

MEDIA KIT

H IS FOR HAPPINESS

Based on the young adult novel *My Life As An Alphabet*, by Australian author Barry Jonsberg, adapted for the screen by writer/producer Lisa Hoppe, *H is for Happiness* follows Candice Phee, an unflinchingly honest and optimistic twelve year old who is determined to bring her dysfunctional family back from the brink. Her exploits will inspire and delight anyone who has faced the trials of adolescence and the heartbreak of family tragedy.

DAISY AXON

CANDICE PHEE

Unflinchingly optimistic, Candice is looking to bring her family back together after a loss and a feud have left them distant, while also dealing with becoming a teenager and finding first love.

Daisy Axon is set to make her film debut in MirrahFoulkes' *JUDY AND PUNCH* (2019). The role of Candice is her first lead role.

WESLEY PATTEN

DOUGLAS BENSON FROM ANOTHER DIMENSION

New student Douglas Benson believes he's from another dimension and is working on getting back there through a portal by invoking gravity... (jumping out of a tree).

Wesley Patten had a starring role in director John Sheedy's short film *MRS MCCUTCHEON*. His role as Douglas in *H IS FOR HAPPINESS* is his feature debut.

RICHARD ROXBURGH

DAD/JIM PHEE

Candice's Dad Jim is at a loss on how to cope with his wife's depression, his own grief and the betrayal of his brother, Brian, who made a lot of money on a computer software program that Jim thinks he deserves half the credit for...

Richard Roxburgh is an Australian actor best known for *MOULIN ROUGE* (2001), *VAN HELSING* (2004) and *HAWKE* (2010)

EMMA BOOTH

MUM/CLAIRE PHEE

Following the death of her youngest child from SIDS a few years ago, Candice's Mum Claire suffers from depression, something that both she and her family are learning to cope with.

Emma Booth is an Australian actress best known for her award-winning role in *HOUNDS OF LOVE* (2016), *EXTINCTION* (2018) and a recurring role in TV series *ONCE UPON A TIME*.

JOEL JACKSON

RICH UNCLE BRIAN

Uncle Brian became RUB after a computer program he wrote made a lot of money. An argument (and court case) over who owned the rights has left him estranged from his brother. He is a doting uncle to Candice. *There are a couple of low-key humour moments with RUB and his butler that work well.*

Joel Jackson is best known for JUNGLE (2017) and as Peter Allen in the TV series PETER ALLEN: NOT THE BOY NEXT DOOR

MIRIAM MARGOLYES

MISS BAMFORD

Miss Bamford is Candice's teacher and the person who assigns her a letter of the alphabet to present. Miss Bamford often provides unintentional humour in her class, due to her 'wandering' eye.

A veteran of stage and screen, Miriam Margolyesis probably best known with the YA audience as being Professor Sprout in the HARRY POTTER franchise.

DEBORAH MAILMAN

MRS BENSON

Worried about her son after his recent fall and head injury, Douglas Benson's mum, Penelope, is glad to see him make a new friend in Candice.

Award-winning actress, Deborah Mailman, is best known for PAPER PLANES (2014), THE SAPPHIRES (2012) and current role in TV series OFFSPRING

YANKEE DOODLE

MINI HORSE

Could be considered the star of the show (in more ways than one), the mini horse steals every scene he's in...

JOHN SHEEDY

DIRECTOR

A long-time theatre director, H IS FOR HAPPINESS is John's feature debut, following his widely-acclaimed, award-winning short film MRS MCCUTCHEON (2017)

JULIE RYAN

PRODUCER

Australian producer Julie Ryan is best known for HOTEL MUMBAI (2018), 100 BLOODY ACRES (2012), RED DOG (2011) and TEN CANOES (2006)

TENILLE KENNEDY

PRODUCER

Tenille is known for her work on SLAM (2018) and BAD GIRL (2016)

LISA HOPPE

PRODUCER/ WRITER (SCRIPT)

Lisa has extensive experience as a Script Writer, Script Editor and Script Producer across adult and youth drama, children's programs and web series such as *Heartbreak High*, *White Collar Blue*, *All Saints*, *BlinkyBill* and *Woodlies*.

BARRY JONSBURG

AUTHOR of 'My Life as an Alphabet'

Barry Jonsburg is a multi-award winning author whose books have been published in the USA, the UK, France, Poland, Germany, Hungary, Turkey, Brazil and China. Barry features in a small cameo in the film, bringing Douglas Benson in to the class on his first day.