

# Family For Christmas

## Johnson Production Group Press Kit

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### One-Liner

Thanks to a little Christmas magic, a single career woman experiences life as a stay-at-home-mom.

### Synopsis

At the height of her career, investigative journalist Hannah Dunbar finds herself wondering what would have been had she stayed with the love of her life, Ben, 10 years before. When Santa Claus hears her “what ifs?” as a Christmas wish, he transports Hannah to a version of her life where she and Ben started a family. Hannah – who literally becomes a mother overnight – navigates the comical day-to-day challenges of life in the suburbs with Ben and their daughters Caitlin and Hailie.

### Producers

Executive Producer  
TIMOTHY O. JOHNSON

Executive Producer  
DAVID GOLDEN

Producer  
OLIVER DE CAIGNY

### Key Cast

| <u>CHARACTER</u> | <u>ACTOR</u>  |
|------------------|---------------|
| Hannah Dunbar    | LACEY CHABERT |
| Ben Matthews     | TYRON LEITSO  |
| Mary Beth Harvey | LAURA ADKIN   |

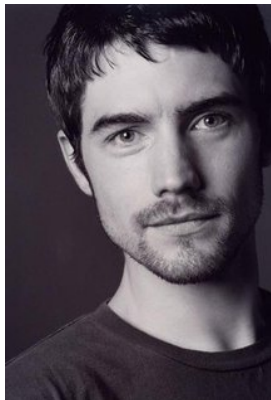
## Key Cast Biographies

### LACEY CHABERT



Lacey Nicole Chabert was born in Purvis, Mississippi, to Julie (Johnson) and Tony Chabert, a representative for an oil company. She is of Cajun (French), Italian, English, and Scottish ancestry. Chabert started in drama and music performances in and around her hometown in Mississippi from an early age, and was a finalist on *Star Search* (1983) in 1991. She gained her break in a cough syrup commercial, before successfully auditioning for the Broadway production of *Les Miserables*, where she played young Cosette for two years. Since then, she has been on a few television series, notably *Party of Five* (1994), a number of telemovies like *Gypsy* (1993), and her big-screen debut, *Lost in Space* (1998). Known for her natural acting skills and charming personality, her cotton candy voice has seen her record many advertising jingles, plus play parts in animated films and TV shows like Nickelodeon's *The Wild Thornberrys* (1998). A more than capable violinist, she enjoys various activities, especially shoe shopping, and she is particularly fond of Cajun cooking. As a result of her promising career, her family, including two sisters and a brother, have moved from Mississippi to California.

### TYRON LEITSO



Tyron Leitso was born on January 7, 1976 in North Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. He is an actor, known for *House of the Dead* (2003), *Being Erica* (2009) and *Assault on Wall Street* (2013).

### LAURA ADKIN



Laura Adkin was born on May 23, 1984 in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. She is an actress and producer, known for *It's a Disaster* (2012), *The Interrogation* (2012) and *Beauty Mark* (2013) MILLI WILKINSON

## Production Credits

### Produced by

|                    |                    |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Timothy O. Johnson | executive producer |
| Oliver De Caigny   | producer           |
| David Golden       | executive producer |

### Directed by

Amanda Tapping

### Writing Credits

Bryar Freed

### Rest of Cast

|                        |                  |
|------------------------|------------------|
| Laura Adkin            | Mary Beth Harvey |
| Matthew Kevin Anderson | Grant Walker     |
| Allyson Grant          | Stroller Mom     |
| Aaron Hutchinson       | Suburban Man     |
| James Kirk             | Carl Oxley       |
| Keith MacKechnie       | Santa Claus      |
| Michael Meneer         | Anchorman        |
| Jill Morrison          | Tammy Frink      |
| Audrey Smallman        | Hallie Matthews  |
| Lee Tichon             | Security guard   |
| Milli Wilkinson        | Caitlin Matthews |
| Brittney Wilson        | Carrie Garrett   |

### Music by

Russ Howard III

**Cinematography by**

Anthony C. Metchie

**Film Editing by**

Ron Yoshida

**Casting By**

Kara Eide

Kris Woznesensky

**Production Design by**

Daren Luc Sasges (as Daren Sasges)

