



WIFTI Summit 2012/ScriptDC  
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An award-winning producer and personal manager, **Marilyn R. Atlas** is equally at home in the worlds of film, television, and live theater. Among her credits as film producer are *Real Women Have Curves* for HBO, which won the Audience Award at the Sundance Film Festival, *A Certain Desire*, starring Sam Waterston, and *Echoes*.

Earlier in her career, Marilyn served as Casting Director for feature films, including John Frankenheimer's *The Equals* and *The Whiz*. She is a founding member of Women in Film's Luminas Committee that supports the portrayal of women in non-stereotypical roles in film and television. Along with director and actress Dorothy Lyman, Marilyn founded ADT, a director's theatre, and served on its advisory board.

Marilyn is a member of NALIP, the National Association of Latino Independent Producers. Speaking at events such as Santa Fe Screenwriters Conference and Richard Krevolin's USC Screenwriting Retreat, Atlas has covered such topics as: "Creating for the Actor: Carving Memorable, Inhabitable Characters" and "The Ever-Evolving Marketplace: What's Hot, Why and for How Long..." Marilyn has also taught several actor workshops on creating "Multiple Viewpoints – One Core" for actors as well as "Acting and Auditioning for Producers."

She is currently developing the feature *Perfekt Kill* and the cable movie *Brides' March* for Lifetime Television, and a limited television series. Atlas is now partnering with Broadway producer Chris Bensinger for the musical version of *Real Women*. She is also featured in the book *Write Now!* from Penguin/Tarcher Publishing, released January 2011. In 2012 she will be developing the forthcoming YA novel by bestselling author Diana Lopez for a television movie, as well as co-producing the play *Detained in the Desert* in San Antonio for the fall of 2012.



**Eva Beling** is a Producer and Director with a Bachelor of Arts in Film and Television from San Francisco State University, and was awarded the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences Emmy Award Production Scholarship. Eva has also studied film at New York University, and Drama in Miami, Florida.

Eva has worked on successful TV-drama series, as a Producer at Stockholm International Film Festival, and for various independent production companies in New York and Sweden. She was also the Producer for a weekly TV-program that won an award for Best Alternative Cultural and Public Affairs Program.

Eva Beling's most recent work includes a two-part documentary series for Swedish National Television about a legendary Swedish film critic, and two programs dedicated to the late Ingmar Bergman where prominent actors discuss their work with Bergman in film and theater.



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**Hannah Buchdahl** is a veteran producer/writer of broadcast news and non-fiction/reality programming whose work has been seen on a variety of network and cable outlets, including CNN, NBC, UPN, FOX, TLC, Lifetime and Reelz Channel. While dabbling in the shark-infested waters of Los Angeles (where there's a free movie screening somewhere just about every day), she found herself watching — and debating the merits of — more movies than ever before.

In 2009, as Hannah and a couple of gal pals fled L.A. for a return to their east coast roots (in MD, NY and N.C.), they co-created Chickflix.net, a movie review site/blog featuring fun, informative, easy to digest reviews from a uniquely female perspective. Hannah writes her reviews under the name "Mainstream Chick" because she generally favors movies with mass appeal and a direct narrative over the more cerebral stuff. That said, she's quick to get behind any movie that can draw her in with a good story, good characters/performances, good pacing, and minimal bloodshed - especially if recommended by her Chickflix co-founders, "Arty Chick" (in NYC) and "Adventurous Chick" (in Asheville, NC). Hannah is based in Rockville, MD and is a member of WAFCA, the Washington DC Area Film Critics Association.

Chickflix.net was recently mentioned in *O - The Oprah Magazine* as a go-to site for "a fun, fresh perspective on blockbusters, indie fare, and more." The Chicks understand that movies are subjective. Therefore, feedback and debate are welcomed and encouraged. Join the conversation on the site as well as on Facebook ([facebook.com/chickflix](https://www.facebook.com/chickflix)) and Twitter (@chickflixnet).



**Randi Cohen Coblenz** is part of the team at Video Action where she is involved with producing as well as assessing management. Prior to joining Video Action, Randi was a Production Manager/Associate Producer for the animation company Studio Kinate, where she worked on a 2D STEM project for the Office of Naval Research and corporate clients. As Director of Development for the Ciesla Foundation

Randi stewarded the successful release of the documentary *Yoo-Hoo Mrs. Goldberg* in theaters throughout the country. She organized extensive social media promotion of the film for distribution and film festival bookings. While at The Earthwatch Institute, Randi established the media department and a film archive and database. With her own resources Randi produced and edited *The Story of the Lost Dog & Cat Rescue Foundation* to raise awareness of the need for shelter adoptions <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zCXHyir9v7k>.

Randi proudly serves on the Executive Board for Women in Film and Video. An alumni of Emerson College's masters program in Mass Communication, and the University of Arizona, Randi understands the power of media to persuade, inform and entertain.



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**Timothy Cooper** is a New York City-based screenwriter and director. He wrote and directed the web sitcom *Concierge: The Series* (<http://ConciergeTheSeries.com>), starring comedians from *Saturday Night Live*, *30 Rock*, *Last Comic Standing*, the Onion News Network, and Upright Citizens Brigade. The series was nominated for the WGA Award for Outstanding Achievement in Writing Original New Media in

2011.

Timothy's debut political comedy video, *Transparency*, was featured on the front pages of YouTube Comedy and Slate magazine. His first feature-writing credit, *Away From Here*, starring Nick Stahl, Alicia Witt, and Ray Wise, is set for release in 2013. He recently wrote and directed a new digital pilot featuring actors from *Late Night with Jimmy Fallon*, and is currently developing a short film and several feature scripts.

In his spare time, Timothy is also the manager of the Writers Guild of America, East softball team. He teaches screenwriting and filmmaking in Brooklyn.



**Maryanne Culpepper** was named President of National Geographic Television (NGT) in April 2011. She oversees all business and editorial activities for the documentary production and sales arm of National Geographic. Documentary films produced by NGT can be seen on the National Geographic Channel and PBS in the US and other broadcasters worldwide. Culpepper was previously Executive Vice President, Editorial and New Business Development and Senior Vice President, Editorial Development, NGT.

Culpepper, an Emmy® Award-winning writer/producer with 25 years of experience in television production and broadcast management, joined NGT in 1996 as Director, Story Development. Prior to joining National Geographic, Culpepper was founder and president of Graffiti Works, a film and video production company based in Orlando and DC. Other previous positions include producer/director at Auburn Television and research director for WUFT-TV, Gainesville's public television station.

