

**Kay Panabaker (Moondance)** is an award-winning actress who, at the tender age of 16, is not only a veteran of television, stage, and film, but also holds a college degree!

Teenagers will recognize Kay from her role as angst-filled teen Nikki Westerly on the show “Summerland”, for which she won the Young Artist Award for “Best Performance by a Leading Young Actress in a TV Series – Comedy or Drama”. Younger fans know her from her work on Disney Channel, including the recent hit “Read It and Weep” which also starred her sister, Danielle. Kay currently plays Lindsay Willows, daughter of Marg Helgenberger’s character on “CSI: Crime Scene Investigation”. Her guest appearances include “Medium”, “Two and a Half Men”, “ER”, “Angel” and “7<sup>th</sup> Heaven”.

This summer, Kay can be seen on the big screen playing best friend George to girl sleuth “Nancy Drew” in the Warner Brothers feature film adaptation of the classic book series. Other upcoming features include “Rails & Ties” starring Kevin Bacon and directed by Clint Eastwood’s daughter Alison, as well as “A Modern Twain Story: The Prince and the Pauper” starring Dylan and Cole Sprouse.

Extraordinarily focused, Kay has been able to accommodate a rigorous academic schedule in addition to her work. Graduating as valedictorian of her high school class at the age of 13, she received her Associates Degree in 2006 and at just 16 is beginning her senior year at UCLA, where she is a history major. Kay was inspired by an elementary school teacher who made learning exciting, and she wants to pass that enthusiasm on to others, hoping to eventually teach 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Until she has the opportunity to teach in the classroom, Kay is content working with young people as a hands-on volunteer with different children’s charities including The Young Storytellers Foundation and Children’s Hospital.

In between work and school, Kay finds time to be a regular kid whose interests include arts and crafts, swimming, bowling, and dance. She also enjoys traveling, having visited all 50 states as well as Canada, Mexico, and parts of Europe. An avid reader, Kay is a big animal lover as well, which is what drew her to the role of “Moondance Alexander”, where she fell in love with her equine co-stars. In the span of one week last fall she was “Zookeeper for a Day” at Busch Gardens where she bottle-fed a baby giraffe, “Keeper for a Day” at Discovery Cove where she swam with dolphins, she swam in the Crystal River with manatees in their natural habitat, swam with a sea lion and rays in the Florida Keys, visited with the Peabody Ducks, and toured Monkey Jungle, where the humans are caged and the monkeys run free.