**Makeup Department**

Beverly Hoy makeup/hair swing

**Second Unit Director or Assistant Director**

Roderick Dryden Morrison trainee assistant director

**Art Department**

Jason Sober on set dresser

**Sound Department**

Craig George sound effects editor

Alex Macia foley artist

Aaron Olson adr programmer / dialogue editor

Gregor Phillips sound re-recording mixer / supervising sound editor

Devon Quelch foley artist

Taymaz Saba sound assistant

Matt Smalley foley artist

**Camera and Electrical Department**

Ryan Cunningham second assistant camera: a camera

Laurent Danis second assistant camera: "a" camera: day player

|                    |                                      |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Jenna Fuoco        | second assistant camera: a camera    |
| Clyde Harrelson    | gaffer                               |
| Gabriel Medina     | director of photography: second unit |
| Collin Morrison    | camera operator: a camera            |
| Jason J. Rodriguez | best boy                             |
| Michael Yeung      | first assistant camera               |

### **Casting Department**

|            |                   |
|------------|-------------------|
| James Kirk | casting assistant |
|------------|-------------------|

### **Costume and Wardrobe Department**

|                     |              |
|---------------------|--------------|
| Carmen Ferguson     | costumer     |
| Kelly Allyn Gardner | set costumer |
| Miles Roberts       | stylist      |

### **Other crew**

|                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Eric Ahn          | facs               |
| Sean Cummings     | location manager   |
| Sandra Montgomery | script supervisor  |
| Steve Woodley     | animal coordinator |

## **Producer Biographies**

### **TIM JOHNSON** – Executive Producer

Tim Johnson is among the most active and reliable producers in the business thanks to top rate productions and an 'on time, on budget' reputation. Previously, he managed the production of ABC's THE DAYS (MINDSHARE/TOUCHTONE.) Prior to forming Johnson Production Group and Ignite Entertainment, Tim served as Head of West Coast Programming Executive and launched the successful series DOC (88 episodes,) SUE THOMAS, FBI, MYSTERIOUS WAYS, JUST CAUSE, PONDEROSA, CHRISTY, ITS A MIRACLE AND MIRACLE PETS.

Johnson is also responsible for producing the international hit series, DR. QUINN, MEDICINE WOMAN for CBS PRODS/SULLIVAN COMPANY for over 5 seasons. During his 100-episode tenure, he also launched LIVE FROM THE RANCH with Orson Bean - a nationally syndicated talk show focusing on family values in America. He also developed and produced the original docu-drama COLD CASE for CBS network, which was the very first program to integrate television with the Internet.

#### Recent Projects:

For Better or For Worse – Executive Producer  
Baby Bootcamp – Executive Producer  
Ring By Spring – Executive Producer  
Sole Custody – Executive Producer  
The Cheating Pact – Executive Producer  
Deadly Spa – Executive Producer  
Walking the Halls – Executive Producer  
June In January – Executive Producer  
Christmas in the City – Executive Producer  
Snow Bride – Executive Producer  
Dirty Teacher – Executive Producer  
The Surrogate – Executive Producer  
Merry In-Laws – Executive Producer  
A Bride for Christmas – Executive Producer  
Naughty or Nice – Executive Producer  
Christmas Crush– Executive Producer  
Teenage Bank Heist– Executive Producer  
How to Fall in Love – Executive Producer  
Home Invasion (2011) – Executive Producer  
Final Sale (2011) – Executive Producer  
Confined (2010) – Executive Producer  
Tornado Valley (2009) – Executive Producer  
The Wedding Dance (2009) – Executive Producer  
Trust (2009) – executive producer  
Toxic Skies (2008) – executive producer  
Storm seekers (2008) – executive producer  
Making Mr. Right (2008) – executive producer

Love Sick (2008) – executive producer  
Just Breathe (2008) – executive producer  
Devils Diary (2007) – executive producer  
Swarm (2007) – executive producer

## **JOHNSON PRODUCTION GROUP**

The Johnson Production Group contracts globally to produce television and motion picture content for international networks, studios and distributors. Based in Los Angeles and Vancouver, British Columbia, the company manages production, facilitates development and financing, procures distribution and guarantees quality and timely execution of its programs. While costs have gone up, so has the demand for quality. No longer is good enough, good enough. Johnson Production Group serves that segment when a show needs to be "A" quality, but produced efficiently enough to meet a locked budget. JPG specializes in value, protection of creative elements, and delivery of a quality finished product.

## **DAVID GOLDEN** – Executive Producer

As a writer and producer, David Golden has worked on more than two dozen television movies. His producing credits include the award winning Love Finds You in Sugarcreek for UPTV, with Tom Everett Scott and Kelly McGillis, as well as the other films made from the series of books, Love Finds You in Charm, and the upcoming Love Finds You in Valentine. Other producing credits include The Music in Me with Debbie Gibson, and Paper Angels, with Josie Bissett. Most recently, he was Executive Producer for the Hallmark movie Family For Christmas, with Lacey Chabert. Golden's writing credits for Hallmark include Debbie Macomber's Mrs. Miracle, with Doris Roberts and James Van Der Beek, Oliver's Ghost, with Martin Mull and Rhea Perlman, and Kiss at Pine Lake, with Barry Watson. Other writing credits include Personal Effects, with Penelope Ann Miller and Casper Van Dien, Nightmare, with Haylie Duff, and Time and Again, with Brooke Burns.