Culpepper won a regional Emmy® (Suncoast) for excellence in Children's and Family Programming for *Food TV*, a comedy series on nutrition that aired on PBS. She also has won multiple CINE Golden Eagle Awards, including one as writer of *At the Time of Diagnosis*, a multipart series for Time-Life hosted by former Surgeon General of the United States Dr. C. Everett Koop. *Lost in Time* was her first documentary production to air nationally on PBS in 1984.



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Following a successful career as both an Equity and SAG actor, **Janet Davidson** segued into producing and directing commercials before moving to Los Angeles to pursue a career as an Assistant Director and then Director, in prime-time TV. Known as one of the first steadily working female Assistant Directors in both episodic and movies for television, Ms. Davidson is credited First AD in over 200 episodic and 20 telefilms. Before moving from Los Angeles to New Mexico she was a full time Director in series television, Ms. Davidson has directed *Earth2*, *Cagney & Lacey*, *Soul Food*, *Judging Amy*, and multiple episodes of *Any Day Now*, which has earned an Image Award nomination from the NAACP based on Ms. Davidson's work on the episode "Lighten Up Rene."

Ms. Davidson is a founding member of New Mexico Women in Film and served as its President for almost four years. She is currently Vice Chair of Women in Film and Television International. WIFTI Short Film Showcase, an annual March 8th event, was produced in 2011 and again in 2012 by Ms. Davidson.

Besides coaching actors privately Ms. Davidson also has monthly acting workshops [www.ACTjanetdavidson.com](http://www.ACTjanetdavidson.com)

Ms. Davidson has taught both film and drama at Pecos HS and she is a faculty member at UNM, teaching Sophomore Seminars "What the Film Industry has to offer YOU." She has taught "Kids First Film Critic Boot Camp" at Disney Studios. Janet also serves on the board of New Mexico Women in Arts and Kids First.

Recently she returned to her roots by directing *Moonlight and Magnolias* at the Santa Fe Playhouse.



**Amy DeLouise** has more than 20 years experience in cause marketing, branding, and nonprofit governance. An experienced speaker, workshop presenter and facilitator, Amy has also won more than 40 top national awards for creative excellence in video and multimedia production. She has been a featured speaker for the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB), the National Association of Independent Schools and DRI (an association of the defense bar), among others. Her clients also include the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Children's National Medical Center, and Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts.

Long a proponent of women breaking barriers, she received the prized Woman of Vision Leadership award from Women in Film & Video, of which she is a Past President, and was named a Washington Area Woman-Owned Small Business Leader by the Women's Business Enterprise National Council. She has served on the Women's Advisory Board for The Washington Group/Mass Mutual and is a Trustee Emerita of the all-girls Holton-Arms School.





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An avid musician, Amy performs five concerts a year as co-principal violinist of the NIH Philharmonia and sings throughout the region with the women's a cappella octet Venus d Minor. (Their new CD *Digital Redemption* is available on Amazon, iTunes and CDBaby!).



**Julie Ann Emery** began her career on stages across the country in shows ranging from *Boy Gets Girl* (The Geffen Playhouse), *Play It Again Sam* (Drury Lane), and *Elmer Gantry* (Marriott Linconshire) to *Gypsy* (\*Jeff Nomination), *Bye Bye Birdie* (Pittsburgh CLO), and the National Tours of ....*Forum* and *Annie.TV: Series Regular: Line of Fire* and *Commander-In0Chief*, other TV credits include: *Damages*, *Suits*, *The Riches*, *Dexter*, *October Road*, *Sarah Connor Chronicles*, and Hallmark Hall of Fame's *Pictures of Hollis Woods* with Sissy Spacek (Cami Award). Features: *Hitch*, *Nothing But the Truth*, *The Rainbow Tribe*, and upcoming *The Letter*, *Movie 43*, and currently in festivals across the country *The History of Future Folk*. Julie Ann also writes, directs, and produces her own award winning web series *Then We Got Help!* (garnering Indie Soap, CA TV Guide, Man of the Hour Awards and Indie Intertube, IAWTV nominations). [www.thenwegothelp.com](http://www.thenwegothelp.com).



**Maddie Grant, CAE** is the co-author of *Open Community: a little book of big ideas for associations navigating the social web* and *Humanize: How People-Centric Organizations Succeed in a Social World*. Maddie is also the lead editor for SocialFishing, one of the most visited and respected blogs written for association executives, where she gets to express her viewpoint as a classic Gen-X early adopter and "shiny new toy" addict. As the chief social media strategist for SocialFish, Maddie draws from more than 10 years of experience in marketing, communications, and international business operations to help associations large and small build capacity for using social media to achieve business results. Find Maddie at [www.socialfish.org](http://www.socialfish.org).



**Tanya Green** oversees and manages all the 9story projects that hit the production floor, from development to final delivery. She works closely with all departments to ensure that the creative and the technical aspects of all the company's projects meet 9story's expectations, and is responsible for managing all the creative, schedules, budgets and crew that enter the studio.

Prior to joining 9story, Tanya headed up the animation department at Breakthrough Films and Television, assisting with development and production of such properties as



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*Jimmy Two Shoes, My Big Big Friend* and *Atomic Betty*, in addition to serving as supervising producer on *Producing Parker* and *Jimmy Two Shoes*.

Tanya started her career in lifestyle television and quickly moved up the production ladder, learning everything she could about each genre of television. Before entering the animated arena, she would find herself working on performing arts series, dramatic series, feature films and documentary series for various broadcasters in Canada. Her experience includes everything from carrying camera equipment to production managing crews overseas - all in the name of creating stimulating and engaging television for kids and adults the world over.



**Grace Guggenheim** has been producing films for more than twenty years. As a Producer for Guggenheim Productions she oversaw production for *Berga: Soldiers of Another War, A Place in the Land, The Johnstown Flood* and *Harry S. Truman: 1884 - 1972*, among others. Many of her films are in use at museums and libraries across the US and several received Academy Award® awards or nominations. Ms. Guggenheim is managing the preservation of Charles Guggenheim's legacy at The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences/Academy Film Archive in Los Angeles and The

John F. Kennedy Presidential Library in Boston and advises the programming committee for The Charles Guggenheim Center for Documentary Film located at the National Archives.



