

# JESSE MCNAMARA'S BIO

"If I had to choose between getting set on fire or watching Jessie McNamara's new show, I would totally choose Jessie's show.

A) It's hilarious and B) Who wants to be set on fire?"

- *Kelly Clarkson - Multi-Platinum, Grammy Award Winning, Pop Superstar*

"If I had to choose between being able to breathe underwater or being able to watch Jessie McNamara's new show ... I don't know what I'd choose. I mean, I love Jessie's show ... but wouldn't it be cool to be able to breathe underwater? I mean, then I could definitely get on Oprah ... No, I'd see Jessie's show."

- *Melissa Peterman - Actress (Reba) and Current host of CMT's Singing Bee*

Los Angeles based comedian and actress, Jessie McNamara hails from Englewood, a small town on the Gulf Coast of Florida, where she grew up with an older sister, retirees and big alligators. Originally born in the Au Sable State Forest by the Rifle River in the wee town of Lupton to a mother and father who owned the local general store, McNamara quickly learned that she had a knack for making people laugh.

As a child, McNamara spent countless hours watching *Saturday Night Live*, *Hee-Haw* and *The Muppet Show* and she liked and vowed to one day be a comedian who was able to use her intelligence and natural gifts to entertain others.

Upon graduation, McNamara, went to Florida Southern College to study communications and play basketball. However, after spending a couple of semesters there McNamara realized that something was missing from her life: the entertainment industry.

McNamara decided to move to Nashville, Tennessee to attend Belmont University and major in Music Business. While living in Nashville, McNamara began doing open mic comedy nights and honing her skills for both acting and comedy.

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After college, McNamara began working for country artist Kenny Chesney as an artist management assistant while trying to grow herself professionally.

No longer unable to deny that she wanted to be a comedic actress, McNamara got a night job emptying trash cans at the Dollar General Headquarters to save enough money to move to Los Angeles. Having seen the Groundlings website and the success of their alumni was enough to motivate her to move clear across the country to follow her dreams.

Since her arrival in LA, McNamara has written and starred in an innumerable amount of sketch shows, which she has found to be an education in stage acting, timing and crowd pleasing.

McNamara quickly learned that "...the great thing about doing live shows is that you know immediately what kills and what bombs."

McNamara busies herself with guest appearances on movie shorts, music videos and live theater. Most recently, McNamara filmed and presented a pilot to CMT titled, *Me and My Bus*; a parody on one of McNamara's most famous sketch comedy characters. The show follows trailer park resident and wannabe Ryan Seacrest, Debbie Pickney, around America as she interviews hard-working folks, passionate about what they do right alongside of celebrities.

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