

CrownMedia



THE WORLDWIDE LEADER IN *Celebrations*

'AURORA TEAGARDEN MYSTERIES: HEIST AND SEEK'

Cast Bios

CANDACE CAMERON BURE (Aurora Teagarden) – Actress, producer, host, New York Times best-selling author, inspirational speaker, mother of three and wife Candace Cameron Bure is emerging as one of the most powerful women in entertainment. She currently appears on four different television networks (ABC, Netflix, Hallmark Channel and Hallmark Movies & Mysteries) and is considered by millions as a role model to women of all ages.

Viewers watched Bure grow up as D.J. Tanner in the beloved television series "Full House" during the show's eight-year run. After taping its final episode in 1995, "Full House" still ranks as one of the most successful series of all time.

Bure has stepped back into her role as D.J. in Netflix's top-rated original series "Fuller House." The much buzzed about series follows Bure (D.J.) as a widow and mother of three, and when things become too much to handle, she calls in the help of her sister Stephanie (Jodie Sweetin) and best friend Kimmy Gibbler (Andrea Barber). Guest appearances throughout the series include the original legacy cast members John Stamos, Bob Saget, Dave Coulier and Lori Loughlin. Entering its fifth season this year, they have won multiple Teen Choice, People's Choice and Kids Choice Awards.

After finishing a three-year run as her character Summer Van Horn on ABC Family Network's "Make It or Break It," Bure became the executive producer with her production company iCandy Productions for her new hit mystery movie series "The Aurora Teagarden Mysteries" on Hallmark Movies & Mysteries in which she plays the title character. The series is based on the books by New York Times best-selling author Charlaine Harris.

Bure recently released her fifth book, Kind is the New Classy: The Power of Living Graciously following her success with Staying Stylish: Cultivating a Confident Look, Style & Attitude. Her third book, Dancing Through Life: Steps of Courage and Conviction, was another breakout success, which chronicled her journey of self-discovery on season 18 of ABC's "Dancing with the Stars." Her first two books, Reshaping It All: Motivation for Physical and Spiritual Fitness and Balancing It All: My Story of Juggling Priorities and Purpose made her a New York Times best-selling author. Last year Bure released her first fiction book, which also happened to be her first children's book, Candace Center Stage.

Bure has starred in multiple movies for Hallmark Channel including, most recently "Christmas Town," as well as "Puppy Love," "Moonlight & Mistletoe," "Let It Snow," "Finding Normal," the Emmy-nominated "The Heart of Christmas," "Christmas Detour," "Christmas Under Wraps," "Journey Back to Christmas" and 2017's "Switched for Christmas." All these films have been top-rated for the network.

With a philanthropic spirit that shines through her work, Bure is passionate about non-profits Skip1.org, Compassion International and National House of Hope.

A devoted wife to her husband, former NHL star Val Bure (the two were introduced at a hockey game by Dave Coulier), the couple has been happily married since 1996. Together with their three children, Natasha, Lev and Maks, they split their time between Los Angeles and Napa Valley, California, which is home to their highly rated boutique wine label, Bure Family Wines.

#

NIALL MATTER (Nick Miller) – Originally from small town Alberta, Canada, Niall Matter started out working on the oil rigs before pursuing a career in film and television. He got his first break when he signed on as Trent Hamilton for the hit Canadian TV series “The Best Years.”

Matter is perhaps best known for his series regular role as Zane Donovan on Syfy’s “Eureka” and as the lead, Evan Cross, on Syfy’s “Primeval: New World.” Matter maintains a balance of work on Canadian as well as American projects; he recently guest starred on ABC’s “The Good Doctor” alongside Freddie Highmore and Nicholas Gonzalez, NBC’s “Constantine” and The CW’s “Supernatural” and “iZombie.” Matter also played a lead role alongside Julia Stiles in TNT’s pilot “Guilt by Association,” directed by Nelson McCormick.

