

THE MOST COLORFUL TIME OF THE YEAR

Johnson Production Group

Press Kit

One-Liner

A colorblind school teacher finds romance when a student and her optometrist mom help him see Christmas in color for the very first time.

Synopsis

Ryan Tanner is an elementary school science teacher. His wardrobe, his home, his life is drab, virtually colorless, and not a single Christmas decoration anywhere. His classroom is much the same, devoid of both color and Christmas but he is an incredible teacher who captivates his science class.

Michelle is an optometrist and mother of Bailey, one of Ryan's students and is providing eye exams for the class and insists Ryan take an exam too. He is reluctant and cuts it short, but she is eventually able to confirm her suspicion that he is colorblind.

The attraction between Ryan and Michelle is apparent from the start, but nearly every time she sees Ryan, there's another woman vying for his attention, be it a divorced mom or the girls' basketball coach, Gabby. Ryan is nearly oblivious to this, focused instead on his class. Michelle, too, is in the midst of a complicated breakup with her ex-boyfriend, Mark, who is trying to get back together with her.

When Michelle drops Bailey off at school the next morning, she confronts Ryan about his colorblindness, and mentions a clinical trial for new color correction lenses that she believes might change his life. Ryan is stubborn and rejects her optimism. Nevertheless, she submits Ryan for the trial but when the new lenses arrive at her office, Ryan refuses them. When Bailey learns of this, she sneaks them into her backpack and leaves them on her teacher's desk with a handwritten note, "These glasses exist because of science, and you taught me that science should give us hope."

As Michelle and Bailey are leaving, they see Ryan exit his class with the glasses in hand. Michelle follows him into a building where there is a colorful nativity scene lit up beautifully. Here we see it through Ryan's point of view in grayscale. When Ryan puts on the glasses and opens his eyes, the world, for the first time, appears in technicolor. He blinks a few times and the colors settle. His reaction is big and emotional! He literally can't believe how beautiful everything is! And Michelle, she looks like an angel. He wants to see everything! Michelle takes it upon herself to introduce him to the world of color, setting off a series of adventures — a gift wrapping event, a sunset over the city, a Christmas tree lighting, and a visit to her sister's flower shop. At every stop, Ryan is in awe of the colors, and Michelle answers all his questions.

Overjoyed with his new view of the world, Ryan's wardrobe and classroom are both over the top with color. His spirits are lifted. He's a new man, and falling hard for Michelle. But at the school's Christmas play, Michelle catches Gabby kissing Ryan affectionately on the cheek. Heartbroken, she hurries away before she is seen. As for Ryan, he has spotted Michelle's ex, Mark, who showed up to see Bailey in the

play, and Ryan sees him take Michelle’s hand as they move down the aisle to their seats. He, too, is heartbroken. Will the truth and the wonder of a colorful world win out?

Producers

Executive Producers
TIMOTHY O. JOHNSON
ANDREW C. ERIN

Co-Executive Producer
JOSEPH WILKA

Supervising Producer
OLIVER DE CAIGNY

Producer
JOSIE FITZGERALD

Key Cast

| <u>CHARACTER</u> | <u>ACTOR</u> |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Michelle | KATRINA BOWDEN |
| Ryan | CHRISTOPHER RUSSELL |
| Bailey | AVA WEISS |
| Heidi | JOANNA DOUGLAS |
| Mark | R AUSTIN BALL |
| Shawn | BERT CARDOZO |

Key Cast Biographies

KATRINA BOWDEN



Katrina Bowden has had a steady and extensive career on both the big screen and television. She has starred in Hallmark Channel’s Winterfest, Love On the Slopes, and Framed By My Fiancé. She also appeared in The Divorce Party, The Orchard, Definition Pleas, Born A Champion and Senior Moment. Bowden has had a recurring role in The Bold and the Beautiful as Flo. She was seen in the indie feature Divorce Party as well as the lead in two indie features Hard Sell, opposite Kristen Chenoweth, and Monolith. Bowden also starred in the TNT series “Public Morals,” opposite Michael Rappaport and Ed Burns for DreamWorks Television, and prior to that was most well known for playing the drop dead gorgeous receptionist Cerie in the mega hit NBC series “30 Rock.”

Her additional big screen credits include American Reunion for Universal and Nurse 3D for Lionsgate, among others. She has graced the covers of Maxim and FHM and was once named “Sexiest Woman Alive” by Esquire.

