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Sent: Fri, 03 Jun 2016 15:34:49 -0400
From: Sharon-Frances Moore [REDACTED]
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Subject: Bio
[Bios v1.pdf](#)



Bruce Evan

Senior Vice President, Current Programming, NBC Entertainment Bruce Evans was named Senior Vice President, Current Programming, NBC Entertainment, in October, 2007. Evans is involved in the production of the NBC hit dramas “The Blacklist”, “Blindspot” and “Grimm”. Bruce also oversees the daily serial drama, “Days of Our Lives” which recently celebrated its 50th Anniversary on NBC. In the past, Bruce has overseen the series “Heroes”, “Crossing Jordan”, “Medium”, and the entire Law and Order franchise.

An NBC veteran of more than 20 years, Evans had previously served as Vice President, Current Series, NBC Entertainment, since July 2000, Director, Prime-Time Series, NBC Entertainment, since 1998, Manager, Prime-Time Series, NBC Entertainment, since August 1997, and Associate, Prime-Time Series, since August 1996. He joined NBC in September 1995 as Coordinator, Prime-Time Series.

Before joining NBC, Evans served as the Special Assistant to the Executive Director of the National Association of County Health Officials in Washington D.C. Prior to that position, he was employed as an assistant buyer for the May Department Stores Washington D.C subsidiary, Hecht’s.

A native of New Haven, Connecticut, Evans received a bachelor’s degree in public policy from Brown University and a master’s of business administration from the Yale School of Management. Evans is the proud father of 4-year- old twins and currently resides in Studio City, Calif.



Carla Moore

Carla Moore is Vice President of Talent Acquisition for Home Box Office (HBO) in New York. She is charged with redefining and driving innovative talent management strategies to support the growing need for a more digitally adept, multicultural, multigenerational workforce at HBO. Her career with HBO began 18 years ago as an entry-level sales trainer. Before transitioning to her current role, Carla was Vice President, Domestic Network Distribution, leading sales and marketing team serving 3.7 million HBO and Cinemax subscribers representing \$400 million in annual revenues. Her team helped bring next generation products to market, identified new revenue prospects and created opportunities to leverage HBO content across multiple platforms to drive subscriber growth.

Prior to joining HBO, Carla managed customer service operations for Comcast and Sprint Communications. She is an active member in the media industry and a graduate of two leading industry programs: CTAM U at Harvard Business School and NAMIC Executive Leadership Program at Darden School of Business at University of Virginia. Carla sits on several industry and civic organization boards. She received her MBA from Keller Graduate School of Management in Chicago.

Her new book CRASH! Leading through the Wreckage captures the lightening moment that led to Carla's epiphany about the role of personal transformation in improving leadership. Her book is due out later this year.



Chrissie Hines

Chrissie Hines is an award-winning writer and producer of short form programming, promos and movie trailers, from concept to final product. As a Creative Director at HBO, she not only nurtured and nudged many projects into being, but managed to keep chaos at bay and schedules and egos in check.

She is the co-creator, co-writer and executive producer for *El Perro Y El Gato*, a completely bilingual animated children's series created for HBO Family and HBO Latino. Four commercially released DVDs of *El Perro Y El Gato* won Parents' Choice Silver Awards, and the latest show in the series, *Keep on Dreaming*, won a Parents' Choice Gold in the television category, in addition to the prestigious Imagen Award for Latino programming.

She is also the Executive Producer of two other award-winning multicultural shows, the long-running *Habla* series for HBO Latino, and *East of Main Street*, celebrating Asian-American heritage.

Habla was one of the first shows to give a face and a voice to everyday Latinos, allowing them to tell their stories directly to the camera and to a national audience. It became a cultural bridge, a bridge that goes both ways.

East Main Street has won numerous industry awards for its exploration of many aspects of the rich Asian culture in this country, illuminating the vast diversity of Americans with roots in countries stretching from India to Hawaii.

As an interviewer, she has sat down with luminaries ranging from Mickey Mantle, Christopher Lee, Jerry Garcia, Carlos Santana, Billie Jean King, legendary Hollywood producer Roger Corman, and current rising star Gina Rodriguez.



Christy Haubegger

Christy Haubegger founded *Latina* magazine in 1996 following her graduation from Stanford Law School. It was in a business course there that Haubegger conceived of and developed a business plan for a groundbreaking magazine that would showcase fashion, beauty, lifestyle and empowerment for Hispanic women. After receiving her law degree, she pursued her plan for the magazine. She ultimately partnered with Essence Communications and the company became a major investor in *Latina*. The magazine debuted as a quarterly in 1996, with rising star Jennifer Lopez on its first cover.

Latina grew to monthly publication just a year after its launch with Haubegger serving as its publisher, president and then CEO. In that post, she oversaw a staff of more than 50 and focused on the business management of the magazine, including advertising sales and corporate marketing. Since its inception, *Latina* has become the leading publication for U.S. Hispanic women with a monthly circulation of 500,000. *Latina* has been named Best Magazine by Advertising Age and was featured on the Adweek Hot List two years in a row (2000 and 2001). *Latina* has also extended its brand into other media. In 2001, Christy oversaw the launch of the website www.latina.com and the publication of *Latina Beauty* (Hyperion), a comprehensive beauty and wellness guidebook for Hispanic women. Haubegger now serves as a member of the Board of Latina Media Ventures (*Latina's* parent company) where she focuses on strategic initiatives for the company.