**Maggie Hadleigh-West** is an internationally recognized social justice activist, filmmaker and public speaker. In her work, she skillfully explores personal experience and transforms it into socio-political activism using film, short stories, workshops, trainings and educational programs. The primary focus of her work is an imperative for social justice, specifically around issues of sexism, sexual assault, race and racism, homophobia and trauma.

Hadleigh-West's films and presentations have been used around the world in theaters, broadcast television, cable outlets, nonprofit organizations, conferences, corporations, colleges and government agencies. Since 2002 the Department of Defense has been using her work in labs and seminars to educate all branches of the military around issues of sexism, sexual harassment and sexual assault. She is considered to be an expert on sexual harassment, sexual assault and racism and has appeared on numerous national and international television and radio programs including *20/20, The Today Show, CBS News, The Oprah Show, Lifetime Live, Oxygen Media, BBC, NPR, and CNN*.



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Hadleigh-West has received numerous awards and grants for her work including a 2010 Accolade Award, a 2010 Indie Fest Award, 2010, 2008 and 2005 Alcyon Grantee, 2004 New York State Council on the Arts Grantee.



**Jeffrey Hall** is the Chief Creative Officer of WILL Interactive. He helped pioneer the invention, development, and distribution of interactive movies. Utilizing "choose your own adventure" interactive dramas, WILL Interactive has an unmatched record of combining indie filmmaking, gaming conventions, and a patented learning methodology into innovative and engaging projects shown by academic studies to improve quality of life and job performance.

Since his first interactive drama in 1995, he has written and/or directed dozens of interactive movies and supervised the development of many more. His work has won numerous media, education, and simulation/training awards and has been featured in *USA Today*, in *The Washington Post*, on CNN, and on Yahoo's front page. His unique career profile was featured on Conde Nast's Portfolio.com. His work has been presented at approximately one hundred seminars, workshops, and keynote speeches at conferences such as American Psychological Association, the Serious Games Summit, and American Film Institute.

In addition to writing and directing, he leads the WILL Interactive product development staff of writers, directors, producers, video editors, and programmers - managing the creation of six to ten feature-length interactive movies per year.



**Nan Halperin** is the Business Development Manager for ITN Source, one of the world's largest, most diverse, global footage archives. She joined ITN Source in 2008, initially responsible for licensing footage exclusively to the U.S. Education market. Currently, she manages a diverse portfolio of TV Networks, independent producers, non-profit organizations and educational publishers. Based in Atlanta, Georgia, Nan is part of ITN's US Team representing ITN Source and its partners, which include Reuters, Fox News & Fox Movietone, ITV Studios, Images of War and other premier footage archives.

Nan has over 20 years of experience in sales and marketing, with a specialization in education. Prior to joining ITN Source, she held sales and marketing positions with CNN's Turner Learning (now CNN Education); bigchalk, the Education Network; and such prestigious children's home video companies as Children's Television Workshop and Hanna-Barbera.



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**Peter Hamilton** (Peter Hamilton Consultants) is a former CBS executive whose consulting clients since 1987 have included Discovery, A+E, BBC, Smithsonian, NBC and Nat Geo. His government clients include Singapore's Media Development Authority. Peter is an international authority on the development, funding, production and distribution of factual programs. He publishes the leading industry e-newsletter [DocumentaryTelevision.com](http://DocumentaryTelevision.com), that focuses on the business of the nonfiction television business. He was educated in Australia and at the University of Pennsylvania (MBA).



**Richard Harrington** has had a long relationship with media. When he was seven, he was grounded for using magnets to rearrange the picture tube on the family's 13-inch color TV (it works but don't try it). He has since gone on to many more interesting adventures.

After 12 years of working in the graphic design and video industry, Richard Harrington set off to found his own group, RHED Pixel. His goal was to harness the new generation of digital video tools to bring high-quality media production to a broad audience. In 1999, Richard Harrington Video opened its doors, offering video production, multimedia, and consulting services to a wide range of clients. RHED is an acronym for Richard Harrington Electronic Design. This encapsulated the core services of the company. The word pixel is a portmanteau for picture element, the building block of the visual communications industry.

Rich believes that we live in a world that is getting increasingly cluttered with confusing messages. His personal philosophy is communicate... motivate... create. A firm believer that media can have powerfully results. He looks forward to the chance of helping you with your next project



**Chip Hourihan** has produced fifteen independent films in the past ten years, including *Frozen River*, which received the Grand Jury Prize at the 2008 Sundance Film Festival, and was nominated for two 2009 Academy Awards. In 2008, Hourihan received an AFI Award for Best Picture for producing *Frozen River*. Produced for well under \$1M, *Frozen River* earned over \$5M in box office receipts, and appeared on many lists citing the best films of the year.

Hourihan recently produced and served as line producer for the independent feature *Any Day Now* starring Alan Cumming and Garret Dillahunt, winner of four Audience Awards for Best Dramatic Feature in four festival appearances to date (Tribeca, Seattle,





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Provincetown, and Outfest). He produced *They're Out of the Business*, released theatrically by IFC Films and broadcast by Showtime in 2011. Since that time, he has produced and line produced the upcoming independent features *Desert Cathedral* and *Northern Borders*. Hourihan produced and was the 2nd unit director for *Mind the Gap*, winner of the Special Jury Award for Narrative Feature at South by Southwest and released theatrically, broadcast, and distributed by Showtime in 2004. Hourihan wrote, produced, and directed the dramatic feature *Glissando*, which *Variety* called "a small gem deserving wider exposure... a striking debut for talented helmer-scripter Chip Hourihan."

Hourihan has produced documentary work that includes the features *The Red Book Film* and *Living Here: A Kamchatka Tale*, both currently in postproduction, *Rocks With Wings*, the documentary TV series *Aperture* and *Made in the USA*, and short-form work for Maysles Films. He has also produced television programs, series, segments and promo packages for networks including NBC, CBS, Fox, PBS, TNT, TNN, MTV, ESPN, Showtime, Nickelodeon, Al Jazeera and TF1. He is a former commercial line producer, music video director, and location manager for directors Ridley Scott, Tony Scott, Paul Mazursky, Anton Corbijn, and Tony Kaye.



**Jan Lisa Huttner**, author of *Penny's Picks: 50 Movies by Women Filmmakers*, is an award-winning feminist activist who reviews films by women directors and screenwriters for *WomenArts*, and contributes freelance articles to *The Huffington Post*, *Women & Hollywood*, *Women's eNews*, the *Women's Newspapers*, etc.