CHRISTOPHER RUSSELL



Christopher Russell is a first generation Canadian born to British parents. From a very young age, he was drawn to the arts and began performing. His first role as an actor was portraying Mary and Joseph's donkey in his pre-school production of "The Nativity Story," for which he received rave reviews. In high school, Russell performed in many productions, most notably as Magnus Muldoon in a rendition of Tom Stoppard's "The Real Inspector Hound," which earned him the Sears Drama Festival Award of Excellence.

Russell recently filmed the lead role of Madison in ABC Family's pilot "Gorgeous Morons." His numerous television credits prior to that include guest star and recurring appearances on "Girlfriends' Guide to Divorce," "Men in Trees" with Anne Heche, "Flashpoint," "The Listener," "Murdoch Mysteries," The CW's "iZombie," "Nikita," "Supernatural" and "Beauty and the Beast," as well as the TV movies "Love, Again," "Midnight Masquerade," "The Boy Next Door," "Seduced By Lies" and "Catch A Christmas Star."

Russell's film credits include "Gone Tomorrow," "Gangster Exchange," George Romero's "Land of the Dead," "Center Stage: Turn It Up" and "The Right Kind Of Wrong," which was an official selection for TIFF 2013, starring "True Blood's" Ryan Kwanten and Catherine O'Hara.

Russell currently lives in Vancouver with his wife and his two children.

AVA WEISS



Young actress Ava Weiss is based in Northern Ontario. She received her first role on Honey Bee exactly one year to the day that she started her series regular role on When Hope Calls. A busy actress, Ava is also known for Moonfall, Lemonade Stand Romance, A Christmas Letter, Angel Falls: A Novel Holiday The Breach and Y: The Last Man.

JOANNA DOUGLAS



Canadian born actress, Joanna Douglas, is a graduate of the University of Toronto and Sheridan College's joint theatre and drama studies program. She is probably best known for portraying Samantha Strange on the TV series, Being Erica but has also appeared in Good Witch, Anne with an E, The Handmaid's Tale, Murdoch Mysteries, Suits and Saving Hope, amongst others. Her film roles have included Saw 3D, New Year, Crimson Peak, Standoff and Christmas Inheritance.

R AUSTIN BALL



Austin Ball is a full time filmmaker and actor based in Toronto Canada. After a stint as a professional wakeboarder, he completed a finance degree in Halifax and immediately moved to Toronto to pursue an acting career. He studied many techniques throughout the city and gained some success in television before putting that on pause to pursue other avenues in life. He later bought a camera and taught himself editing and cinematography while working building houses. Specializing in narrative filmmaking, Austin has won two 48 Hour Film Project competitions in Toronto. His most recent one, an ambitious single shot entitled 'Sir Ludwig's DuClaudian Twins are Alive & Well and Living in the Same Building' was also nominated for Best Cinematography and Best Writing out of 5000 films at the world finals. Austin found his way back to television and film acting a few years ago and is currently enjoying all facets of filmmaking and collaboration. Directing felt like a natural progression and he is always excited to discover what's around the corner. Above all else, Austin is a religious fan of movies.

Austin has been very busy the last few years with appearances in several TV Series Including Walk In The Park, Killjoys, V-Wars, Avocado Toast, Mayday, Murdoch Mysteries and Coroner as well as film roles in Bad Influence, The End of Sex and Six Degrees of Santa, to name a few.

BERT CARDOZO



Bert Cardozo is an actor from Toronto, Canada who has appeared in numerous national commercials, TV Shows such as St-Nickel (2016), Good Witch (2017), Condor (2018), In The Dark (2019) and Designated Survivor (2019) and some feature films such as Galentine's Day Nightmare (2021).

Production Credits

Full Cast

| Actors | Role |
|---------------------|----------|
| KATRINA BOWDEN | Michelle |
| CHRISTOPHER RUSSELL | Ryan |
| AVA WEISS | Bailey |
| JOANNA DOUGLAS | Heidi |
| HOLLY JADE BALMER | Gabby |
| R AUSTIN BALL | Mark |
| BERT CARDOZO | Shawn |

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| CÉLINE BAUWMANS | Stacey |
| MELINDA MICHAEL | Debbie |
| MICHAEL GORDIN SHORE | Mayor |
| PERCY ANANE-DWUMFOUR | Dan |
| KATE MACLELLAN | Alice |
| JAMIE CHAMPAGNE | Waiter |
| MARK FISHER | Paul |
| JANICE GENCHER | Taylor's Mom |
| KATHERINE STELLA DUNCAN | Teacher |

Casting

RON LEACH, c.d.c.

