

Ex 'American Idol' Contestant Paul McDonald and 'Twilight' Star Nikki Reed Dating



It's official!

According to [OMG! from Yahoo](#), *American Idol*'s Paul McDonald and *Twilight* star Nikki Reed are a couple. The two met at a premiere and have been dating ever since. Although they have hectic schedules, McDonald states that Nikki has been "super supportive" throughout his time on *American Idol*, which unfortunately ended Thursday night when he was eliminated from the show. The biggest issue their relationship faces is making time to be with each other. "We haven't actually done much of that," says McDonald. "She's been busy working. I've been busy working." McDonald is now busy preparing for the *American Idol* tour, while Reed has been filming the final installment of *Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part II*.

How does a relationship survive when you're both workaholics?

Cupid's Advice:

Relationships are hard enough without the added stress of a career in the back of your mind. Here are some tips on how you can ease some of that career/relationship tension:

1. Make time for each other: Although this may be difficult to do, it's important to have a date night at least once a week where the two of you put work out of your minds and focus on each other. No cell phones or business calls – just the two of you enjoying each other's company.

2. Video chatting: If the two of you are constantly traveling on business and don't get to see each other often, why not video chat? This allows you to see and talk to one another rather than simply texting or having a phone conversation over the phone. Skype and Oovo are free, easy to use and becoming extremely popular. There are also other available apps, like Face Time for the iPhone.

3. Take a vacation: If both of you can coordinate your vacation time so you can be together, do it! This way, you guys can have a fun, romantic getaway. Forget about work for a couple of days and enjoy each other's company.

If you find yourself struggling to balance your relationship with your career, share with us in a comment below.

Mark Ballas and 'Idol' Contestant Pia Toscano:

Dating?



Looks like love may be in the air for *Dancing With the Stars* pro Mark Ballas and *American Idol* contestant Pia Toscano. The two were spotted at the Gulfstream restaurant in Century City, according to [TMZ](#), and were reportedly on their first date. Despite being kicked off of *American Idol* last week, Toscano has been able to pick herself up in search for love. Supposedly the crooner has had a crush on Ballas for quite some time, and their trailers were next to each other on the same studio lot. *DWTS* pro Chris Jericho, who is credited with helping to facilitate the hook up, said that the two had a “great” first date and plan to go out again soon.

Is it important to have the same talents as your partner?

Cupid's Advice:

Both Pia Toscano and Mark Ballas are very talented with music, but it's not necessarily a requirement to have the same

talents as your partner. Cupid has some things to consider:

1. Common values: As long as you live by the same morals and values in life, it's not necessarily to have exactly the same interests and talents as your partner. The key is to support each other.

2. Bond: The benefit of having common interests, hobbies and/or talents is that you can spend quality time doing things you both enjoy. It can lead to a better understand of each other.

3. Independence: Having different interests and career goals helps you each evolve as independent people. Although it would be great for Toscano and Ballas to sing duets together, it would be an issue if they didn't have anything else in common. One common talent doesn't a relationship make.

Do you and your partner have common talents? Share your story below.

Former 'Idol' Star Scott MacIntyre is Engaged





Former *American Idol*

Season 8 contestant Scott MacIntyre has found “the one.” MacIntyre and his fiancée, Christina Teich, plan to wed later this year, the singer’s rep confirmed to UsMagazine.com. The couple will make their first public appearance at the Season 10 *American Idol* Top 24 party, which will be held February 24 in Hollywood.

Where should you go public as a couple?

Cupid’s Advice:

Now that you’re an official couple, you shouldn’t worry about where you can be seen together. There are endless options, and you should embrace them. Cupid has a few suggestions:

- 1. Wedding:** Is one of your relatives on the way to getting married? Take your significant other to the wedding as your date. This is one of the best way for your partner to get acquainted with the relatives she or he hasn’t met yet.
- 2. Private parties:** If you’re part of an exclusive organization that will hold a private event soon, invite your partner to attend the party with you.
- 3. Events:** Wait for a special occasion, whether that ends up being your friend’s birthday, a holiday, a festival or a

concert. You'll remember the day you announced your relationship even more if it's in a special location.