After 35 years in Chicago (where she was an active member of the Chicago Film Critics Association), Jan has recently moved to Brooklyn, where she is a new member of NYWFT (New York Women in Film & Television), as well as a continuing member of WFCC (the Women Film Critics Circle). Jan is the founder of the internet-based initiative WITASWAN (Women in the Audience Supporting Women Artists Now), and co-founder (with WomenArts) of International SWAN Day.



**Margaret Johnson** is the Founder and Executive Director at LakeArts Foundation, Inc. Ms. Johnson, along with founding partner and Producing Director, Bonnie Nelson Schwartz were inspired to bring over thirty years of experience in the film and theatre industry to an organization devoted to developing and sharing creative ideas, outside of the marketplace setting. In 2009, LakeArts launched its Festival of Arts and Innovation developing creative works and workshops through collaborative partnerships with Toronto Film Festival, Tribeca Flashpoint Academy, Carnegie Mellon's Entertainment Technology Center



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and Edinboro University's animation program. Throughout the year, LakeArts Foundation's workshop and incubation programs work with regional organizations to develop new works in film, theatre and dance.

In 1998 Ms. Johnson launched MJLL, Inc. designed to consult on various independent film productions, including the Academy Award nominated short film, *12:01PM*, and for independent production groups such as the Dwight Yoakam producing team including Billy Bob Thornton and Peter Fonda. She is currently consulting on, developing and securing film financing for the feature film project, *Laughing Whitefish*, based on a book authored by Robert Travers (*Anatomy of a Murder*), *Valley of the Kings* and *Churchill: The Finest Hour*, with Emanuel Wolf (former President of Production, Allied Artists) as Executive Producer.

Margaret Johnson joined Disney Studio's feature-film development Creative Executive team in Burbank in 1991, where she was instrumental in developing such productions as *James and the Giant Peach*, and *Iron Will* and Disney Animation's *Pocahontas II* and *Lilo and Stitch*. She was with Disney's Buena Vista International (BVI) Distribution and Acquisition division prior to joining Paramount Studios where she supervised the film, *South Park*.

Prior to her tenure at Disney and Paramount, Ms. Johnson wrote and produced multiple pilots for Lifetime, Showtime and HBO TV as part of writing and producing team based in New York and Los Angeles. She also co-produced two documentaries for Japanese television based on several Hollywood filmmakers and the Academy Awards.



**Allen Kalman** has 20 years of publishing and producing experience in print, online, mobile, interactive television and emerging platforms. At both ABC/Disney and Fremantle Media, he led digital production for brands such as *Who Wants to Be a Millionaire*, *Baywatch*, and *American Idol*. He has also produced mobile projects for CBS, MTV, NBA and Lifetime Television. Currently AI runs AKMG, a consulting firm that develops new products for the digital space, including the recently launched *Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter* iPhone app for FOX Films.

He's also on a mission for the perfect pizza as founder and critic at [PizzaSnobo.com](http://PizzaSnobo.com). Email him at [alkal@alkalmedia.com](mailto:alkal@alkalmedia.com). Follow him at @AI\_Kal or @PizzaSnobo.



A child of a Holocaust survivor and a US Army officer, **Aviva Kempner** was born in Berlin, Germany after World War II. Her heritage inspired Ms. Kempner to produce and co-write *Partisans of Vilna*, a documentary on Jewish resistance against the Nazis. She was the executive producer of the 1989 Grammy-award nominated record, *Partisans of Vilna: The Songs of World War II Jewish Resistance*.



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She also wrote the narration for *Promises to Keep*, the Academy Award-nominated documentary on the homeless. Ms. Kempner is a recipient of the 1996 Guggenheim Fellowship and the 2000 DC Mayor's Art Award. She received the 2001 Women of Vision award from D.C.'s Women in Film and Video chapter and the 2001 Media Arts award from the National Foundation for Jewish Culture.

She writes film criticism and feature articles for numerous publications, including *The Boston Globe*, *The Forward*, *Washington Jewish Week* and *The Washington Post*. She also lectures about cinema throughout the country. She started the Washington Jewish Film Festival in 1989. She attended the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, McDowell and Yaddo artist colonies in 2002-2004.

She has served on the board of CINE, DC VOTE, Forum for the Psychoanalytical Study of Film, District of Columbia Jewish Community Center, and Women in Film and Video. Ms. Kempner lives in Washington, DC where she plays a prominent role in the artist and film community. She is also an activist for voting rights for the District of Columbia.

Ms. Kempner wrote chapters for the books, *Daughters of Absence*, *What Israel Means to Me*, and *Jews and American Popular Culture*.



**Elizabeth Klinck** has worked as producer, researcher and clearance specialist on numerous award-winning Canadian, American and British documentary films that have garnered Emmy, Gemini, Peabody and Academy awards.

A graduate of Queen's University she has taught documentary research and development at Ryerson University in Toronto and has led research and rights clearance workshops at numerous international conferences.

Elizabeth won the inaugural Canadian Gemini Award for Best Visual Research in 2010. In 2005 and 2011, she received nominations for FOCAL International's Researcher of the Year Award. In 2006 she received an Emmy nomination in the category Outstanding Individual Achievement in a Craft – Research. Recently she was awarded the FOCAL International Lifetime Achievement Award.

Elizabeth serves as a member of the FOCAL International Executive and History makers. She is a founding chairperson of the Visual Researchers' Society of Canada and is a member of DOC and WIFT Toronto.



**Kiley Kraskouskas** is an award-winning producer and co-founder and president of Thinking Forward Media. Before launching Thinking Forward Media she worked as a producer and business developer for two top Virginia film companies, Rock Creek Productions of Reston, and Cortina Productions of McLean. She then served as producer and the principal

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fundraiser for the independent feature documentary, *Essakane Film*. Kiley is a sought-after instructor, speaker, and consultant whose expertise includes crowd funding, video production, and business development. Recent films for which she has consulted include: *Teach me How to Sea*, *Coded Stories*, and *The Last Battlefield*.