Composer

RUSS HOWARD III

Costume Designer

AMANDA COLLIE

Editor

CASEY TOURANGEAU

Production Designer

GREGORY PHILIP WILSON

Director of Photography

MICHAEL TIEN

Written by

KEITH HEMSTREET

ALAN DONAHUE

Directed by

MAXWELL MCGUIRE

Other Crew

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| JOHNNY ROSS | Production Manager |
| SARAH PETKOV | First Assistant Director |
| MICHELLE SHIPLEY | Second Assistant Director |
| CIMARRON LANGLOIS | Third Assistant Director |
| MAYA BROWN | Fourth Assistant Director |
| BEN BELANGER | SFX Coordinator |
| MATT SYNEK | SFX On-Set Supervisor |
| WARREN MITCHELL-BELANGER | SFX |
| ALAIN DUBÉ | Tutor |

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| AMTI | Extras Casting |
| ANGIE SAKLA-SEYMOUR | |
| GORAN POBRIĆ | Production Coordinator |
| LOGAN A. WAGNER | Production Accountant |
| JOSHUA LANGE | First Assistant Accountant |
| MATTHEW CARVELL | Second Assistant / Post Accountant |
| GREGORY PHILIP WILSON | Production Designer |
| TOMAS CHOVANEC | Art Directors |
| ELIZABETH FITZPATRICK | |
| R AUSTIN BALL | Set Dressers |
| ANTHONY RANKIN | |
| REBECCA ROWE | |
| NATHALIE GREGOIRE | Property Master |
| ALEXANDRE GREGOIRE | Assistant Prop Master |
| AMANDA COLLIE | Costume Designer |
| JESSICA DYKINS | Costume Truck Supervisor |
| ALEXANDRA NEUFELDT | Wardrobe Assistants |
| SERENA ROWSELL | |
| ANDY TAIT | |
| ALINA WITJES | |
| MICHAEL TIEN | Director of Photography |
| JOSH HENDERSON | B Camera Operator |
| ADAM TESTA | A Cam - First Assistant Camera |
| MUNG HATLANG | A Cam - Second Assistant Camera |
| MATT CROSSE | B Cam - First Assistant Camera |
| MUNG HATLANG | B Cam - Second Assistant Camera |
| NATHAN YEE | |
| CAMERON MATHESON | Camera Trainee |
| RICHARD FRAZIER | DIT & Camera Utility |
| GEGHANI PANOOSIAN-HAJIABADI | EPK Camera Op & Camera Utility |
| PETR MAUR | Stills Photographer |
| STEVEN BRUNI | Gaffer |
| YAN SCHNELL | Best Electric |
| NICHOLAS HERMIER | Key Grip |
| RJ NADON | Best Grip |
| LIAM S. CASASOLA | Swings |
| IAN FRASER | |
| DANIEL KAUNISVITTA | |

| | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| SONIC LIGHTNING ENTERTAINMENT INC. | Sound |
| NICK SMITH | Script Supervisor |
| NATALIE HONSHORST | Location Manager |
| SAGINE CAVÉ | Assistant Location Manager |
| KIM RODGER | Location Scout |
| BEN HRKACH | Location Production Assistants |
| JORDON PALAISY | |
| RAJ POLWATTA | |
| NOAH SNIECKUS | |
| CHRISTINE ST. LOUIS | |
| BEN VISNESKIE | |
| ALYSSA "ALY" MORDEN-HAYLEY | Key Makeup Artist |
| KASSANDRA PEREIRA | Assistant Makeup Artist |
| NATASHA GABRIELA TREPANIER | Key Hair Stylist |
| DESTINY-LEIGH CLARK | Assistant Hair Stylists |
| MARC-ANDRE LEVAC | |
| STEFANE GREGOIRE | Transport Coordinator |
| GREG LEWIS | Transport Captain |
| MICHAEL DICKSON | Drivers |
| BILAL MAHMOUD | |
| KIM RODGER | |
| PERRY MCCONNELL | Transport Production Assistants |
| JENNIFER O'MALLEY | |
| TRACEY ST. LOUIS | |
| JAY VISNESKIE | |
| CRAIG WRIGHT | |
| CORNELIA VILLENEUVE | Move Crew |
| DAN VILLENEUVE | |
| ERIC VILLENEUVE | |
| SEAN VILLENEUVE | |
| KEITH STEFFENSEN | |
| ACTION SET MEDICS INC. | Health & Safety |
| MATTHEW DUBUC | Caterer |
| TOM WARRELL | Head Chef |
| GERRY WHALEN | Sous Chef |
| RONDA MACKINNON | Craft Service |
| THE NO CONFLICT CLEARANCE COMPANY | Script Clearances |
| HALL WEBER LLP | Legal Services |

