

'HOME & FAMILY'

HOST BIOS

MARK STEINES - Emmy® award-winning journalist Mark Steines hosts Hallmark Channel's new "Home & Family" the ultimate 'how to' show (premiering October 1, 2012). After more than 17 years on "Entertainment Tonight," Steines and his co-host Paige Davis ("Trading Spaces") will entertain and inform their audience daily with an array of entertaining and relevant lifestyle topics, celebrities and experts.

From small town Iowa to the red carpets of Hollywood, three-time Emmy winner Steines has established himself as one of the most trusted and charismatic figures in entertainment news. During his tenure at "Entertainment Tonight" he interviewed 100s of A-list actors, producers, musicians and athletes.

Recently, Steines has received rave reviews as a photographer. His appreciation for all things beautiful is captured in his portraits and majestic landscapes. His artwork can be seen on the walls at The Ritz-Carlton Residence at LA Live and inside many exclusive Hollywood homes and offices. His photo book See The Light: A Passage To Sierra Leone, documents the Light House Medical Mission's trip to raise awareness for fresh water in impoverished countries.

Other hosting credits include the "2008 Miss America Live!," VH-1's "Greatest TV Rock 'n' Roll Moments," VH-1's "The 25 Sexiest," the "Golden Karma Awards," recognizing international philanthropic efforts, Mark Burnett's AOL interactive online game "Gold Rush" and the legendary Hollywood Christmas Parade. He was also a celebrity guest judge on "HGTV Design Star."

He received an Emmy award for the KCAL-TV special "Beyond Endurance: Madagascar," an Emmy and Golden Mic award for "Beyond Endurance: Borneo," an Emmy as host of the 2005 Hollywood Christmas Parade, and a National Iris Award for the special "The Big Business of Sports Endorsements" and national recognition by the Women's Sports Foundation for his fair and impartial reporting on the Women's National Football League.

As an actor, Steines has guest starred on television shows including "CSI: NY," "The Practice," "Medium," "Half & Half," "America's Next Top Model," Disney Channel's "Handy Manny" and Sony Pictures' feature film "Nixon."

Steines studied comedy at The Groundlings, the renowned school of improv, and earned a degree from JoAnne Baron/DW Brown Acting Studio's Meisner Technique training. His vocal skills training were fine-tuned at the Kalmenson & Kalmenson Voice Over School for Actors.

A born fitness enthusiast, Steines was featured in People Magazine's coveted "Sexiest Man Alive" issue and Men's Fitness Magazine's "25 Fittest Men in America."

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Born and raised in Dubuque, Iowa, he attended the University of Northern Iowa on a full football scholarship and graduated with a degree in Radio and Television. Steines began his broadcast career as a regional television sports reporter, which later brought him to Los Angeles and national television. Not one to forget his roots, Steines established a mentorship program with his alma mater, equipping students with the tools necessary to successfully transition from the classroom to a career.

An avid hands-on do-it-yourself guy, Steines enjoys spending his free time fixing, remodeling and restoring all things in disrepair. He resides in Los Angeles and Ojai, California with his two sons.

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CRISTINA FERRARE – At the early age of sixteen, Cristina Ferrare started a career in modeling with the Ford modeling agency in New York. Her career as a super model spanned over twenty-five years. Max Factor put her under contract as their spokesperson while still a teenager. During that time her career took off as she graced the covers and pages of every major fashion magazine including Vogue, Harper's Bazaar, Cosmopolitan, Good Housekeeping, Ladies Home Journal and traveled the world as a sought after international cover girl. During this time she soon became a trusted spokesperson and endorsed numerous commercial products.