Additional production and consulting clients include: The George Washington University, Daring or Nothing Productions, The University of Maryland Small Business Development Center and the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies. Kiley serves on the board of Docs in Progress and is a longtime member of Women in Film and Video (WIFV). WIFV recently honored her with their Randy Goldman Scholarship, which provided tuition to the Maine Media Institute for the course, "Writing and Developing the Documentary." She holds a Master Degree in Sociology from New York University and a Bachelor's degree in Sociology and Political Science from the University of Denver. Kiley can be reached for video production work as well as crowd funding speaking and consulting opportunities at [kiley@thinkingforwardmedia.com](mailto:kiley@thinkingforwardmedia.com).



**Ursula Lawrence** is a lead strategic organizer for the Writers Guild of America, East. Her primary job duties include expanding the Guild's membership in independent film and digital media. Prior to working at the WGAE Ursula spent three years as a field representative for the Directors Guild of America – where she was responsible for visiting DGA members on the sets of feature films, television shows, broadcast news and commercials. Ursula graduated with honors from Oberlin College and achieved candidacy for the PhD in Sociology at the University of Michigan before leaving academia to pursue a career in the entertainment unions.



**Maria Maggenti** is a filmmaker and screenwriter who lives in Los Angeles and Shelter Island, NY. She owns a pug that follows her everywhere and an old farmhouse that requires constant renovation. Because she was the worst office temp in history and preferred to read, draw and listen to music, she naturally went into filmmaking.

Maggenti began her career in 1995 as writer/director of *The Incredibly True Adventure of Two Girls in Love*. It was released in June 1995 by Fine Line Features and became both a critical and popular success. Her second feature film, *Puccini for Beginners*, premiered in competition at Sundance in January 2006 and was released by Strand Releasing in February 2007. Maggenti wrote the screenplay for the 1999 Dreamworks release *The Love Letter* starring Kate Capshaw, Tom Selleck, Ellen DeGeneres and directed by Peter Chan. In 1999, Maggenti finished *He's a Woman, She's a Man* for New Line Cinema, also with Peter Chan.





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Maggenti recently finished two projects for Fox 2000: the screen adaptation of *Before I Fall* based on Lauren Oliver's best-selling novel and *Monte Carlo* released in summer of 2011 and directed by Tom Bezucha. Her script *Before I Fall* was included on the 2012 Black List. She is currently writing the reboot of *Dirty Dancing* for Lionsgate with Kenny Ortega attached as director. Maggenti is writing *Between Park & Lex*, currently in development for ABC and produced by ABC Studios and Ryan Reynolds and Allan Loeb's DarkFire TV.

From 2002-2005 she was as a writer on the hit CBS/Bruckheimer drama *Without A Trace*. In 2006-2009 she wrote and sold pilots to NBC and Showtime.



**Dara Marks, Ph.D.** is a leading international script consultant, seminar leader, and author of one of the top selling books on screenwriting, *Inside Story: The Power of the Transformational Arc*. She has specialized in the analysis of the modern screenplay for the past two decades. *Creative Screenwriting Magazine* has consistently rated her one of the top script consultants in

Hollywood. Dara has worked for most major Hollywood studios and her advice has been sought on a variety of films and television programs. Dara has a doctorate degree in Mythological Studies and her groundbreaking work in this field continues to help writers engage more deeply and effectively in the creative writing process. She is currently an adjunct professor at Pacifica Graduate Institute in Santa Barbara.



**Michelle May** is the Founder/Owner of the recently launched Womin Media and is responsible for development, strategy, producing, business development and overseeing the daily operations and infrastructure of Womin Media.

Prior to launching Womin Media, Michelle served as the Director of Digital Media for Interface Media Group, where she successfully created and launched two award-winning lines of business - Digital Media and Strategic Consultation. Her clientele included PBS, Discovery Communications, United Way, World Wildlife Fund, Blackboard and Primary Wave Music. Her consultative efforts paid off in securing \$1.2M in sponsorship in only a four week time period for the Washington National Cathedral's weekend of events on the tenth anniversary of 9/11.

Previously, Michelle spent two years driving digital media strategy at Discovery Communications for TLC. During her tenure, Michelle created and executed a new business strategy centered around lifestyle content for women that brought in record revenue for the website and was adopted as an overarching on-line strategy for the Discovery networks and is still in place today. Prior to managing TLC.com, Michelle produced cross-platform content for high-profile shows like *Miss America*, *Trading Spaces*, *What Not To Wear*, *Say Yes to the Dress* and *LA Ink*. She also produced



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original lifestyle programming that extended the TLC brand onto the web, mobile and video-on-demand platforms, including TLC's first short form video series, *Life Essentials* and *Makeover Train*. Before TLC, Michelle produced on-line content for Discovery Home and the Discovery Design Center, a \$1.2M sponsor-supported site.

Michelle also worked for Tribeca Productions during *Analyze This*, *Flawless* and *Rocky and Bullwinkle*; for Trilogy Entertainment during the production of shows and movies like *Stargate SG-1*, Peter Benchley's *Creature*, *The Outer Limits* and the worst rated show of 1997, *Fame LA*. She started at NBC, working as a Page, where she had an opportunity to work for and learn from several network presidents as well as work on shows like *The Rosie O'Donnell Show*, *Conan O'Brien* and *Saturday Night Live*.

She is a founding member and currently sits on the Board of Directors of the DC Chapter of Femprofessionals, with the mission of innovatively connecting ambitious women. She is also an active member and supporter of Women In Film & Video, having served on their Executive Board.



Humanitas Prize and Emmy Award-winner **Chris Nee** is the creator and executive producer of Disney Junior's *Doc McStuffins*, an imaginative animated series about a six-year-old girl who runs a clinic for stuffed animals and broken toys out of her backyard playhouse.

Nee's inspiration for the series is two-fold based on her childhood which was spent helping out in her mother's popular independent toy stores, and her more recent experience as a mother to her young son who developed severe asthma when he was two years old. After seeing her own child's anxiety about going to the doctor, she decided to come up with an idea for a show that could help make the process of going to the doctor less scary for kids.

An accomplished children's television writer, Nee has also managed to juggle a successful career as a documentary and reality TV producer. While on location in Alaska for Discovery Channel's cult hit documentary reality series *Deadliest Catch*, Nee was simultaneously writing the first *Wonder Pets Christmas Special* for Nickelodeon, which she completed while living in a converted World War II barracks-turned-hotel on an island in the middle of the Bering Sea. She is responsible for helping to discover fan favorite Captain Phil Harris and his sons, Josh and Jake, while doing interviews on the fishing boats. Nee received an Emmy Award nomination for her work on season one of the series. Her other producing credits include R.J. Cutler's *The Residents* for Discovery Channel and ABC's *The Real Roseanne Show*, based on actress and comedian Roseanne Barr's life.

