretty shocking that I let my hair get wet. I'm not sure what they think happens when you get your hair wet, but apparently, it's really bad. What about you – how was the rest of your summer?

**HENRY:** Boring. And hot. I was just mowing lawns for my dad's company every day. My dad kept saying that someday Spasky Landscaping Incorporated would be Spasky and Son Landscaping Incorporated, and then his eyes would get all watery and he'd pat my shoulder. It was weird. I'm actually kind of glad to get back to school.

*(ISAAC enters carrying books.)*

**SALLY:** Hey, Isaac!

**HENRY:** *(To ISAAC.)* Wow, you look like you grew this summer. And is that peach fuzz I see on your upper lip?

**SALLY:** *(Shaking her finger and imitating an old person.)* These youngsters, they grow up so fast! That's what my grandma would say.

**ISAAC:** *(Sits down next to THEM.)* Hey, guys. I'm so glad you're in this class too.

**SALLY:** Well, we're glad to see you too.

**ISAAC:** No, it's because I'm pretty sure I'm going to need your help. I think I forgot a lot of math this summer. Like maybe all of it.

**HENRY:** You forgot all of the math?

**ISAAC:** Yeah, I really think so. I played a lot of Call of Duty this summer.

*(CARLOTTA enters and walks over to THEM.)*

**CARLOTTA:** Hey guys! How were your summers?

**SALLY:** Good.

**HENRY:** Boring.

**ISAAC:** Oh, even better – you're in this class too, Carlotta.

**CARLOTTA:** Better than what?

**HENRY:** Better than us, I think.

**ISAAC:** You're the best at math, Carlotta.

**CARLOTTA:** Well, thanks.

**SALLY:** Don't take it as a compliment. Isaac just wants your help.

**HENRY:** He forgot "all of the math" this summer, apparently.

**CARLOTTA:** Wow, that's a lot.

**ISAAC:** I'm in pretty bad shape. Seriously.

*(JACK and MIKAYLA enter.)*

**CARLOTTA:** Oh great, it's Jack and Mikayla. I was really hoping they'd transfer to another school or something.

**HENRY:** Or be incarcerated.

**ISAAC:** Maybe abducted by aliens.

*(JACK and MIKAYLA see THEM and approach.)*

**JACK:** Hey look, Mikayla, they're having a loser convention right here in our math class!

**MIKAYLA:** Ha-ha, loser convention! Good one, bro.

**JACK:** *(To ISAAC.)* What's up, Fat Boy?

**SALLY:** Wow, Jack, good one. His last name is "Fat," so you called him "Fat Boy." Did you think of that all by yourself, or did your brilliant sister help you?

## **End of Freeview**

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