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'CHRISTMAS COMES TWICE' **Cast Bios**

TAMERA MOWRY-HOUSLEY (Cheryl Jenkins) – Tamera Mowry-Housley is an actor, producer, host and entrepreneur who has captivated audiences for over 20 years.

Mowry-Housley recently joined Hallmark Channel's two-hour, daily lifestyle show "Home & Family" as a family member and prior to that co-hosted the Emmy-winning talk show "The Real" for six seasons. "The Real" is the first syndicated talk show in years to be renewed for a sixth season. She worked alongside co-hosts Loni Love, Adrienne Bailon and Jeannie Mai. Together, the ladies won the Emmy Award for Outstanding Entertainment Talk Show Host at the 45th Daytime Emmy Awards in April 2018.

Mowry-Housley started her career in Hollywood alongside her sister Tia on the hit show "Sister, Sister," which aired over 100 episodes from 1994-1999. Her work on the show gained praise and recognition; she received an NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Actress in a Comedy Series and Kid's Choice Award for Favorite Television Actress. She returned to the screen with Tia on the hit Style Network reality TV series "Tia and Tamera," which chronicled her life as she balanced her acting career along with major life transformation of marriage and motherhood.

Mowry-Housley's credits include last year's Hallmark Movies & Mysteries Original premiere "A Christmas Miracle," on which she also served as executive producer, as well as "Christmas Angel," "Something to Sing About" and "Seventeen Again." She was a series regular on "Strong Medicine," "Roommates" (ABC Family) and on "Melissa and Joey" (ABC Family). Mowry-Housley has voiced characters in the FOX hit "Family Guy" and Cartoon Network's "Super HeroSquad Show." She also produced and starred in the Lifetime movie "Double Wedding." On the big screen, she co-starred in the Rob Schneider comedy *The Hot Chick*.

In addition to co-hosting *The Real*, Mowry-Housley recently completed hosting season one of Facebook Watch's "Help Us Get Married." The 12-episode reality web television series followed three couples who are trying to plan their weddings with the help of the Facebook community.

Mowry-Housley graduated with honors from Pepperdine University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology with an emphasis on Abnormal Childhood Development. She was born in Germany and raised in Southern California. Mowry-Housley married FOX News correspondent Adam Housley in May 2011. They welcomed their first child, Aden John Tanner Housley, in November 2012, and their second child Aariah Talea Housley July 2015. Mowry-Housley has a passion and expertise in home décor, fashion and healthy living. Her blog, TameraMowry.com, chronicles her inspirations.

Tamera lives with her husband Adam and son Aden and daughter Ariah in Los Angeles and Napa Valley, where they oversee Century Oak Winery with the Housley family. The couple recently opened their own tasting room in the heart of Downtown Napa where they both can frequently be seen pouring their family wines for fans and visitors.

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MICHAEL XAVIER (George) – Michael Xavier, the middle child of five, was born in 1985 in Ottawa Ontario. After graduating from high school, Xavier enrolled at Humber college intent on a career in acting. With his acting versatility and instinctual prowess to get a rise out of an audience, he had no difficulty finding work in numerous film and television productions after school, including a series regular role on Syfy's "Bitten," recurring roles on Amazon's "The Expanse" and Netflix's "Northern Rescue," and leading roles in the features *Ordinary Days* and *A Swinger's Weekend*. Other credits include *Shazam!*, "Private Eyes," "The Bold Type" and "Taken."

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SHERYL LEE RALPH (Ms. Nelson) – With continued success on stage, screen, television and music along with her philanthropic endeavors, Sheryl Lee Ralph has never been one to rest on her laurels. A triple threat dreamgirl, Ralph is an acclaimed veteran of film, television and the Broadway stage. Her award-winning work includes creating the role of Deena Jones in the legendary Broadway musical, *Dreamgirls* and earning Best Actress nods for Tony and Drama Desk Awards. She returned to Broadway for a 12-month stint in the Tony-award winning musical, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, portraying the sassy chanteuse Muzzy Van Hossmere. Ralph reunited with Loretta Devine and Jennifer Holliday for a sold out, one-night-only, *Dreamgirls* reunion celebrating the 35th anniversary. Last year, she returned to Broadway as Madame Morrible in *Wicked*, making her the first African American actress to take on the classic role on Broadway.

No stranger to television, Ralph's past credits include "It's a Living," "Designing Women," "The District" and "Moesha." She then spent three years as a lead on the hit Nickelodeon series "Instant Mom" opposite Tia Mowry and Michael Boatman. At the same time, Ralph recurred as Claudette for two seasons, opposite Jon Voight in Showtime's "Ray Donovan." In between all of that, she snuck in episodes of "Two Broke Girls," "Smash" and an arc on "Criminal Minds" for CBS. She can also be seen recurring as Mama Colton on CBS's "MacGyver" and on TNT's "Claws". Last year, Ralph starred as one of the leads in the CBS comedy "FAM" opposite Nina Dobrev, Tone Bell, Odessa Adlon and Brian Stokes Mitchell. She is currently reprising her role as Claudette on "Ray Donovan" and will recur in the new Freeform series "Motherland."

On the big screen, Ralph has worked with some of Hollywood's leading and award-winning men with film credits that include *The Mighty Quinn* with Denzel Washington, *Mistress* with Robert de Niro, *To Sleep with Anger* with Danny Glover and *The Distinguished Gentlemen* with Eddie Murphy. Ralph picked up a win for Best Supporting Actress at the Independent Spirit Awards for her performance in *To Sleep with Anger*. Finding success in writing and directing, Ralph's award-winning short film, *Secrets*, co-starring award-winning actress Alfre Woodard and Robin Givens, was a finalist in the HBO Film Short Competition, Showtime's Filmmaker Award Series and the BET Filmmaker Award Competition. The film was also selected as the audience favorite at the Outfest Film Festival. *Secrets* was screened at the Toronto International Film Festival, as well as the Hollywood Film Festival, the Acapulco Film Festival and the Urban World Film Festival. Ralph is also the creator of the Jamerican Film and Music Festival. Most recently, she did four back-to-back movies – *Just Getting Started* opposite Morgan Freeman, Tommy Lee Jones and Rene Russo;

"Christmas at Holly Lodge" for Hallmark Channel; Netflix's "Step Sisters" with Naturi Naughton produced by Lena Waithe; and "No Sleep Til Christmas" for Freeform.

Ralph resides in Los Angeles and Philadelphia with her husband, Senator Vincent Hughes.

-- HALLMARK CHANNEL --