Nee has received multiple Emmy Award nominations for writing and won an Emmy in 2002 for her work on *Little Bill*, the Peabody Award-winning series based on the children's books by Bill Cosby. Her additional writing credits include the Disney Channel



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series *American Dragon: Jake Long*, Playhouse Disney series *Johnny and the Sprites* and *Higglytown Heroes*, and Nickelodeon series *The Backyardigans* and *Olivia*.

Nee began her career as an associate producer at Sesame Street International and spent time in Mexico, Finland, Israel and Jordan working on the local productions of the award winning show, before transitioning over to writing for the Sesame Workshop.



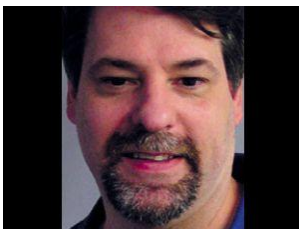
**Bonnie Nelson Schwartz** is a producer of theatre, film and television. She has more than 100 plays, films, television programs and concerts in Washington, DC, New York and London to her credit. On Broadway, she co-produced *Ian McKellen: Acting Shakespeare*; *Pack of Lies* with Rosemary Harris and Patrick McGoochan; *Jerome Kern Goes to Hollywood*; and Rodgers and Hammerstein's *State Fair*. Her Off-Broadway credits include *Dylan Thomas: Return Journey*, directed by Anthony Hopkins, and *Babaloonie* with Brad Hall.

Among her many concert productions are *Give My Regards to Broadway: A Salute to 125 Years of Musical Theater* at Carnegie Hall; the London production of *Panbeaters*; *An Irish Valentine* starring Daniel Day Lewis; *ADL: In Concert Against Hate* with the National Symphony Orchestra, and the *Duke Ellington: 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration*.

Ms. Schwartz is the founder and original producer of Washington, DC's Helen Hayes Awards. She was a producer for NBC's Closing Ceremonies at the *Barcelona Olympic Games* and created and produced *The Olympic Woman*, a multi-media exhibition and book, *Grace and Glory*, for the *Atlanta Olympic Games*.

Recent productions include *Studs Terkel: Listening to America* on HBO; the 28-part television series, *Economics USA: 21<sup>st</sup> Century Edition* for CPB/Annenberg; *ADL's In Concert Against Hate*, featuring the casts of *The Wire*, *Madmen*, and *Glee* at the John F. Kennedy Center. Ms. Schwartz is the co-founder and Executive Producer for the LakeArts Film Festival at Lake Chautauqua, New York.

Current productions include *Traveling While Black*, a television special and internet series with Lovett Productions and Roger Ross Williams; *The Power of Seven*, a Swedish/American television co-production, and the feature film *Invitation to Valhalla*.



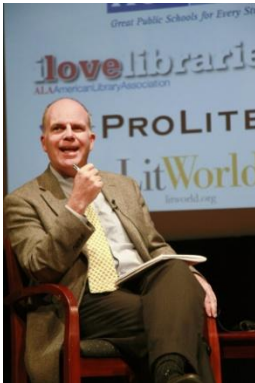
**Bruce Nesmith** is currently the Design Director for Bethesda Softworks, and was lead designer for *The Elder Scrolls V: Skyrim*. He is best known for his design work on *The Elder Scrolls* series and *Fallout 3* video games.

Bruce has been involved in gaming for more than 20 years. He started at TSR as a writer for *Dungeons & Dragons* games, such as the Ravenloft campaign set. He has also worked on board games, dice games, card games, and even a book for young adults. During his



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career, Bruce has been a programmer, writer, systems designer, tester, QA manager, and producer. He's done pretty much every part of making video game except the art because he is still struggling with stick figures.



**Bill Newcott** is the Travel and Entertainment Editor for AARP Media. He is creator of AARP's Movies for Grownups franchise and producer/host of the weekly Gracie Award-winning *Movies for Grownups* radio show, heard on 600 stations nationwide. A frequent TV and radio guest, this May he will be a guest programmer for Turner Classic Movies. Former Expeditions Editor for *National Geographic Magazine* and Associate Editor of *The National Enquirer*, his awards and honors also include Society of American Travel Writers' Lowell Thomas Award, the Aviation/Space Writers Association Award of Excellence and the UPI Western States Award for feature writing.



As head of the Department of Film Programs at the National Gallery of Art, **Margaret "Peggy" Parsons** reminds her audiences that films are art. In celebration of the art of the moving image, every weekend, she brings visitors to the Gallery to see newly restored films, new works, and special guests. In charge of programming and managing film events since 1978, Parsons is responsible for overseeing a collection of art films and videos, producing brochures and program notes, and introducing public film programs. Parsons heads an advisory committee of internationally recognized film scholars that meets annually to review and recommend film exhibition topics for the National Gallery of Art. In addition to her role at the National Gallery of Art, Parsons has held positions at the Smithsonian Institution, The National Trust for Historic Preservation, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, and The Children's Museum, Boston. She has served as an advisor, panelist, programmer, or board member for arts organizations, film festivals, and grant-making organizations. As an enthusiastic folk art collector with a background in folklore, her articles and columns have appeared in *New York Folklore*, *Curator*, *Folk Art Messenger*, *Folk Art Magazine*, and *Raw Vision*.



At the age of three, **Jason Peltz** was drawing Mickey Mouse, in the hopes of someday working for Disney. Jason graduated Carnegie Mellon University with an Illustration Major/Animation Minor, which was first put to use in NYC at Jim Henson Productions, Marvel Comics, and Disney Consumer Products. At this point, Jason was bit by the animation bug, and moved to Chicago to work at Startoons on such projects as *Animaniacs*, *Pinky and the Brain*, and *Tiny Toons*.

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After gaining some more experience, Disney brought Jason to Orlando, giving him the opportunity to draw Mickey Mouse for the movies! Jason's credits include *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, *Hercules*, Mushu from *Mulan*, *Tarzan*, Kuzco from *The Emperor's New Groove*, Jumba from *Lilo and Stitch*, and Koda from *Brother Bear*. Jason also added sculpting to his resume, doing the John Henry maquette for the Disney produced short.