'Idol' Contestant Chris Medina Shares Story of Fiancee's Brain Injury



How much would you sacrifice if your partner got ill? The millions of people watching *American Idol* Wednesday night had to consider that question after watching Chris Medina's touching story. *People* reports that when 26-year-old Medina auditioned for the judges in Milwaukee, he told the story of how he and the love of his life, Juliana, dated for six years and got engaged. Then two months before the wedding, everything changed when Juliana got in an accident that left her with a traumatic brain injury.

“I was about to make vows just two months from the accident – through thick and thin, ‘til death do us part, for better or worse,” he said. “What kind of guy would I be if I walked out when she needed me the most?”

Should you sacrifice aspects of your life for your partner’s illness?

Cupid’s Advice:

An illness or injury will test even the strongest relationship. Cupid has some advice on how much you should sacrifice when your partner goes through a trauma:

1. Respect the vows: Like Chris Medina said, when you get married, you make a vow to be there for each other “in sickness and in health, ‘til death do us part.” Your partner’s illness gives you an opportunity to show how much those vows mean to you.

2. Get help: Don’t go through this experience alone. If your mate needs care, make sure you ask for help from family, friends and professionals instead of taking it all on yourself.

3. Don’t sacrifice everything: Your partner would probably want you to go out and enjoy life instead of worrying about him or her constantly. Take time for yourself once in awhile.

‘American Idol’ Star Crystal

Bowersox Is Engaged



Congratulations are in order for *American Idol* runner-up Crystal Bowersox. [E! News](#) reports that the folk-pop singer is engaged to fellow musician Brian Walker, with plans to tie the knot next month. Bowersox, 25, broke up with long-time boyfriend and father of her 1-year-old son near the end of her stint on *American Idol*. She used her heartbreak to deliver some emotionally powerful performances, earning her the second place spot after crooner Lee DeWyze won last season. **How can a breakup be a positive thing?**

Cupid's Advice:

It's hard to see the light at the end of the tunnel when you're in the midst of a painful breakup. But Cupid has some ideas on why ending a relationship can actually be good for you:

1. **Express yourself:** Crystal Bowersox did it, and so can you.

Use your heartbreak to make beautiful poetry, music, or art. So many musicians have recorded their biggest and best hits after their hearts were recently broken. It's a great form of therapy, too.

2. Reconnect with friends: You should never go through a breakup alone, so let your friends cheer you up (with the help of lots of ice cream and romantic comedies, of course). Plus, you can make up for all the times you decided to go out with your ex-beau instead of chill with your girls.

3. Start fresh: Splitting from a partner gives you the perfect opportunity to think about what you want (and don't want) in future relationships. Use the time to sort out your priorities and goals.

J.Lo's Ex Seeks Revenge on 'American Idol'





In an apparent attempt to lengthen his 15 minutes of fame, Jennifer Lopez's ex-husband, Ojani Noa, has just announced that he plans to audition for *American Idol*. Ironically, this revelation came immediately after J.Lo was named an *Idol* judge on the hit show. According to [E! Online](#), Noa is intent on singing one of Lopez's songs in front of the judges after hours of standing in line with the other contestants at the Forum on Sept. 22. Awkward is probably the best word to describe this post-split meeting between the former couple.

How should you handle a vengeful ex?

Cupid's Advice:

Seeking revenge on an ex is never the best course of action and rarely brings closure to either party. However, if you are victim of an ex's constant harassment, you need to protect yourself without making the situation worse.

1. Try to work it out: If you hear anything about your ex feeling vengeful, this may be the time to meet in a neutral location and talk things over. Tell your ex that he has every right to be angry, but that hurting you as a result is taking things too far.

2. Ignore it: If you can't get to your ex in time, and he starts sending you cruel text messages or spreading rumors, ignoring his actions can put a quick stop to them. Remember the old adage "misery loves company." If he sees that he's not getting to you, he'll have no motivation to continue.

3. Legal action: Most of the time it doesn't come to this. However, if you are being stalked, threatened, or physically hurt, you need to seek legal action, perhaps in the form of a restraining order.

Revenge may be the wrong course of action, but celebrities aren't innocent to taking part.