

celebrity q&a

BY JAY BOBBIN

Stella Baker

OF 'THE REPUBLIC OF SARAH' ON THE CW



In "The Republic of Sarah," what do you think are Sarah's strengths and weaknesses in becoming the leader of a newly formed country?

I think Sarah's basic knowledge of U.S. history and cartography and geography ... it's just such a wealth of knowledge in that area. And it's such a progressive outlook on the possibility of what a country can look like.

At the same time, she is a little bit impulsive. She can make quick, reckless decisions sometimes. She also sometimes thinks that she has the best ideas for everyone, so I think one of the biggest challenges for Sarah is figuring out how to reach out and get help, because you

can't do this task alone. I would not trust myself to run a country - I don't have the expertise for that - but I am a bit of a control freak, so I guess we share that.

What have you learned about politics from doing the series?

Because it's a small town, if we're doing a poll in (the show's fictional) Greylock about a new law or the constitution or whatever it is, everyone who expresses an opinion on that is heard. I think we're moving back towards more of that sort of grassroots, focused on your community, focused on your local representatives to get to pass policy that relates specifically to the people around you.

It's just that in Greylock, when people vote for something like that or engage civically, it's the laws for the whole country ... but I don't think it's so different than when we show up to our town hall and say, "This is what we care about. This is what we need."

How is it now to have a father who's also been through the series-star experience, namely Simon Baker ("The Mentalist")?

I feel really lucky that I have some sense of guidance, that when the s-- hits the fan, I can call my dad and be like "What's going on? Am I doing it all wrong?" He's been through it all, so he has been available to give me guidance, and I'm really grateful for that.

Remembering Robin triviaquiz

BY JOHN CROOK



Robin Williams

Questions:

- 1) Robin Williams made his network series debut not in "Mork & Mindy," but as a regular on a 1977 NBC variety series starring what iconic Black comic?
- 2) "Mork & Mindy" was set in what midsize Western city?
- 3) What was the name of Mork's home planet, and to whom did he have to send back regular reports?
- 4) On what ABC sitcom did the character of Mork first appear?
- 5) After Williams became a hit on "Mork & Mindy," in 1979 NBC reran a previously low-rated series of comedy specials featuring Williams. They were an ill-advised attempt to recapture the zaniness of what signature '60s ensemble comedy smash?
- 6) Williams often cited this frequent guest star on "The Jack Paar Show" as being one of his inspirations to become an improvisational comic. Can you name him?

Answers:
 1) Richard Pryor
 2) Boulder, Colo.
 3) The planet Ork, where he had to report back to Orson
 4) "Happy Days"
 5) "Rowan & Martin's Laugh-In"
 6) Jonathan Winters

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