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HOLDREGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

Giving Back to Education

HHS Alumni Recognition Feature!

Dear HHS Alumni and HPS Foundation Supporters,

Holdrege High School is fortunate to have many very successful graduates. We are excited to continue sharing the stories of some of those HHS Alums. Kristine (Long) Jacobson, Class of 1990, has joined our efforts with her journalistic talents to bring you this month's feature.

Many classes will be having reunions in 2013. Class organizers are encouraged to contact us - we can assist with communication by sending messages to classmates through Constant Contact. We welcome your suggestions and comments.

Sincerely,

Matt Allmand, Chairman - HPS Foundation Committee

Ryan Quincy - Class of 1991

Quincy's Dream of Producing His Own Animated Show Comes True

By Kristine Jacobson



Ryan Quincy & Selma Blair

Working as an animator for the *South Park* movie and television series, and winning two Emmy awards was quite an accomplishment for 1991 Holdrege High School graduate Ryan Quincy.

But Quincy said his biggest achievement since high school is "definitely getting my own animated show on the air."

Quincy moved to Los Angeles nearly 16 years ago with that goal in mind, and it's finally happening. On Feb. 22, his animated television show *Out There* will debut on IFC.

Out There chronicles the coming-of-age misadventures of Chad Stevens and his friend, Chris Novak. Quincy stars as the voice of the lead character in this cartoon that is based on some of his experiences growing up in Holdrege.

"I came up with the idea of *Out There* gradually," Quincy said. "I always liked to make movies with my friends in high school that centered on kids hanging out

at the 7-Eleven and their weird adventures. Now that I look back, those home movies were the inspiration for *Out There*, 14 and 15-year-old kids who are in the middle of nowhere, geographically and emotionally. They feel stuck and in that limbo between childhood and adulthood."

Quincy spent his childhood in Holdrege and always enjoyed drawing, making movies, and telling stories. "Animation provided all the things I enjoyed to do, so I just gradually gravitated to this line of work," he said. After high school, Quincy graduated from the University of Nebraska at Kearney with a bachelor's degree in English and a minor in graphic design and moved to L.A. in 1997. He immediately enrolled in animation classes. After five months, he landed a job at MADtv.

"We did a parody of *South Park* meets *Charlie Brown*, and that helped me get the job as an animator on the *South Park* movie," Quincy said.

He worked for *South Park* for almost 14 years, winning two Emmy awards. He worked his way up to become an animation director and producer at *South Park*. He left *South Park* almost one year ago to focus on his new adult-comedy cartoon. Quincy enjoyed his time working on *South Park* and gleaned a lot from the creators. "Working with Trey Parker and Matt Stone was invaluable," he said.

Quincy has now been busy promoting his new show and can't wait for the first episode to air. Although the fictional cartoon show is based in a town called "Holford" in the Midwest, it seems a bit like Holdrege with a similar water tower and the school mascot being the tornadoes. There are some other similarities as well. Quincy said *Out There* has its own version of Holdrege's Dairy Queen, where he worked as a teenager. The *Out There* version is called Frosty King.

"In *Out There*, the convenience store is a combination of the Holdrege 7-Eleven and Paul's Derby - two of my all-time favorite places to hang out as a kid," Quincy said. Many of the characters in the cartoon were inspired by Quincy's family and friends. "Most of them are amplified, frankensteined versions of different friends, parents, girlfriends, and bullies," Quincy said. "In the show, the dad is an optometrist and named Wayne, just like my dad. The mom is a piano teacher and church organist, like my mom. The younger brother's name is Jay, like my brother, Jay, but the character acts like my other brother, David. I combined the two brothers to make one for *Out There*."

Quincy said it was a long process to get his show on television. "It was definitely a roller coaster ride of a process," he said. "I originally pitched the show to 20th Century Fox in 2008, and it took four years to finally get picked up by IFC. 20th Century still acts as the producers of the show. There were many times, that I thought the show was dead. We're very lucky that IFC loved it so much and is giving it a chance."

Besides Quincy, the cast on *Out There* includes the voices of Megan Mullally, John Dimaggio, Pamela Adlon, Fred Armisen, Justin Roiland, Kate Micucci, and Linda Cardellini. Guest cast voices include Sarah Silverman, Christian Slater, Jason Schwartzman, Nick Offerman, and Selma Blair.

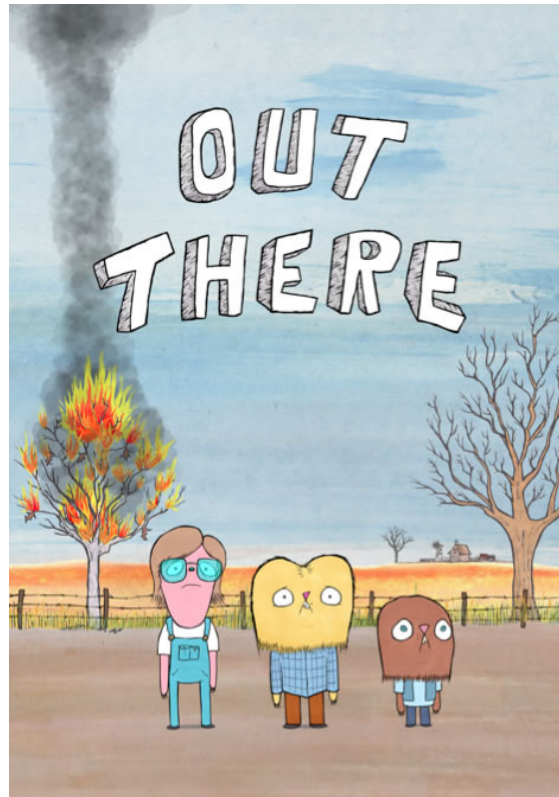
Although Quincy has hit the "big time," he still recalls those back in Holdrege who had an impact on his career. "Linda Crandall (English/speech teacher) was a big influence and encouraged me to draw cartoons for the school paper because my English papers were filled with doodles all over the margins," Quincy said. "Christy Kosmicki (art teacher) was very supportive, too. Although I was only in band for two years, Dave Harrison was really cool too. He had a great sense of humor."

In high school, Quincy participated in basketball, speech, and video production, and was on student council. In addition to drawing cartoons for the school paper, he created all the cartoons for the 1989-90 yearbook themed "What's So Funny?"

Quincy's parents, Wayne and Jerrie, still live in Holdrege, where his dad is still an optometrist and his mother still teaches piano. Quincy is married to Angi Glenn, a jewelry designer, and they have a son Liam, 8, and a daughter, London, 5.

Quincy encourages everyone to tune into his show starting Friday, Feb. 22. It will air on IFC at 10:30/9:30 central.

Click this link to view Quincy's recent interview with *Animation Magazine*.



<http://www.animationmagazine.net/tv/putting-himself-out-there/>.

Out There also has a Facebook page where fans can join to find out more information about the show.

About Us

The mission of the HPS Foundation is to support and enhance the educational efforts of students and teachers of Holdrege Public Schools by providing funding for innovative and challenging programs, learning experiences, and activities.

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