



'Tee Cups,' /A\ Morning's Kurt.



'Boo-Bees,' /A\ Morning's Angie.



'Peek-A-Boob,' /A\ Morning's Lianne.

Bold bras cupfuls of wonder

Show your support for cancer research by voting for your favourite undergarment

Your bras may be plain or fancy, but they probably have nothing on the bras that local celebrities have made to raise money for Bras For A Cause.

There's /A\ channel's Kurt Stoodley's Tee Cups for golfers.

Or Cardel Homes' Really Well Built bra that makes good use of carpenter's tape and two hard hats. They're just two of 10 choices you can vote for online at www.ottawacancer.ca/en/events/signature-events/bras-for-a-cause.aspx.

The campaign is a fundraiser for the Ottawa Regional Cancer Foundation, which will use the money to support the development of the Breast Cancer Molecular Lab at the Ottawa Hospital Research Institute. The lab will lead to more personalized cancer treatments and help doctors de-

velop new ways of treating breast cancer.

It costs \$5 to vote, but you can vote as often as you want. Tax receipts will be e-mailed to voters who contribute \$25 or more.

The winning bra will be announced June 25 at a fashion show at St. Laurent Centre.

In addition to the celebrity bras, Bras For A Cause is asking women to donate new or gently used bras to the campaign. The bras will be washed and donated to local women's organizations and shelters, and for every one donated, Cardel Homes, Telus, Browns Cleaners and St. Laurent Centre will donate \$5 to the campaign.

The bras can be dropped off at St. Laurent Centre, KISS-FM, /A\ channel, Cardel show home locations and Browns Cleaners. Deadline is July 16.



'Sugar Mountains,' /A\ Morning's Bill.



'The Future is Friendly,' Telus.



'Kiss Me,' Sandra and Carter, Kiss FM.



'Lady Ta Ta,' St. Laurent Centre.



'Dry Clean Only,' Browns Cleaners.



'Bella Survivor,' Prosar.



'Really well-built,' Cardel Homes.

Bringing a believable Barbie to life

Jodi Benson helps bring something real to the doll's life in *Toy Story 3*, writes **JAMIE PORTMAN**.

EMERYVILLE, California

Jodi Benson, the voice of Barbie in the *Toy Story* films, has a confession to make.

She grew up with Barbie, but she was not Jodi's favourite doll. The reason — Barbie was a pain for a little girl to dress.

"I did have a Barbie doll, but I could never get the shoes on," she giggles. "It was very frustrating to dress the dolls, so they were mostly naked because you couldn't get them dressed. They made it almost impossible for little girls to get those outfits on."

Then Benson thinks over that last statement.

"No, it really was impossible! And they never had their shoes on!"

Other dolls were more user-friendly.

"I had Skipper. I had Ken. And I had G.I. Joe," Benson said. "I really liked G.I. Joe."

Still she retains a soft spot for Barbie and loved being summoned back by the people at Pixar to supply the voice for Mattel's celebrated doll in *Toy Story 3*, now playing in theatres.

Benson has become a specialist in animated voices over the years. She was the voice of Ariel in Disney's animated classic *The Little Mermaid*, and reprised the role in two DVD sequels. She was Lady in *Lady and the Tramp II* and Anita in *101 Dalmatians II*.

Benson has also been a real person on both stage and screen. She was Patrick

Dempsey's assistant in Disney's hit feature *Enchanted*, and on Broadway she received a Tony Award for her high-stepping portrayal of Polly in the Gershwin musical *Crazy For You*.

Still, she knows that a special aura surrounds the character of Barbie. And *Toy Story 3* offered a further incentive, an onscreen romance with Barbie's significant other, Ken, voiced by Michael Keaton.

"I find Barbie to be an incredibly entertaining character, and I feel even more comfortable in her plastic and perfect skin this time round," she said during filming.

Benson has always wanted to show that Barbie is more than a bubblehead, and when she worked in the recording studio with director Lee Unkrich, she tried to make her as realistic and believable as possible.

"There's this perception that Barbie is not too bright and we wanted to show that she actually is quite smart and able to use all her gifts and talents to do the right thing," Benson said. "She loves people, is a loyal friend for life and is completely trustworthy. And you sure don't want to mess with her when it comes to her friends."

The filmmakers found that adding Ken to the mix this time gave them new opportunities. In comments before the movie's completion, supervising animator Bobby Podesta talked about the benefits.



Barbie and Ken are voiced by actors Jodi Benson and Michael Keaton in *Toy Story 3*. Benson says bringing some humanity to the entertaining character was a lot of fun and adding the Ken element was a natural move for the *Toy Story* films.

"What's nice about working with Barbie and Ken is that the audience knows a lot about working with these toys already and there's a certain amount of embedded information that they bring to the theatre with them that we can play with or against," Podesta said.

"You don't need to establish

that Barbie might have certain doll-like attributes. The audience knows this. They know the way that Barbie's legs bend. When she cries, her hands cover her face in this awkward pose that might look weird, but it's exactly what a Barbie doll would do. And that makes it funny."

As for Benson, she kept a

box of Barbies at the recording studio to help get her into the mood. In an interview with *Canwest* in early June, she said that executive producer John Lasseter has always been a huge help in leading her in the right direction.

"Basically, John told me to throw away everything that

you think Barbie is and just make her real," she said.

"Forget her plastic outside and just make her real and heartwarming. We stayed away from typical assumptions about her ... We just tried to make her as real as possible."

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