After Disney Animation closed its doors in Orlando, Jason spent almost two years working as the Senior Key Assistant on a traditionally animated video game, which has just been released as an App. He's now working as a full time freelancer, sculpting and illustrating for such clients as Disney/Pixar Publishing, Busch Gardens, Premise Entertainment, Henninger Media, and many others. Since finishing work on one of Disney's latest 2-D features-- *The Princess and the Frog*, Jason has been freelancing as a Disney Storybook artist on such titles as *UP*, *Toy Story 3*, and *Cars*. Jason can be contacted at [PeltzProductions@yahoo.com](mailto:PeltzProductions@yahoo.com).



With a graduate degree in film, **Bonnie Rowan** came from Wisconsin to work for the US Information Agency but soon was teaching film studies and production as an assistant professor at Towson University in Baltimore. She has written 2 books describing media resources in the Washington area. After that, Rowan began her 26-year career as a professional on-site media researcher. Rowan has credits on over 650 productions, was nominated for an Emmy for research for *Rape of Europa* and has research credits on several Academy award nominees. Recent credits include an interesting pair: *Betty Page Reveals All* and *The Man Nobody Knew*. Rowan lives in Adams-Morgan, Washington, DC with her husband Doug Norwood. They have three grown sons.



**Laurie Scheer** is a former vice president of programming for WE: Women's Entertainment. She has worked as an assistant, d-girl, and producer for ABC, Viacom, Showtime, and AMC-Cablevision. Having years of development experience within the hallowed halls of networks, studios, and production companies, Laurie knows how to analyze manuscripts and scripts as they enter the competitive media marketplace. She has also been involved in producing series for the web, films for video games, and other digital based forms of entertainment. Laurie has been an instructor at numerous universities across the US from Yale to UCLA. As a professional speaker, she has appeared at annual conventions for NAB, NATPE, Realscreen, WIFV, FTX West, the Willamette Writers Conference. She is an Associate Faculty Associate with UW Madison's Division of Continuing Studies. Her current interest is in exploring ways to preserve good storytelling within the 21<sup>st</sup> century multiplatform marketplace.



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**Adele Schmidt** is an award-winning film producer, educator, and consultant. In the past 15 years she has produced eight long format award-winning documentaries, all broadcast on national public television. As a co-founder of Rockville, MD based production company Zeitgeist Media LLC, she is currently producing a series of documentaries on progressive rock music.

As documentary coach, Adele has given workshops on documentary structure and storytelling since 2011 and has consulted filmmakers on their projects since 2005, including *Dying Green*, winner of the 2012 Academy Silver Medal in the documentary film category. As a professorial lecturer for Film & Video Production at American University in Washington DC, Adele has taught filmmaking since 2009. As a co-founder of Docs In Progress she has co-moderated documentary works in progress screenings for seven years. She has also taught film and video production at the film school of the National Centre for the Arts in Mexico City.

In addition to her expertise in documentary production and consulting, Adele has served as a panelist for the Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County (Maryland), reviewing applications in the disciplines of writing, philosophy, history, and media arts.



**Jocelyn Shearer**, Vice President, Discovery Access is responsible for developing and leading a sales team to build market share and expand the distribution client base to maximize the value of Discovery's extensive content library. This includes Discovery Access, a robust e-commerce platform designed to achieve aggressive reach in the content re-licensing market.

Most recently, Shearer was with National Geographic where she was Vice President of Video Products and Archive Management. In this role, she negotiated more than 300 content license and distribution deals. Shearer's prior experience includes work with Corbis and Getty Images.



**Melissa Silverstein** is a writer, blogger and marketing consultant with an expertise in the area of social media regarding women and Hollywood. She is the founder and editor of Women and Hollywood, one of the most respected sites for issues related to women and film as well as other areas of pop culture. She is the Artistic Director and co-founder of the [Athena Film Festival -- A Celebration of Women and Leadership](#) -- at Barnard College in NYC. The third annual festival will take place February 7-10, 2013.



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Melissa will be publishing the first e-book from Women and Hollywood in the fall of 2012. *In Her Own Voice: Women Directors Talk Directing* is a compilation of 40 interviews that appeared on the site.

She has been featured on CNN, the BBC as well as in *Newsweek*, *Salon*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Washington Post*, *NY Times*, and many other publications. In 2011, Melissa was named one of the Top 100 Arts tweeters by the *Times of London* and Women and Hollywood was named one of the top [100 websites for women](#) by *ForbesWoman*. In 2010, she was named one of 10 film critics to follow on twitter by *Flavorwire*. In 2008, Women and Hollywood was named by *More Magazine* as one of the “blogs to watch,” and in 2009, it was named “Best Hollywood blog” by totalfilm.com.

Over the last several years, Melissa has been a part of social media marketing campaigns and events for a variety of films. Recent films include: *My Week With Marilyn*, *The Iron Lady*, *Gloria Steinem: In Her Own Words*, *Dancing Across Borders*, *Bright Star*, *The Boys are Back*, *Yoo-Hoo*, *Mrs. Goldberg*, *Cheri*, *Sunshine Cleaning*, *Last Chance Harvey*, *Revolutionary Road*, *Hounddog*, *The Duchess*, *A Previous Engagement*, *Then She Found Me*, *The Business of Being Born*, *Becoming Jane*, *Bend It Like Beckham*, and *The Hours*.

She has also worked on several high profile public education campaigns including Take Our Daughters to Work Day and the Pro Choice Public Education Project, and she was the founding project director for [The White House Project](#) and prior to that was the chief of Staff at the Ms. Foundation for Women. She is on the advisory boards of the Women’s Media Center and Women, Action & Media (WAM!) and is a member of NY Women in Film and TV.

Her writing has been featured in *The Washington Post*, *NY Times*, *More Magazine*, *the Women’s Media Center*, *Equality*, *the Magazine of the Human Rights Campaign*, *wowOwow*, *Huffington Post*, *Zoom in Online*, *Alternet*, *Ms. Magazine*; *ivillage* among others. Her writing was included in *The Tattooed Girl: The Enigma of Stieg Larsson and the Secrets Behind the Most Compelling Thriller of Our Time*.



