



LACEY KATENA is an 18-year-old rising star from Charlotte, NC who has captivated audiences since she began performing at the age of 12. With her part-Japanese heritage and a foundation in competitive cheer and dance, her skills led to her performing as Mini Hugo (mascot for the NBA Charlotte Hornets) at the French All Star Game in Paris where she thrived in front of a crowd of over 25,000. Lacey seamlessly transitioned into acting, quickly making her mark.

Best known for her role in Hallmark's A CHRISTMAS LOVE STORY directed by Eric Close and starring alongside Kristin Chenoweth, and as the lead in the critically acclaimed short film WORM RADIO, Lacey's talent has earned her accolades including Best Actress at the LA Under the Stars Film Festival. Lacey was also the NASCAR on NBC Kid Reporter for several years which led to additional guest host and reporter jobs with NBC, NASCAR and the Monster Energy Supercross Series. Her upcoming independent feature, SUGARCANE, is one of the most anticipated independent thriller releases of 2025. With 30K Instagram followers, Lacey's influence continues to grow as she remains passionate about filmmaking, literacy and fashion.

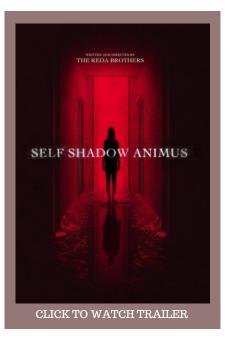


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FILMS







Working with Lacey was an absolute blessing! Nothing short of amazing. We worked full days, high temperatures, dealt with bees, dust and rain, and none of this stopped Lacey from giving her all. She truly knows how to be committed and collaborative with myself and the entire crew. No doubt, I would work with her again!

- Austin Smith, Writer/Director/Editor, WORM RADIO
 Lacey is a joy to work with, and an incredible asset to any team. She is always present, and brings her own playfulness to her characters. Great energy, prompt and professional -- looking forward to working with Lacey again!
- Brooke Trantor, Director, UGLY STIK

Lacey is by far one of the most brilliant actors I've worked with. She understands the translation from page to screen and from director to actor. She deeply understands the universal language of emotion and that can be felt in every frame she's on-screen.

- Cameron McCormack, Writer/Director, BEYOND THE YARD, Quiet Frame Productions and Director, ON THE LAM, UNC School of the Arts

Lacey's ability and optimism shined throughout all of production, and in spite of the tougher subject matter in SUGARCANE and the emotional toll being Phoebe had on her, she never lost her poise.

- Pat Baker, Director, SUGARCANE

Lacey was a joy to have on set. Prior to setting foot on set, we connected over the phone to talk through character and delivery. She heard what I needed from her as a director and delivered the heart, warmth, and complexities on set. She's not just an actor, but a collaborator on character and a great person! I trusted her with the role because of the care and commitment that was obvious on her end. Lacey is a professional through and through while also having fun on set and bringing the levity that everyone needs and enjoys.

- Ciera Thompson, Writer/Director, TAKE NOTE

Awards



WINNER: Charlotte's Best in the Nest, Best Potential to be a Breakout Star

2023

WINNER: LA Under the Stars, Best Actress
WINNER: Young Artist Award, Best Performance Streaming Series
WINNER: Nova Star Awards, Lead Performer in a Short Film

2022

WINNER: Southeast Regional Film Festival, Best Short Film Performance

WINNER: JoeDance Film Festival, Best Short Film - Judges Choice

2021

WINNER: Filmmaker of the Year, Carolina Film Community
WINNER: Southeast Regional Film Festival, Best Actress
WINNER: Made in Carolinas Film Project, Best Actress
WINNER: Young Artist Awards, Best Performance in a Short Film
WINNER: Young Entertainer Awards, Best Young Actress in TV
Special

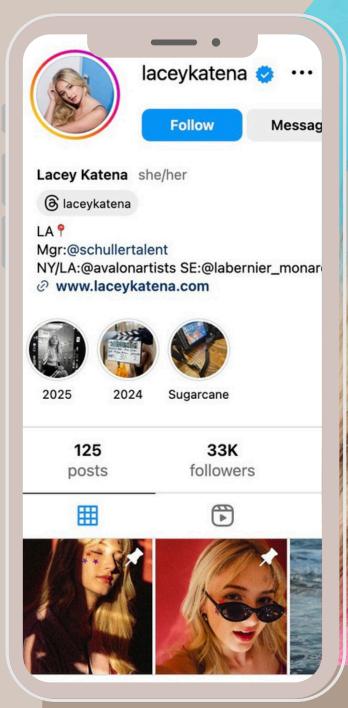
WINNER: Skyline Performer Awards, Best Performance Television

2020

WINNER: Young Artist Awards, Best Performance in a Short Film
WINNER: Young Entertainer Awards, Best Young Actress - Web Host
WINNER: Best Shorts Awards, Best Actress
WINNER: Festigious International Film Festival, Best Young Actress
WINNER: Independent Shorts Awards, Best Child/Young Actress
WINNER: Indie Short Fest, Best Child/Young Actress
WINNER: IndieX Film Festival, Best Child/Young Actress
WINNER: Los Angeles Film Awards, Best Young Actress
WINNER: New York Movie Awards, Best Actress
WINNER: Oniros Film Awards, Best Young Actress
WINNER: Top Shorts Film Festival, Best Young Actress
WINNER: Venice Short Film Awards, Best Youth Actress



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