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| ABOVE THE LINE MEDIA SERVICES | Business Affairs |
| BRENDAN MCNEILL | |
| ARTHUR J. GALLAGHER CANADA LTD. | Insurance by |
| ALEXANDRA WARING | Post Production Supervisor |
| URBAN POST PRODUCTION | Post Production Services |
| JONAH GILLESPIE | Dialogue Editors |
| LAUREN RICE | |
| JEREMY LAING | ADR Editor |
| EHREN PFEIFER | ADR Recordist |
| FIL HOSEK | Re-Recording Mixer |
| OLIVIA KOLAKOWSKI | Sound FX Editor |
| DAWN LEWIS | Foley Artists |
| TESS MOIR | |
| DAVE MERCEL | Foley Recordists |
| JESSICA SERVIER | |
| MIKE POISSON | |
| KENT MCCORMICK | Colorist |
| EVAN GRAVES | VFX Artist |
| KALI RAIGH | Online Editor |
| PETER TOKARSKY | Project Manager |
| BRUCE REES | Picture Operations Manager |
| ROBERTA BRATTI | V.P. of Operations |
| POND5/BLACKBOXGUILD | Stock Footage |
| POND5/LOGOBOOM | |
| POND5/MARSHALLNYC | |
| POND5/ODESIGNS | |
| ISTOCK/ALEXPOTEMKIN | |
| ISTOCK/OCEANFISHING | |
| ISTOCK/ODESIGNS | |

MUSIC

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 global distribution appeal.

Johnson is also responsible for producing the international hit series, DR. QUINN, MEDICINE WOMAN for

CBS for over 5 seasons. During his 100-episode tenure, 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.

Johnson has produced over 150 movies, 15 globally released series for every major US network - including ABC, Disney, CBS, NBC, Netflix, FOX and Sony.

JOHNSON PRODUCTION GROUP

The Johnson Production Group contracts globally to produce television 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.

ANDREW C. ERIN – Executive Producer

Andrew Erin is a Canadian Writer/Director making a big splash in the US, and has produced, written and directed numerous commercially successful films. His directorial debut, SAM'S LAKE, was an official selection at the Tribeca Film Festival and did an excellent theatrical run in select theaters around the country; distributed by Lionsgate Films. Andrew also wrote the script for the film. Andrew's directorial credits include, SIMPLE THINGS, produced for Screen Media Ventures and Universal Studios. Besides winning The Bob Clark Award for Best Director at the California Independent Film Festival, the film was commercially received. Andrew has worked continuously as a writer/director, building a strong library of films in the Thriller/Horror genres with: Embrace of The Vampire, The Clinic, Final Sale, Confined and Toxic Skies.

JOSEPH WILKA – Co-Executive Producer

Joseph Wilka is the Head of Production for Johnson Production Group. Los Angeles-based, Joseph had already produced and directed several feature films before serving as the senior marketing executive for Gravitas Ventures. While at Gravitas, Wilka helped pioneer new distribution models for independent films including day-and-date theatrical releases. It was also at Gravitas where Joseph first worked with Johnson Production Group to facilitate the release of their films to the worldwide Video On Demand audience. After serving as the Director of Distribution and Production for Viva Pictures, where he produced English-language versions of foreign animated titles for DirecTV, Wilka officially joined Johnson Production Group. As Head of Production, he oversees the development, production, and distribution of films from multiple production units for release on broadcast and streaming platforms.

OLIVER DE CAIGNY – Supervising 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.

JOSIE FITZGERALD – Producer

Josie Fitzgerald is a Canadian born Producer currently residing and working in Ottawa, Ontario. Josie is also a passionate photographer and writer, with an education in Justice Studies and a professional background in Human Resources and Project Management.

MAXWELL McGUIRE - Director

As a writer and director, Max's projects have been financed or distributed by; Netflix, Bron Studios, Telefilm Canada, Ontario Media Development Corp, Hallmark, Lifetime, CBC TV, UPtv, Canada Council for the Arts, the Harold Greenberg Fund and a number other private international distributors.

