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Meet a Scientologist—Aspiring Actor Seeks More than Fame

Actor Ryan Smale loves making people smile. His profile is one of 200 “Meet a Scientologist” videos on the Scientology website at www.Scientology.org.

When Ryan Smale was eight, he saw an entire audience break down in hysterics at a Jim Carey movie. Right then, he decided to be an actor too.

In a video featured on the new Scientology Video Channel at www.Scientology.org, Smale explains how Scientology helps him in his chosen career and in life.

Smale, 24, sees film as an ideal medium for creating emotional impact. Raised in a family of Scientologists, he began his own studies in Scientology as a teen and says they have helped him understand emotions and behavior, giving him more insight into characters and situations.

“I love watching people and trying to figure out why they do what they do,” says Smale. “As an actor, the more I know what makes people tick, the better I can portray them.”

But Smale’s interest in others runs a great deal deeper than simply entertainment.

A Scientology Volunteer Minister, in 2005 he flew from his home in Vancouver, B.C. to Louisiana to provide relief to those left homeless by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. He and a friend ran a shelter in a town 130 miles northwest of New Orleans, his friend doing the cooking and Smale taking charge of the kids, making sure they had plenty to keep themselves busy and helping them recover from the trauma of the disaster.

When a bus pulled up to the shelter one day with 50 migrant workers who had been trapped in a building for three days during the storm, Smale, his friend and volunteers from the Church of Scientology Mission of Lafayette gave them Scientology assists—techniques developed by L. Ron Hubbard to help people recover from illness, injury, loss and stress. Experiencing enormous emotional and physical relief, the workers then asked to learn the assist procedures themselves so they could help each other.

Smale, and his fiancée, an actress and second-generation Scientologist, are living in Los Angeles, where they both hold jobs as personal assistants while they work on breaking into the entertainment industry.

View the Ryan Smale video at Scientology.org.

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The popular "Meet a Scientologist" profiles on the Church of Scientology International Video Channel at Scientology.org now total 200 broadcast-quality documentary videos featuring Scientologists from diverse locations and walks of life. The personal stories are told by Scientologists who are educators, teenagers, skydivers, a golf instructor, a hip-hop dancer, IT manager, stunt pilot, mothers, fathers, dentists, photographers, actors, musicians, fashion designers, engineers, students, business owners and more.

A digital pioneer and leader in the online religious community, in April 2008 the Church of Scientology became the first major religion to launch its own official YouTube Video Channel, which has now been viewed by millions of visitors.



Scientologist Ryan Smale