Previous credits include a major recurring role as ER doctor Peter Cutler on the Canadian drama “Remedy,” with Enrico Colantoni and Sara Canning. He had a starring role in the independent feature film *Chokeslam* alongside Amanda Crew and Michael Eklund, as well as in *Ally Was Screaming* opposite Camille Sullivan. Notably, Matter was hand-selected to portray the Mothman in Zach Snyder’s feature film *Watchmen* and he had major recurring roles on “Melrose Place” and The CW’s “90210.”

Matter most recently starred in the Hallmark Channel original movie “Christmas at Dollywood,” and before that, “Stop the Wedding” with Alan Thicke and Rachel Boston and “Frozen in Love” with Rachael Leigh Cook. On Hallmark Movies & Mysteries, Matter played Ian in “Finding Father Christmas,” “Engaging Father Christmas,” and “Marrying Father Christmas.” This marks his fourth “Aurora Teagarden Mysteries” movie, portraying Nick Miller.

Last year, Matter had a large supporting role in *The Predator*, filming every scene opposite Emmy Award-winning actor Sterling K. Brown.

#

MARILU HENNER (Aida Teagarden) – With the energy of a teenager, the wisdom of a sage, and the memory of a superhero, Marilu Henner has deservedly earned the nickname “Perpetual Motion.” Along with starring in over thirty films, six Broadway shows, and two hit classic sitcoms, “Taxi” and “Evening Shade,” this five-time Golden Globe® nominee is also a New York Times best-selling author of ten books on health, parenting, memory, and lifestyle improvement. Her books, including bestseller Changing Normal: How I Helped My Husband Beat Cancer, as well as Total Health Makeover, The 30-Day Total Health Makeover, Total Memory Makeover, I Refuse to Raise a Brat, Healthy Life Kitchen, Healthy Kids, Healthy Holidays, Wear Your Life Well, and By All Means

Keep On Moving, have changed the lives of millions in her quest to make the world a healthier place.

Along with hosting her own nationally syndicated radio show, "The Marilu Henner Show," Henner has previously hosted and executive produced two talk shows ("Marilu" and "Shape Up Your Life"), and has guest-starred on most major talk shows, earning her the title "Talk Show Guest of the Year" several years in a row. As a two-time competitor on Donald Trump's "Celebrity Apprentice" (2008) and "Celebrity Apprentice All-Stars" (2013), she made it to the Final Five and played for her favorite charities: The Physicians' Committee for Responsible Medicine (PCRM) and the Alzheimer's Association. In fact, at PCRM's 25th Anniversary Gala, she was awarded their Voice of Compassion Award.

As one of only 12 people documented with Highly Superior Autobiographical Memory, Marilu was the subject of a three-part special on "60 Minutes" and on "60 Minutes Australia," as well as news programs and newspaper articles around the globe. She also served as the consultant on the CBS series "Unforgettable," which premiered in the fall of 2011. Her ninth book, Total Memory Makeover: Uncover Your Past, Take Charge of Your Future! was released in 2012, and became an instant New York Times and Publishers Weekly Best Seller. The release of her book was followed by a national multi-media book tour, which included appearances on "Nightline," "Good Morning America," "The View," "Anderson," "Piers Morgan" and "The Talk," to name a few. Her tenth book, Changing Normal: How I Cured My Husband's Cancer, was released in 2016, and became the number one book on Amazon its first day.

With an acting career that continues to thrive, Henner most recently starred in feature films *Life with Dog*, *In-Lawfully Yours*, *Vamps*, and film festival darling *Imperfections*. She co-stars with Candace Cameron Bure in the ongoing Hallmark Movies & Mysteries "Aurora Teagarden Mysteries" series, based on the books by Charlaine Harris. Some of her other Hallmark films include "Love on a Limb," "Hitched for the Holidays," "June In January," and "High School Holiday Reunion." Henner also starred in the finale of "Two and a Half Men" (playing Ashton Kutcher's love interest!), in a recurring role on the Golden Globe® winning sitcom with Andy Samberg, "Brooklyn Nine-Nine," and as Robin Williams' ex-wife and Sarah Michelle Gellar's mother on the season finale of "The Crazy Ones." Additionally, she co-starred (as Masha) with Christopher Durang (as Vanya) in his Tony Award winning play *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike* at the Bucks County Playhouse. Henner also tours around the country in her one-woman show, *A Memorable Evening with Marilu Henner!*

Henner was a pioneer on the Internet, starting her own website, Marilu.com in 1999. In 2000, she began teaching online classes for her growing membership, as well as offering online counseling and support along with her 20 coaches who teach her Total Health Makeover (THM) lifestyle.