In the early 80's, Ferrare co-hosted "AM Los Angeles," which was the #1 rated morning television show during her five year tenure. Between many TV appearances, she has hosted her own shows: "Cristina and Friends" and a two hour live show from Universal Studios' "Home and Family." She was a substitute co-host on "Good Morning America" and co-hosted numerous times with Regis Philbin on "Live with Regis and Kathie Lee." Her primetime series for CBS, "Shame on You," was one of the first magazine format shows that featured consumer fraud and awareness. It set the stage for other prime time magazine formats that followed. For NBC, she co-hosted "Men are from Mars, Women are from Venus" with Dr. Drew Pinsky. At one time, Ferrare had three shows on the air at the same time: the aforementioned live morning talk show, "AM Los Angeles," "The Home Show," and the primetime series "Incredible Sunday" all for ABC. In feature films, she starred opposite David Niven in "The Impossible Years" and the critically acclaimed "J.W. Coop" with Oscar® winner, Cliff Robertson.

Ferrare is an accomplished author, with her New York Times bestseller, *Okay, So I Don't Have a Headache*, and bestseller *Cristina Ferrare's Family Entertainment*, *Cristina Ferrare Style* and *Realistically Ever After*, a humorous view of finding happiness when he's not Prince Charming, you're not Snow White and life is not a fairy tale.

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Her fifth and most recent cookbook, A Big Bowl of Love was released on Mother's Day 2011 and has been widely accepted and has received rave reviews from bloggers across the country. She is already hard at work on her next cookbook!

The success of her books attests to her expertise in the areas of women's health, wellbeing, culinary arts, stylistic design, as well as her great zest for life and her humor.

Ferrare completed 28 shows that air on the Oprah Winfrey Network (OWN) that debuted on January 3rd, 2011. Her show, "A Big Bowl of Love" featured celebrity guests along with members of her family and friends serving up great ideas for all kinds of situations that happen in real life!

She has been hosting a series of web episodes for "Oprah.com" that includes cooking classes with the emphasis on how to prepare delicious meals for families, who are struggling with money, time and idea issues. She is writing weekly blogs for Oprah.com that include recipes and answers to questions from fans. She also completed Kellogg commercials for OWN and appeared with her Kellogg recipes on over 20 million Kellogg cereal boxes.

Ferrare has been able to harness all the experience she has had over the years interviewing different types of people including entertainment executives, major motion picture and television stars, directors, producers, writers, medical professionals, politicians, designers, and chefs and let it fuel her entrepreneurial spirit into starting her own design business. In 2006, Ferrare, along with her partners Brian Thorson and Tim Hosier, started a line of home accessories through their newly formed "Ferrare With Company." It included picture frames, napkin rings, lamps, scented candles, candle sticks, accessories for the table, and show stopping, one of a kind mirrors and chandeliers using only the finest materials. Swarovski crystals and semi-precious stones, pearls, shells, and metals are placed by hand, piece by piece, onto each object and are true works of art. The pieces are sought after by top interior designers around the country and sells to over 60 stores including Bergdorf Goodman and Barneys on line.

Cristina recently sold the company and is focusing her energy to writing. She is writing her sixth cookbook and recently signed on as food and style editor for Westlake Magazine.

She recently was asked to join Opensky.com an online shopping site where she is a curator of her own store specializing in the kitchen and cooking. She is a "Tastemaker" on FOODILY.com where you can follow her recommendations on outstanding recipes that she finds on the web and shares with her followers. She also writes weekly blogs for her own web site CristinaFerrarecooks.com and shares many of her own recipes, great finds, cooking tips including health, decorating, table settings, floral arrangements and money saving ideas.

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Ferrare has spoken at various conventions around the country including the 2004 “The Women’s Conference” where she monitored a session about women’s health and sexual well-being. In 2007 she hosted, along with Chef Art Smith, a session on cooking for 300 women! She sat on the Board of Directors for “The Women’s Conference” which was headed by California’s First Lady Maria Shriver. Once a year, over 14,000 women come from all over for a life-changing day. It is a true day of transformation and empowerment that encourages women to be their own “Architects of Change” for a better life for them, their families, and their community! She was also the keynote speaker at the Creative Connection annual meeting held in St Paul, Minnesota 2011.

Ferrare lives in Los Angeles with her husband, entertainment executive Tony Thomopoulos. They have a blended family of seven children and four grandchildren.

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