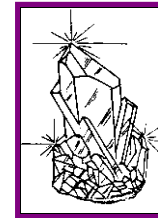




T'KEYAH CRYSTAL KEYMÁH BIOGRAPHY



Actress, author, producer, director, singer **T'KEYAH CRYSTAL KEYMÁH** is her name personified: a prism of energy and vision. She is best known for her acclaimed work on three pioneering television shows; *In Living Color*, *Cosby* and *That's So Raven*. On the Emmy Award winning, *In Living Color* she won many fans with astonishing impressions and original characters. Keymáh gained a whole new set of fans as Bill Cosby's newest TV daughter, the ever vacillating Erica Lucas, on CBS' *COSBY*. She had fun and learned a great deal from one of her first inspirations, Bill Cosby. Today, alongside Raven~Symone, Keymáh can be seen as Tanya Baxter on Disney Channel's #1 hit, *That's So Raven*; but millions of children worldwide just think of her adoringly as 'Raven's Mom.' In addition, Keymáh has also joined the selective ranks of the behind the scenes influencers, having directed her first episode of *That's So Raven*. T'Keyah is also currently the voice of Bumblebee on the WB's animated series *Teen Titans* and Trixie's mom, Mrs. Carter on Disney's *American Dragon*.

From the age of three, Keymáh (born in Chicago on October 13) entertained her family; singing, dancing and reciting original poems and stories. She wrote her first play and her first song in elementary school. In high school, she performed with the **Mary Wong Comedy Group**, and produced and directed theatrical variety shows! Florida A & M University's School of Business and Industry recruited the National Merit Scholar. On scholarship, Keymáh excelled in their Leadership program. The university has since given her their second highest honor, 'The Meritorious Award', and she is listed among the 100 most influential FAMUans of the Century.

During and after college, she taught theater, dance, and pantomime. Keymáh worked as an elementary substitute teacher by day, while working in many of Chicago's renowned theaters such as the **Court, ETA, The Goodman** and with companies such as **Wavelength, Chocolate Chips, and Light Opera Works**. She also sang with **Rafo International Combo** and danced with the **Bill Cody Dancers** and the **Najwa (West African) Dance Corps** (with whom she has also appeared since as a guest artist).

Keymáh's stage performances include *Love Letters* (w/ David Alan Grier) and *The Five Heartbeats Live*. Her critically acclaimed one-woman show, *SOME OF MY BEST FRIENDS: A Collection of Characters* toured the country with Keymáh playing eleven characters. Through collaboration between The Eugene O'Neill Playwright Center and the Moscow Ministry of Culture, T'Keyah traveled to Russia to workshop and performed in John Henry Redwood's drama, *The Old Settler*. *T'Keyah Live! ...Mostly: A True Variety Show*, debuted at the National Black Theatre Festival, and enjoyed a command performance at the 2005 festival. Her film work includes Rusty Cundieff's *Tales From the Hood*, Quentin Tarantino's, *Jackie Brown* and Booker T. Mattison's *The Gilded Six Bits*. Keymáh has done voiceover guest spots on HBO's *Happily Ever After*, and WB's *Hysteria*, *Pinky & the Brain*, *Batman Beyond* and *Static Shock*. She created three of the voices for the Fox special *Cool Like That* over a dozen for WB's *Waynehead* and the voice of Tweety's pal, Aogah, in Warner Brothers' video feature, *Tweety's High Flying Adventure*.

With actor/director Bobby Mardis, Keymáh starred in and executive produced the award winning romantic thriller, *One Last Time*. For Showtime, the two also produced the acclaimed short subject, *Circle of Pain*, starring Todd Bridges and Glynn Turman. Keymáh is now developing a new show that she will star in and produce through her company T'Keyah Keymáh Inc. A believer in creating opportunities and encouraging positive images in the media, she feels it is imperative to "carve your own road."

T'Keyah Crystal Keymáh enriches her life with industry and community involvement, charitable work and writing. A lifetime member of Delta Sigma Theta, Public Service Sorority, Inc., The Urban League, and the NAACP, she also works with the NABSIO prison outreach program. She uses The Keymáh Cultural Fund to serve underserved youth and her website, www.tkeyah.com as a venue to express her opinions and share vital community information. She recently completed the endowment for a theater scholarship at FAMU which bears her name and is currently serving on the Board of Directors for Hale House. Keymáh published the book version of her show *Some of My Best Friends* and is the author of the popular poetry/hairstyles book, *Natural Woman / Natural Hair*. She co-hosted the National ACT-SO Awards, and the Orange Bowl, Aloha and Bud Bilikin Day Parades. She enjoys public speaking and directing workshops, especially for youth audiences, and tempers her schedule with a vegan diet, gardening, reading, daily exercise, meditation and prayer. She is a member of the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, American Women in Radio & Television and the Greater Los Angeles African American

Chamber of Commerce. When she has time, T'Keyah loves to travel!

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