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## Gina Rodriguez and 'Jane the Virgin' cast: We're acting very real, that's why people like it

By [Brittany Valadez](#), | Fox News



### 'Jane the Virgin' cast gushes about show's success

Be different. Take a chance. You never know, you could be nominated for (or win) a Golden Globe. Just ask the cast of "Jane the Virgin" and its top star, actress Gina Rodriguez.

"I think what we did [by winning the Globe] is make my family proud, make every Latina proud, and the collective Latino," said Rodriguez to Fox News Latino on the red carpet for the PaleyFest in Los Angeles Sunday night.

"It is so important that the Latino community can understand that it can make single-handedly make 'Jane The Virgin' like 'Empire', we are so strong, and we are so many in this country, so wise intelligent and bright and beautiful and different," she added with her characteristic humility.

Rodriguez, who grew up on Chicago, made waves last year with her breakout role as Jane Villanueva, a young Latina who pledged to remain a virgin until married. She became engaged, all before realizing she was artificially inseminated by accident and is now pregnant – without ever having had an intimate relationship.

Notably, Jane's character is not pandering to negative stereotypes, but seeks to set a better example. Jane's the hero.

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This marks the second show to attempt to shine a positive light on the Hispanic community. Take the telenovela-turned-American-success-series 'Ugly Betty' for example. Like Rodriguez, actress America Ferrera, also took home a Golden Globe for her work as Betty Suarez, a fashion-impaired Mexican-American girl hired as a personal assistant at a trendy fashion magazine.

While the show's plot may seem outrageous, that's basically why it works. It's part full-on, over-the-top comedy mixed with heartwarming, relatable emotion.

"It is not a telenovela like we know the telenovelas to be," Ivonne Coll, who plays Jane's grandmother, told Fox News Latino. "It is a telenovela in the sense of the heightened stories that ensue. But it is not a telenovela in the sense of the style that we're acting. We're acting very real, and I think that's why people like it."

Mexican actor Jaime Camil makes his major North American debut as Jane's self-absorbed (yet loving) father, who happens to be a telenovela star. While the show is based on a Mexican telenovela, one might expect it to be right up the actor's alley - but it's not entirely the case.

"...What I do is more like situational comedy. I don't do these dramatic like, 'Why haven't you called me, Maria Fernanda?'" the actor joked. "So playing this character is fun. It's really fun because I get to copy a lot of my colleagues in Mexico that they do act like, this way [dramatic] and it's been very fun to do."

In sharp contrast to Camil's over-the-top character comes Rodriguez as his smart and passionate daughter. The Golden Globe winner most certainly earned her award, simply because audiences feel Jane's passion by Rodriguez's superb take on her fictional character. For the actress, her win wasn't only for herself, but for the Latino community as a whole.

"For me, that Golden Globe was not me standing there. I was standing there with my best friend and my sister and my neighbor and the home girl that lives down the street and my other fellow

actresses; and you know and Genesis Rodriguez and Natalie Martinez and you know, Melonie Diaz," she pointed out.

"I was standing up there with all of them, because we all know that it is so important to be represented onscreen and it is so important to be represented as a hero in a good light, because we are that."

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