



Maya Pinson is an extraordinary young artist who's a talented actress and a fantastic scriptwriter. She recently landed roles in 4 films next year and has won numerous selections and awards in a ton of established film festivals. This breakthrough actress/writer is definitely on the rise to stardom.

LVMK: Hello Maya, and congratulations on your award for the best actress in your new film, "I'm Ready." When was the moment you knew you wanted to be an actress?

Maya: I've always had a passion for acting. I've been in print magazines and worked on other projects since I was one year old, but I decided to pursue acting as a career at eleven. I started doing background roles, and then I auditioned and landed my first speaking role in 2016, a series called Believe. I had so much fun on set filming that I started seeking more speaking roles, and I developed more of a thirst in acting.

LVMK: Who is your favorite actress and director, and why?

Maya: My favorite actress and director is Regina King. Regina King is a phenomenal and talented African-American woman. I love her personality, the roles she plays, and her style. She has an extensive resume, and she directed multiple award-winning movies. I would love the opportunity to work under her direction one day.

LVMK: What is your favorite thing about school?



BEST ACTRESS AWARD
MAYA PINGSON
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Maya: Although I love learning, my friends highlight my day and are my favorite thing about school. My high school has a welcoming and loving sisterhood. I often run into alumni, and they would spend about 15 minutes telling me about their experiences and memories. They also discuss how alumni do a great job developing everlasting friendships and maintaining contact with their classmates. I can't wait to be like those alumni so that I will be able to say the same!

LVMK: That's amazing, and it's great that you would like to stay active with the students at your high school after graduation. Let's talk a little about your new film. When and how did you come up with the script for "I'm Ready"?

Maya: Last year, in October of 2019, I walked into the dining room and told my mom, "I want to write a movie." As the supportive mother she is, she sat me down, and we brainstormed about what type of movie I wanted to write about, who the targeted audience would be, and what message I wanted to convey. After thinking about our conversation, I decided to make the film around dating to serve as a bridge for parents and children to have "the dating talk". I wanted to select a topic based around the home or one that needed to be discussed between parents and teens.

LVMK: That's an excellent concept and an extremely important topic. I'm sure the movie will be quite successful. What would you like to be or do when you grow up?

Maya: I aspire to be an A-list actress on the big screen. Although I love acting, I don't want acting to be the only thing associated with my name. I will practice philanthropy while writing and motivating people in as many ways as possible. I'm also the author of the children's book "BackPack Lilly". My second children's book, "Magic The Green Pillow", is coming out next year in 2021.

LVMK: Wow! A film and two books. Congratulations! Other than writing, what is your favorite hobby, and why?

Maya: My favorite hobby is reading and watching movies because I love the feeling of seeing the world or experiencing something through the eyes of someone else; whether it's in a book form or on the screen. A well-written book holds my interest, and a good movie will take me out of my space and teach me things that could be very helpful.

LVMK: Couldn't agree with you more. We know a thing or two about curling up with a good book. Who is your best friend? What qualities you think are essential in a best friend?



Maya: I have three best friends that I've been friends with between two to five years. The most crucial qualities in a best friend are honesty, loyalty, uplifting, dependability, supportive, and they should be non-judgmental.

LVMK: What's your favorite thing to do with your parents?

Maya: I love spending time and pranking my parents. My all-time favorite thing to do with my parents is to travel. We always have lots of fun on our trips. They find unique things to do or new places to dine when we're on the road. I am grateful that we're blessed enough to fly to various states because I love flying. I love going to shopping malls with my dad, and my mom keeps the family laughing with her expressions and conversations. I learned how to jet ski a couple of years ago while vacationing in Florida, and I drove my mom way out in the deep part of the ocean and asked her, "What would you do if we saw a shark?" As soon as I asked my mom that question, a beautiful dolphin jumped out of the water right in front of us. She started screaming and yelling for us to turn around and go back. We couldn't believe what happened because the timing was perfect! I could not stop laughing on our way back to land.

LVMK: (laughs) That sounds hilarious, and your vacations sound like tons of fun. What is one thing you want to learn how to do?

Maya: I would love to learn how to surf. I never really understood how your feet don't slide off of the board when you're riding the waves, but it looks super fun! I also want to learn how to sew one day. I think that maybe cool.

LVMK: What makes you happy?

Maya: Spending time with family and friends always makes me happy, even if I am feeling down. I love laughing, pranking, and talking with people of all walks. Christmas is my favorite time of year. I listen to holiday music all year long.

LVMK: What's the most interesting thing you've read or seen in 2020?

Maya: Well, we all know that 2020 has been filled with so many interesting things. I feel like I've been living in the year 2020 for the past 40 years (laughs). The most interesting thing I've read this year was the news about Joe Biden being named the President-Elect. Mom and I were at the mall when she received the call about the news, which was so exciting to hear and read everywhere. Congratulations President Biden and Kamala Harris.

LVMK: Yes, that was some very exciting news. What is one message you would give to your young fans?

Maya: This goes for fans of all ages, young or old: Never give up on your dreams; you can do anything while everything is possible. Put your mind to it. It may sound cliché, but it is definitely true! We should always strive for success, so why not be successful in doing something you love! If you don't have a support system in your corner, you can start writing down your dreams and planning them. That's something you can do without a support system. If you have a support system, then use your resources, prepare, plan, and execute your goals to accomplish your dreams and enjoy your journey. Always remember, where you work is an option, but not working is not an option.