



'ENCHANTED CHRISTMAS'
Cast Bios

ALEXA PENAVERGA (Laura Trudeau) – Alexa PenaVega, a Miami native, is an actress and a singer. Her career began as a young girl in 1996, when she starred as Jo Harding in the hit film *Twister*. After that, she guest-starred in various television shows and films such as “The Bernie Mac Show,” “ER” and “Ghost Whisperer.” The movie that catapulted her to worldwide fame was the 2001 film *Spy Kids*, in which she starred as Carmen Cortez. After the enormous success of that movie there were two sequels: *Spy Kids 2: The Island of Lost Dreams* and *Spy Kids 3D: Game Over*, as well as the 2011 reprisal, *Spy Kids: All the Time in the World*. PenaVega went on to appear in many other films such as *Sleepover*, *State’s Evidence*, *Odd Girl Out*, *Walkout*, *Remember the Daze*, *Repo! The Genetic Opera*, *Helix*, *The Devil’s Carnival* and *The Pregnancy Project*.

While PenaVega has an impressive movie filmography, she has also had massive success in other areas of the entertainment industry. She played Penny in *Hairspray* on Broadway, had TV roles in shows such as “Ruby & The Rockits” and “Big Time Rush,” appeared in Aerosmith’s “Legendary Child” and was a contestant on Season 21 of “Dancing with the Stars.” PenaVega is also a singer – over the course of her *Spy Kids* career she contributed three songs to the various movie soundtracks (“Isle of Dreams,” “Game Over” and “Heart Drive”). She also sang “Christmas is the Time to Say I Love You” for Walt Disney Records’ compilation album *Songs to Celebrate the 25 Days of Christmas* in 2009.

PenaVega most recently starred in the Hallmark Channel original movie “Destination Wedding.” Over the past few years, PenaVega has been seen in movies such as *23 Blast*, *Machete Kills*, *Bounty Killer*, *Wicked Blood*, *The Remaining* and *The Hunter*.

PenaVega has been happily married to Carlos PenaVega since 2014. In 2016, they welcomed their first child, Ocean King. In her spare time, she enjoys gymnastics and freshwater fishing.

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CARLOS PENAVERGA (Ricardo Archuleta) – Carlos PenaVega shot to fame and cult status after starring on the highly successful Nickelodeon musical comedy “Big Time Rush” as Carlos Garcia. The band of the same name hit the road selling out arenas around the globe and releasing three albums, each receiving gold certifications. PenaVega portrayed Oscar Vasquez in LionsGate

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Films/Pantelion Films feature, *Spare Parts* alongside George Lopez and Marisa Tomei. A singer and a dancer, PenaVega starred as Kenickie with Julianne Hough and Vanessa Hudgens in the live two-hour television musical production of "Grease: Live!," based on the classic American movie musical *Grease*. He also stars alongside Kate Bosworth, Juno Temple, Kay Panabaker and Kyle Gallner in the independent feature film *Little Birds*. PenaVega is currently a series regular opposite Lucy Hale in The CW's "Life Sentence."

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JAYNEE-LYNNE KINCEN (Nikki Trudeau) – Jaynee-Lynne Kinchen, affectionately known as JL, was born in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. She has been singing and entertaining on stage since age three. Her first performance in front of an audience was Shirley Temple's "Animal Crackers." She is well known in her community for singing the National Anthem at LSU sporting events. Although she's been known to have a few shy moments in her early years, the second anyone would hand her a microphone, she'd shine, put on her sassy personality, and no one would ever guess she had a shy bone in her body.

The producers of "America's Got Talent" discovered Kinchen's singing voice at age four out of 48,000 auditions and selected her for their live TV show. She sang in front of celebrity judges and a large audience, which she brought to their feet.

Kinchen can be seen in the Focus Features film *Self/Less* as the daughter of Ryan Reynolds and opposite Ben Kingsley and has guest-starred on "NCIS: New Orleans."

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RENE RIVERA (Manuel Montoya) – Rene Rivera, a native of San Antonio, Texas, is a respected, critically acclaimed American actor who has appeared in countless Broadway, Off-Broadway and Regional Theater roles and works extensively in both television and film.

Rivera's most recent role was as Mateo on the daytime drama series "General Hospital." He has also appeared in over two dozen television series including "The Mentalist," "The X-Files," "Rizzoli & Isles" and "N.Y.P.D. Blue." On the big screen Rivera has appeared in such films as *Carlito's Way* with Al Pacino, *Bordertown* with Jennifer Lopez and *Disturbia* with Shia LaBeouf.

Rivera is a proud member of The Actor's Studio and a graduate of The Julliard School in New York.

He resides in Los Angeles with his wife Stacey and has three children, Luna, Eva and Rafael.

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