

= AJ 's Infinite Summer =

AJ 's Infinite Summer is an animated television pilot created by Toby Jones for Cartoon Network . The pilot follows AJ , whose new job during the summer drives him crazy with power . It is loosely based on Jones ' 2006 film , AJ Goes to France . Both the film and the pilot star AJ Thompson as the eponymous character . Jones additionally sought inspiration from his hometown of Fargo , North Dakota , and the comics he drew featuring Thompson and his other friends . The pilot was released on the official website of Cartoon Network on May 16 , 2014 .

= = Plot = =

Summer vacation starts for AJ and his friends Danny and Morgan , who live in the city of Downer . When AJ wants to be spontaneous for his plans to spend the vacation , he impulsively decides to get a job . The trio comes across a corporate office . AJ wants to apply for the corporation that owns it , but Danny and Morgan suggest that he prepares for the interview . AJ turns to his father , Peter , for advice . He equips AJ with an oversized business suit , and afterward the trio enter the office to help AJ apply . AJ shows his resume , and immediately he is hired by the Instructor of First Impressions . Workers of the office welcome AJ , who wears the same style of business suit as they do . When he sees that each worker has their own assistant , AJ hires Morgan as his " secretary " and tells her to fetch papers . Meanwhile , he asks " towel boy " Danny to wipe the sweat off his brow .

After this demonstration of power , AJ is promoted by his manager . A montage of AJ being promoted for doing absurd tasks follows . Soon , AJ is promoted to a rank with a private office . Danny and Morgan refuse to work for AJ further , finding him corrupt with power . AJ throws them out , and afterward he is promoted to CEO by a former officer ? a decrepit man within a robotic business suit . AJ floats to the top of the suit , from which he spots a beach ball @-@ destroying machine to the side . He hallucinates the beach balls as the heads of Morgan and Danny , who say that he has destroyed the spirit of summer . Realizing his mistake , AJ rejects the promotion . He returns to his friends outside , and together they plan the rest of their summer .

= = Production = =

AJ 's Infinite Summer was created by Toby Jones . Produced by Nate Funaro at Cartoon Network Studios , the pilot had Robert Alvarez as timing director , Sue Mondt as art director , and Phil Rynda as creative director . AJ Thompson provided the voice for the eponymous character , Wallace Langham for Danny , Mae Whitman for Morgan , Chris Parnell for Peter , and David Hill for various characters .

Jones had previously codirected AJ Goes to France , a 2006 live @-@ action independent film that also has Thompson as the leading actor . It was produced as an assignment for Concordia College in Moorhead , Minnesota , where Jones majored in film . Jones had moved from his hometown of Fargo , North Dakota , to Minneapolis in 2005 , after he graduated from Fargo South High School . For AJ 's Infinite Summer , Jones was inspired by his hometown , as well as the comics he drew that featured AJ and his other friends , Danny Davy and Morgan . Additionally , the character of Peter is based on Greg Carlson , Jones ' professor from Concordia and also a film director and a critic for the High Plains Reader . Secret Cities , a Fargo @-@ based band in which Jones ' friends play , provided the score for the pilot . Jones found it excellent that both his friends and his friend 's band were allowed by the network to do work for the pilot .

Jones moved to Los Angeles in 2011 to work for Cartoon Network . He has written and storyboarded for Regular Show , another production on the network . His work on it gave Jones the foresight to pitch another show he knew the network would want . Initially unsure if he was ready to pitch AJ 's Infinite Summer , the network rejected the pilot the first time he did but approved it on the second , after he had reworked it throughout a few months . Jones contrasted the physical limitations of animating in time and energy to the animation of the pilot itself . He cited having the

character of AJ run up a wall in one scene as an example of this .

= = Release and reception = =

AJ 's Infinite Summer was released without announcement on May 16 , 2014 , on the official website of Cartoon Network . Long Live the Royals , another pilot , was released on the same day . This pilot was created by Sean Szeles , who has also worked on Regular Show . Jason Krell of io9 found that the plot for AJ 's Infinite Summer was simple yet flexible . He described its take on life during summer vacation as " charming " and comparable with an " aged @-@ up Phineas and Ferb " . He said that he was amazed by both and that his viewership will be granted for both , should they be picked up as full series . John Lamb of The Forum of Fargo @-@ Moorhead recognized features of Fargo in the pilot , namely the high school , which he found analogous to Fargo South where Jones attended . Meanwhile , Amid Amidi of Cartoon Brew expected that the pilot would not have continuity from AJ Goes to France .

After the pilot was released , Jones found that people back in Fargo were amused to spot the differences in landmarks between their city and Downer . Jones told Lamb that since he worked in animation , he has been " surrounded by these people that I 've looked up to for years as a fan , and having them tell me they enjoyed it is the greatest thing ever " . As of June 2014 , Jones is still mainly working on Regular Show but said that he would like it very much to have the network commission it as a series . He expressed interest in submitting it at the Fargo Film Festival . The pilot was listed in the ballot for " Outstanding Short @-@ Format Animated Program " at the 66th Primetime Emmy Awards , although it did not win . The Long Live the Royals pilot did win in this category , however , and the network later commissioned it as a miniseries of the same name .