She has spoken before Congress on seven occasions about various subjects ranging from dietary supplements, to women's cardiovascular disease, to The Child Nutrition Reauthorization Act of 2010, to the Veggie Caucus, to deadbeat parents. She was also one of only two private citizens selected to contribute to the shaping of our government's food pyramid. In January of 2014, she again faced Congress to present her recommendations for the 2015 Dietary Guidelines for Americans. Henner frequently lectures throughout the country as a keynote speaker and motivator for professional organizations, universities, government agencies, interest groups, and

corporations on topics including memory, diet and fitness, women's health issues, cardiovascular disease, cancer survival, and child rearing, as well as lifestyle, entertainment, and business organization strategies.

In 2016, she competed on the 23rd season of "Dancing with the Stars" on ABC reaching the quarterfinals with partner Derek Hough.

Marilu Henner is married to Michael Brown, CEO of Browntrout Publishers, and is the busy mother of two college boys, Nick and Joey. Because she practices what she preaches, Marilu has truly become the quintessential portrait of what health and fitness can do for one's life, and she loves to give back to her community in so many ways!

#

LEXA DOIG (Sally Allison) - Lexa Doig returns to her role as Aurora's friend Sally Allison in Hallmark Movies & Mysteries' "Aurora Teagarden Mysteries" series. She recently starred as DeAnn Anderson, wife of Terence Anderson (Michael Vartan), in E!'s scripted drama series "The Arrangement," guest-starred in The CW's "Arrow," and was featured in the Canadian mini-series "Unspeakable."

Doig starred for five seasons as the Andromeda Ascendant in Gene Roddenberry's "Andromeda" on Syfy Channel, alongside Kevin Sorbo, and went on to co-star for two seasons in Syfy's "Continuum." In addition, she has appeared in episodes of numerous popular series, including "V," "Smallville," "Stargate SG-1," "Saving Hope" and "Eureka," among others.

#

PETER BENSON (Det. Arthur Smith) - Canadian actor Peter Benson boasts an extensive resume of work on both sides of the border. Benson is instantly recognizable to Hallmark Channel viewers, who will know him from his roles in the Hallmark Channel original movies "My Favorite Wedding," "Falling for Vermont," "Walking the Dog," "Christmas List," "The Mystery Cruise," "A Bride for Christmas" and "Nobody's Fool," as well as his recurring role as Detective Arthur Smith in Hallmark Movies & Mysteries "Aurora Teagarden Mysteries" movies and the network's "Signed, Sealed, Delivered: Home Again." In addition, Benson was director for this, the 13th installment in the popular franchise.

Benson starred in the Lifetime movies "Britney Ever After," "Perfect High," "The Pregnancy Project," "Taken from Me: The Tiffany Rubin Story," "High Noon," and "Are You My Daughter?" He is a recurring Guest Star in the Disney XD series "Mech-X4," and the Netflix series, "The Healing Powers of Dude." He has also guest-starred in episodes of numerous popular primetime series, including "A Million Little Things," "Backstrom," "Hell On Wheels," "Salvation," "The Good Doctor," "Arrow," "The Killing," "Psych," "The L Word," "Supernatural," "Stargate-SG-1" and "Smallville," to name but a few.

Benson has appeared in nearly 50 feature films, most recently MGM's *Everything, Everything*. Others include *District 9*, *Blonde and Blonder*, *Smokin' Aces 2: Assassin's Ball*, *Wingman*, *The Break-Up Artist*, *Death Do Us Part*, *Afterparty* and *Marrying the Family*, in which he starred and directed.

--HALLMARK MOVIES & MYSTERIES--