

deadline.com

'On Fire' Movie Casts William H. Macy, John Corbett, Joel Courtney, Others

Matt Grobar

8–10 minutes

[Skip to main content](#)

William H. Macy, John Corbett, Joel Courtney & Others Set For Sean McNamara Pic 'On Fire' Based On True Story Of Severe Burn Survivor John O'Leary



(L-R) William H. Macy, John Corbett, Joel Courtney, DeVon Franklin, and Stephanie Szostak Getty/Michael Buckner/Getty

/Brian Freeman/Getty

EXCLUSIVE: [William H. Macy](#) (*Shameless*), [John Corbett](#) (*My Big Fat Greek Wedding*), [Joel Courtney](#) (*The Kissing Booth*), DeVon Franklin (*Jesus Revolution*), and Stephanie Szostak (*A Million Little Things*) are among those set to star in [On Fire](#), another new film from [Sean McNamara](#) (*Reagan*) that has landed a SAG-AFTRA Interim Agreement and will begin production in St. Louis November 6.

News of the project comes following McNamara's recent commitment to direct the indie [One Man's Castle](#), penned by producer John Zaring, for Zaring/Cioffi Entertainment, Virtuosity Media, and his own banner Brookwell McNamara Entertainment. Rounding out the cast of today's film, based on the bestseller by inspirational speaker John O'Leary, are Masey McLain (*I Am Not Ashamed*), Natalie Buck (*Marry Me*), and James McCracken (*Christmas Again*).

Related Stories

Believed to be the first feature to take advantage of Missouri's new production tax credit, *On Fire* was adapted for the screen by Gregory Poirier ([Knox Goes Away](#), *The Spy Next Door*). The film picks up with a nine-year-old O'Leary as he's given virtually no chance of survival, after being burned in a harrowing accident over 100% of his body. In his fight to live and show us what's possible, he winds up leaning on his family, faith, and the entire city of St. Louis, including legendary St. Louis Cardinals announcer Jack Buck.

Producers on the film include J. Todd Harris and Margaret French

Isaac, as well as McNamara and partner David Brookwell. Exec producers include Linda Huntington, Terry Schnuck, and O’Leary. Amy Powers co-produces. Joey Paul Jensen and Niner Parikh are overseeing casting.

O’Leary says that “*On Fire* weaves together tragedy, redemption, baseball and a love story. At a time of so much divisiveness, cynicism, and negativity, *On Fire* celebrates what happens when a community comes together, when personal imperfections are embraced and when we allow the fear of who we wish we were to finally give way to the gift of all we already are.”

McNamara calls the author “the kind of person that makes us remember how lucky we are to be alive, and that all that happens to us can be a blessing. In these troubled times we need to live an “inspired life.” I can’t wait for the world to join us and discover who John O’Leary is and how we can all live “On Fire.””

After starring on Showtime’s *Shameless* for 11 seasons — in a role that brought him six Emmy nominations, among other honors — Macy has been seen starring in Hulu’s *The Dropout* and Michael Jacobs’ starry rom-com *Maybe I Do* for Vertical. Upcoming projects include *Kingdom of the Planet of the Apes* and Amazon MGM Studios’ comedy [Ricky Stanicky](#).

An Emmy nom known for films like *My Big Fat Greek Wedding* and *Serendipity*, Corbett has been seen of late in *My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3* and all installments of Netflix’s film series *To All the Boys*, as well as the shows *And Just Like That....*, *XO, Kitty* and *How I Met Your Father*.

Courtney starred in Lionsgate and Kingdom Story Company’s faith-based hit *Jesus Revolution* and has also starred in recent

years in the *Kissing Booth* YA film franchise for Netflix. Upcoming projects include the thriller *Pursued* with Molly Ringwald, Trish Sie’s *Players* for Netflix, and *Half Baked 2*.

Also known for his work as a producer on titles like *Flamin’ Hot* and *The Star*, Franklin’s acting resume includes the films *Jesus Revolution*, *God’s Grace: The Sheila Johnson Story*, *Canal Street* and *Woodlawn*.

One of the stars of ABC’s *A Million Little Things*, which wrapped its fifth and final season over the summer, Szostak has additionally been seen of late on shows like *Younger* and *Girlfriend’s Guide to Divorce*. Film credits include *Gimme Shelter*, *Iron Man 3*, and *We Bought a Zoo*, to name just a few.

McNamara currently has two titles coming up for release: the historical drama *Reagan*, which stars Dennis Quaid as the 40th U.S. President, and the holocaust drama *Bau, Artist at War*, starring Emile Hirsch and Inbar Lavi. Other notable titles from the filmmaker include the family drama *Soul Surfer* and the recent fantasy pic *The King’s Daughter* with Pierce Brosnan.

Macy is represented by IAG and Atlas Artists; Corbett by Gersh; Courtney by Gersh, Authentic and Myman Greenspan Fox; Franklin by WME and Hansen, Jacobson, Teller; Szostak by UTA, Lasher Group and Hansen, Jacobson; McNamara by IAG and Felker Toczec Suddleson; and Poirier by Verve, Sugar 23 and Hansen, Jacobson.

Must Read Stories

Subscribe to [Deadline Breaking News Alerts](#) and keep your inbox happy.

Read More About:

Newsire

Site

Close privacy/terms of use policyX

Penske Media Corporation (PMC) uses first and third-party technologies to enable PMC and third-parties to collect information about you and your interactions with our sites and services (including clicks, cursor movements and screen recordings). Learn more [HERE](#). By continuing to use our sites or services, you agree to our [Terms of Use](#) (including the [class action waiver](#) and [arbitration](#) provisions) and [Privacy Policy](#), which have recently changed.

u

onetrust

Your Opt Out Preference Signal is Honored

Your Privacy Choices (California Residents)

As explained in our Privacy Policy, we and our ad partners collect certain information from our visitors through cookies and similar technologies and share it with third parties or combine it with information from other businesses to deliver more relevant ads to you and for related advertising activities. We may also share certain contact information for these purposes. This is known as “sharing” your personal information (“PI”) for targeted ads and may

be considered “selling” PI under applicable law. We also process certain sensitive PI for advertising purposes. We may also sell or license certain information, such as contact or subscription information, to third parties to provide you offers and opportunities that may interest you. If you are a California resident, to opt out of these activities to the extent they are a "share" or sale and limit our use of your sensitive personal information on this service, use the toggle below. If you want to opt out for information that is not cookie based, please complete this opt out form below.

[Privacy Policy](#)[Opt-Out Form](#)

Manage Preferences

Strictly Necessary Cookies

These cookies are necessary for the website to function and cannot be switched off in our systems. They are usually only set in response to actions made by you which amount to a request for services, such as setting your privacy preferences, logging in or filling in forms. You can set your browser to block or alert you about these cookies, but some parts of the site will not then work. These cookies do not store any personally identifiable information.

Allow Share or Sale of Personal Information and Use of Sensitive Personal Information

Allow Share or Sale of Personal Information and Use of Sensitive Personal Information

Move the toggle to the left (grey color) and click “Confirm My Choices” to indicate that you do not want us to sell or share your personal information as described above and that you want us to

limit the use of your sensitive personal information to only those purposes permitted by California law. You must indicate your choice on each computer/browser you use to access our services and fill out the opt out form above for non-cookie-based data. If you clear your cookies or your browser is set to do so, you must opt out using the toggle again.

Cookie List