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FOR RELEASE

Main Character of New American Girl Movie Lives in Daytona Beach

Amazon Kids special premieres November 25

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. (November 23, 2016) – Just in time for the holidays, a new children’s holiday movie premieres this weekend and the main character and her family live in Daytona Beach.

According to *Entertainment Weekly*, the Amazon Original Special, titled *An American Girl Story – Maryellen 1955: Extraordinary Christmas*, is “about American Girl’s BeForever character Maryellen Larkin, who lives in Daytona Beach, Fla. She wants to find the thing that will make her stand out in her big family, so when a family friend who has Polio stays with them during his treatment, she sets her mind to helping polio patients have an amazing Christmas.”

The Amazon Prime original movie features a music track written for the live-action kids special by the band *Best Coast* with their new track “Christmas and Everyone” described as having “beach-y vibes and empowering lyrics” by ConsequenceofSound.net.

“We love the positive message that American Girl and this type of family programming brings to our destination,” said Daytona Beach Convention and Visitors Bureau Executive Director Lori Campbell Baker. “We have so many things for families to enjoy together in Volusia County. Staying in Daytona Beach is a great way for families to enjoy the best of what Central Florida has to offer.”

Alyvia Alyn Lind (*Dolly Parton’s Coat of Many Colors*) stars as Maryellen and Mary McCormack (*House of Lies*) plays her mother.

About the Daytona Beach Area

Discover the new Daytona Beach and its surrounding area, a resurging destination along Florida’s East Coast comprising eight distinct communities. Recognized worldwide for its annual events including Bike Week, Biketoberfest®, the Rolex 24 At Daytona and the Daytona 500, Daytona Beach’s famed heritage also claims the headquarters of LPGA and NASCAR -- and is home to Daytona International Speedway, the ‘World Center of Racing.’ With more than 12,000 beds, the destination boasts accommodations for all lifestyles and budgets including resorts, B&Bs, hotels and everything in between. In 2016, TripAdvisor named Daytona Beach one of the “**10 Most Affordable Beach Vacations on Florida’s East Coast**” and one of “**25 Most Popular Summer Vacation Rental Spots in the US.**” Visitors can enjoy the quintessential vacation experience beginning with the Daytona Beach Boardwalk and Pier, or choose from a surprising list of attractions and cultural venues and a colorful culinary scene. With 23 miles of

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world-famous beaches ideal for shelling, swimming and surfing, it is no surprise Daytona Beach was chosen as a Best Florida Attraction and Best Spring Family Break Beach Destination in the Top 10 Best Readers' Choice travel award contests sponsored by *USA TODAY*. To order a complimentary comprehensive Official Visitors Guide or book a stay, visit DaytonaBeach.com. For real-time updates, visit [Facebook.com/DaytonaBeach](https://www.facebook.com/DaytonaBeach) or [Twitter.com/DaytonaBeachFun](https://www.twitter.com/DaytonaBeachFun).

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