Foreverland, his most personal movie, was produced by Bron Studios and Screen Siren Media. It was distributed theatrically by Eone and sold internationally by Vision Films. It stars Max Thieriot (Seal Team/Bates Motel), Laurence Leboeuf (Transplant) and Oscar nominees Juliette Lewis (Cape Fear) and Demian Bichir (The Bridge) along with Sarah Wayne Callies, Matt Frewer and Thomas Dekker.

Max recently directed, Midnight at the Magnolia starring Natalie Hall and Evan Williams for Marvista Entertainment which can currently be seen on Netflix where it was TOP 5 worldwide most watched movie.

Love at Look Lodge, starring Clark Backo and Jonathan Keltz recently premiered on Hallmark to over 2 million viewers this past fall while Mistletoe and Menorahs starring Kelley Jakle and Jake Epstein continues to air on Lifetime TV and around the world.

He's directed numerous thrillers such as The Narcissist, starring Amber Goldfarb, Damon Runyon and Sam Ashe Arnold for Lifetime along with multiple movies for Johnson Production Group, Fireside Pictures, Reel World Management, Neshama Entertainment and Marvista Entertainment.

Billing Block

HALLMARK CHANNEL PRESENTS IN ASSOCIATION WITH JOHNSON PRODUCTION GROUP
"THE MOST COLORFUL TIME OF THE YEAR" starring KATRINA BOWDEN CHRISTOPHER
RUSSELL AVA WEISS JOANNA DOUGLAS R AUSTIN BALL BERT CARDOZO Casting RON
LEACH, c.d.c. Composer RUSS HOWARD III Costume Designer AMANDA COLLIE Editor
CASEY TOURANGEAU Production Designer GREGORY PHILIP WILSON Director of
Photography MICHAEL TIEN Co-Executive Producer JOSEPH WILKA Producer JOSIE
FITZGERALD Supervising Producer OLIVER DE CAIGNY Executive Producers ANDREW C.
ERIN TIMOTHY O. JOHNSON Written by KEITH HEMSTREET ALAN DONAHUE
Directed by MAXWELL MCGUIRE



With the Participation of

Canada

The Canadian Film or Video Production Tax Credit

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JOHNSON PRODUCTION GROUP

Meta Data

LONG (max 3000 characters) synopsis

Ryan Tanner is an elementary school science teacher. His wardrobe, his home, his life is drab, virtually colorless, and not a single Christmas decoration anywhere. His classroom is much the same, devoid of both color and Christmas but he is an incredible teacher who captivates his science class.

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The attraction between Ryan and Michelle is apparent from the start, but nearly every time she sees Ryan, there's another woman vying for his attention, be it a divorced mom or the girls' basketball coach, Gabby. Ryan is nearly oblivious to this, focused instead on his class. Michelle, too, is in the midst of a complicated breakup with her ex-boyfriend, Mark, who is trying to get back together with her.

When Michelle drops Bailey off at school the next morning, she confronts Ryan about his colorblindness, and mentions a clinical trial for new color correction lenses that she believes might change his life. Ryan is stubborn and rejects her optimism. Nevertheless, she submits Ryan for the trial but when the new lenses arrive at her office, Ryan refuses them. When Bailey learns of this, she sneaks them into her backpack and leaves them on her teacher's desk with a handwritten note, "These glasses exist because of science, and you taught me that science should give us hope."

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Overjoyed with his new view of the world, Ryan's wardrobe and classroom are both over the top with color. His spirits are lifted. He's a new man, and falling hard for Michelle. But at the school's Christmas play, Michelle catches Gabby kissing Ryan affectionately on the cheek. Heartbroken, she hurries away before she is seen. As for Ryan, he has spotted Michelle's ex, Mark, who showed up to see Bailey in the play, and Ryan sees him take Michelle's hand as they move down the aisle to their seats. He, too, is heartbroken. Will the truth and the wonder of a colorful world win out?

Text (2985)

MEDIUM (max 500) synopsis

A colorblind science teacher whose life, home, and classroom, are all rendered in black and white finds romance when a student and her optometrist mom help him see Christmas in color for the very first time. (140)

SHORT (max 100 characters) synopsis

A colorblind teacher finds romance when a student's optometrist mom shows him Christmas in color. (97)

5 KEY WORDS

Colorblind, science teacher, optometrist, romance