**Mary Jane Skalski** is an independent film producer based in New York City. In 2003, she was cited as one of Variety’s “10 Producers to Watch” and in 2004 she received the Spirit Award for Producing. Her projects have consistently garnered critical acclaim and commercial success. She has produced Tom McCarthy’s films *The Station Agent* which received the BAFTA, three awards at Sundance and three Independent Spirit Awards, *The Visitor* which received an Academy Award nomination for Best Actor and *Win Win*. She has also produced Gregg Araki’s Gotham and Spirit Award nominated



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*Mysterious Skin, Dare* (director Adam Salky), *Against the Current* (director Peter Callahan) and *The Hawk is Dying* (director Julien Goldberg). Mary Jane was an executive producer of the Gotham and Spirit award winner *Pariah*, and co-producer of the Cable Ace Award winning documentary *Wonderland*. In 2012 her film *Hello I Must Be Going* (director Todd Louiso) was selected as the opening night film of the Sundance Film Festival. She began her career working on the early films of Ang Lee, Nicole Holofcener and Ed Burns. Since 1997, she has served as an adjunct in the Graduate Film Program at Columbia University and regularly participates as an advisor at the Sundance Institute Lab for Creative Producing. Currently, she is in post production on *Very Good Girls*, the directorial debut of Academy Award nominated writer Naomi Foner.



**Sylvia Strobel** joined the Foundation of the Alliance for Community Media (ACM) in August, 2010 as its Executive Director. Strobel directs national public policy and public education initiatives, and recently launched a national new youth media and digital literacy roadshow for the Foundation.

Before joining the ACM, Strobel served as President and General Manager of the Pennsylvania Public Television Network Commission, where she restructured network operations, served as the liaison to the Governor's Office and Pennsylvania General Assembly, and oversaw funding and grants for the state's eight public television stations. In 1996, Strobel co-founded the law firm Lehmann Strobel PLC, where she is a partner providing legal and business consulting services to the nonprofit arts, cultural and media communities. Previously, she served as Deputy General Counsel/Director of Business Affairs for Twin Cities Public Television and in Business Affairs for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. She was as an adjunct professor of Entertainment Law at Hamline University School of Law in St. Paul, Minnesota, and chaired the Art and Entertainment Law Committee of the Minnesota State Bar Association. She is admitted to the bar in Minnesota and Pennsylvania.

Strobel received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology from St. Olaf College, a Juris Doctor from Wm. Mitchell College of Law and a Masters in Business Administration from the Carlson School of Management at the University of Minnesota. She served on the national board of directors of the Alliance for Women in Media (formerly AWRT) for ten years, including two years as its Chair, and represents the organization on the Federal Communication Commission's Advisory Committee for Diversity in a Digital Age. She has also served on the board of directors for the Pennsylvania Women's Campaign Fund and Twin Cities Public Television. She is a member of the Radio and Television Digital News Association, Independent Sector, Women in Film and Video – DC, the National Press Club, and the Federal Communications Bar Association. Strobel is a regular presenter and speaker at media industry events, and has authored articles for state, national and international trade publications.





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**Lauren Versel** is a founding member of Lucky Monkey Pictures and has more than twenty-five years of experience in film, television, and theater as a writer, director, editor, producer and financier. She recently produced Lucky Monkey's *Vamps*, written and directed by Amy Heckerling (*Clueless*, *Fast Times at Ridgemont High*), produced with Stuart Cornfeld and Red Hour, (*Dodgeball*, *Tropic Thunder*) starring Alicia Silverstone, Sigourney Weaver, Krysten Ritter, Dan Stevens, Wallace Shawn, Malcolm McDowell, Richard Lewis and Justin Kirk. *Vamps* will be released in November of 2012.

Lauren is an executive producer on *Arbitrage*, which premiered at Sundance 2012, written and directed by Nicholas Jarecki, starring Richard Gere, Tim Roth, Brit Marling and Susan Sarandon. *Arbitrage* was released in September of 2012 and opened the San Sebastian Film Festival. Lauren produced *City Island*, starring Andy Garcia, Julianna Margulies, Alan Arkin and Emily Mortimer. *City Island* won the audience award at the Tribeca Film Festival before its 24-week long run in movie theaters in 2010. Lauren is currently producing *Married and Cheating*, written and directed by Raymond De Felitta, starring Sarah Jessica Parker, Brendan Frasier and Marisa Tomei. Lauren was a Directing Fellow at The American Film Institute in Los Angeles.



**Sarah Wallendjack** is the President of Women in Children's Media (WiCM)/ Children's Media Association (CMA), a nonprofit organization comprised of professionals who are committed to creating and distributing thoughtful, entertaining media to children and young adults. Based out of New York, CMA supports this community by producing educational events, promoting professional development, and helping our members to lead, innovate, and shape the future of children's media.

In addition to running WiCM/CMA, Sarah is the Producer of *Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood*, a new animated multi-platform series airing on PBS, inspired by *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood*. On staff at Out of the Blue Enterprises, a children's content development, production, licensing and merchandising company, she is also credited as an Associate Producer on the PBS hit super hero literacy show *Super Why!* Prior to joining the Out of the Blue production team, Sarah worked on Nickelodeon's *Wonder Pets!*, Disney's *Go Baby!* and Disney's *Johnny and the Sprites!*



Filmmaker **Karen Whitehead** is making her indie doc directorial debut with the riveting tale of unlikely rock n roll photographer, Jini Dellaccio whose iconic images defined a generation and set the bar for future generations of rock photographers. *Her Aim Is True* will be premiering on the film festival circuit in early 2013.



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Whitehead is an accomplished journalist, award-winning director and a former British TV current affairs producer. The subjects of her films have ranged from international war crimes to controversies in the healthcare industry. Before leaving the UK, Karen made journalism training films for the British Broadcasting Corporation and shortly after arrival in Washington DC, she produced a film for the Newseum on the history of the Berlin Wall and the role of the media during the Cold War - the film is currently on display in the Newseum's Berlin Wall Gallery. Karen is currently working on video advocacy projects in the autism community.



**Thom Woodley**, Writer's Guild Award, Webby and Streamy nominated writer, filmmaker and web video entrepreneur, helped usher in the online video revolution with the launch of his hipster comedy *The Burg*, one of the first scripted and professionally produced web series. He then went on to create the webseries *The All-For-Nots*, a co-production with Michael Eisner, *All's Faire*, and *Greg & Donny*, which won the New York Television Festival IFC Award. In his spare time, he works in advertising, and was the lead writer on the famous campaign for Dos Equis, the Most Interesting Man in the World, for which he has won the Effie, Oneshow, DNAD, Radio Mercury and Cannes Lions awards