## **OLIVER DE CAIGNY - Producer**

Oliver De Caigny is a Canadian producer originally from Belgium, his background in financing, production, and post production makes him a well-rounded producer for any type of production. His experience in financing and production agreements (film and TV series and movies-of-the-week), distribution agreements (both domestic and foreign) as well as international co-productions, Canadian tax credit, Telefilm Canada and Canada Media Fund incentives provides him with a well-rounded background in development, production and distribution for motion pictures, television series and productions.

### Recent Projects

Strange Empire (2014, 13 episodes) – Producer  
Her Infidelity (2014) - Producer  
Paper Angels (2014) - Producer  
A Cookie Cutter Christmas (2014) - Producer  
For Better or For Worse (2014) – Producer  
A Ring By Spring (2014) – Producer  
June In January (2014) – Producer  
Baby Bootcamp (2013) – Producer  
A Badge Of Betrayal (aka Sole Custody) (2013) – Producer  
R.L. Stine's: The Haunting Hour (53 Episodes) – Associate Producer  
A Bride For Christmas (2013) – Producer  
The Dating Coach (2012) – Producer  
Radio Rebel (2012) – Executive Producer  
Seattle Superstorm (2012) – Producer

## **Director Biography**

### **AMANDA TAPPING**

Born In England, raised in Canada. BFA Acting University of Windsor. Amanda spent 12 seasons on Stargate: SG-1 and its spin-offs Stargate: Atlantis and Stargate: Universe as Air Force Colonel Samantha Carter. She then took on the lead role of Dr. Helen Magnus on the television series Sanctuary; a project she had been nurturing from its inception on the internet. Tapping has come to secure a strong and direct influence on her projects from behind the lens. She was an Executive Producer of Sanctuary and also sat in the director's chair for several episodes. She previously directed an episode of Stargate: SG-1 ("Resurrection") in 2004, which garnered her a Leo Award nomination for Best Director. She has also directed three episodes each of Primeval:



New World, Arctic Air and Continuum. She will be directing on two new series this summer, Strange Empire and Olympus. Tapping has also earned four Leo Awards for Best Actress, has been nominated for two Gemini Awards and four Saturn Awards and won the 2005 Saturn Award for Best Supporting Actress. Amanda's love of comedy lead her to co-found the all female Canadian comedy troupe, Random Acts. Her work in the short film Breakdown earned her the Canadian Comedy Award in 2007. She recently completed work on five films, Space Milkshake, Random Acts of Romance, Taken Back, Hell in a Handbag and Kid Cannabis. She played the character of Naomi on the hit TV series Supernatural. She also played a recurring character on the sitcom Package Deal. Tapping has had the pleasure of supporting various charities and organizations such as The Coast Foundation, a support agency for people with mental disabilities, The Canadian Cancer Society, UNICEF and V-Day by performing in "The Vagina Monologues" to help end violence against women and girls worldwide. She also sits on the leadership council for The Waterkeeper Alliance. Amanda launched the charitable foundation "Sanctuary for Kids" in 2009 to support both local and global children's charities helping children in crisis. To date they have raised over \$650,000. Their work takes them to Nepal, Haiti and the downtown east side of Vancouver. She was honored with Women in Film's "Woman of Vision" award. She also received the YWCA Women of Distinction "Connecting the Community" Award. She was recently awarded The Jules Verne Award in Paris for her humanitarian work. She has recently been offered an Honorary Life Membership from the University College of Dublin Law Society and this year received an Honorary Doctorate of Laws from The University of Windsor.

## **Billing Block**

Hallmark Channel Presents In Association with Johnson Production Group "FAMILY FOR CHRISTMAS"

Lacey Chabert Tyron Leitso Casting by Kris Woznesensky & Kara Eide

Production Designer Darren Luc Sasges Music By Russ Howard III Edited by Ron E. Yoshida

Director of Photography Anthony Metchie, csc

Executive Producers Timothy O. Johnson David Golden Produced by Oliver De Caigny

Written by Bryar Freed Directed by Amanda Tapping

With the participation of the Province of British Columbia

Film Incentive BC

The Canadian Film or Video Production Tax Credit

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