Christy moved into the world of entertainment in 2003, hoping to expand the presence and stories of Latinos in television and motion pictures as she had done in the magazine world. She served as Associate Producer on "Chasing Papi," a romantic comedy from 20th Century Fox, which was released in May 2003. She was Executive Producer of Oscar-winner James L. Brooks' romantic comedy, "Spanglish" starring Paz Vega, Adam Sandler and Téa Leoni, released by Columbia Pictures in December 2004. Since 2005, she has been working with Creative Artists Agency (CAA), leading multicultural business strategy for the company and providing insights on diverse markets to CAA's motion picture, music, marketing and television clients which include Salma Hayek, Sofia Vergara, Rosario Dawson, America Ferrera, Eva Longoria, Pitbull, Jennifer Lopez and Shakira.

A pioneer for Latinas, Haubegger is a popular speaker and the recipient of numerous awards and media recognition for her achievements. In 2001, *Newsweek* named her one of the "Women of the New Century" and *Advertising Age* has called her a "Woman to Watch," and the Ms. Foundation has chosen her as one of the Top Ten Role Models of the Year. In 2002, Haubegger was also the youngest woman to be inducted into the American Advertising Federation's Advertising Hall of Achievement, in recognition of her success in raising the profile of the Hispanic market. She has been profiled and interviewed by numerous, diverse media outlets including CNN, NBC Nightly News, *Elle* magazine and the Today Show. Recently, the *Hollywood Reporter* named her on their list of the Most Powerful Latinos in Hollywood.

Born and raised in Houston, Texas, Haubegger is the Mexican-American daughter of adoptive parents. She received her B.A. in Philosophy from the University of Texas at Austin and her law degree from Stanford Law School where she was elected president of her class. Haubegger is a board member of Management Leadership for Tomorrow (www.ml4t.org), an organization that works to increase the number of minority MBA candidates at the nation's top business schools. In 2009, she was appointed by President Obama to the President's Commission on White House Fellows. She serves on the Board of Directors of women's retailer New York & Co. (NYSE: NWY). In addition, she is a volunteer for various civic, social and political organizations.



Dan Lin

Dan is the CEO of Lin Pictures, a next-generation production company with a deal at Warner Bros. in both film (first-look) and television (exclusive). The company has 4 different divisions – live-action feature films, LEGO animated films, television production, and Creative Salons. Its offices are based at the Bricksburg Chamber of Commerce in Hollywood, CA.

Since his company's formation in 2008, Lin has produced films that have grossed over \$2.0 billion in worldwide box office sales. He most recently produced the blockbuster "The LEGO Movie," written and directed by Christopher Miller and Phil Lord, and is currently producing "LEGO Batman" (February 2017 release), "LEGO Ninjago" (September 2017 release) and "The LEGO Movie Sequel" (May 2018 release). He has a number of other projects in development, including "ACME" starring Steve Carell and directed by John Requa & Glenn Ficarra, "Jonny Quest" to be directed by Robert Rodriguez, and Stephen King's "IT" to be directed by Andy Muschietti.

Lin previously produced the hit mystery thrillers "Sherlock Holmes" and "Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows," starring Robert Downey Jr. and Jude Law under the direction of Guy Ritchie. Lin also produced "Gangster Squad" starring Josh Brolin, Ryan Gosling, and Sean Penn; "The Box," starring Cameron Diaz; and "The Invention of Lying," starring Ricky Gervais and Jennifer Garner. Lin also executive produced the action thriller "Terminator Salvation," starring Christian Bale, and Robert Rodriguez's family film "Shorts."

Prior to forming Lin Pictures, Lin served as Senior Vice President of Production for Warner Bros. Pictures. During his eight-year tenure at the studio, from 1999 to 2007, he oversaw the development and production of such films as Martin Scorsese's Academy Award-winning drama "The Departed"; "10,000 BC," directed by Roland Emmerich; "The Aviator," directed by Scorsese; "Alexander," directed by Oliver Stone, "TMNT"; "Invasion"; "Unaccompanied Minors"; "Scooby-Doo 2: Monsters Unleashed"; and "Torque."

Lin serves on the Board of Directors for several non-profit organizations – the Coalition of Asian Pacifics in Entertainment; Pepperdine University's Center for Entertainment, Media, and Culture; and the I Dream of Fish Foundation. He is also a mentor for both the Producer's Guild of America and the Center for Asian American Media. In June 2015, he was invited to join the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

He received his undergraduate degree from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania in 1994 and his MBA from Harvard Business School in 1999.



Dana Sims

Ms. Sims began her career at the prestigious William Morris Agency where she was quickly promoted to Talent Agent. Her passion for music came out of the urban arena and she served as Vice President for four years. During this time her clients included Ludacris, Rihanna, Jill Scott, Nelly, Common, and Keri Hilson. She worked as a liaison between the talent and music departments and secured several prolific roles for the Agency's clients, most notably, roles in The Academy Award winning *Crash* and HBO's *No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency*. Ms. Sims was instrumental in creating a successful crossover division and continues to flourish in her unique industry position.

In 2009, Ms. Sims received an offer from ICM. In her role as Talent Agent she oversees, develops and guides client's careers. With her powerful list of relationships, unique and innovative ideas, she has a strong hand in the strategic growth of ICM's music department. Kendrick Lamar, Lil Wayne, Machine Gun Kelly, J. Cole, Nelly, Jeezy, Keri Hilson, and Eve are just a few of the artists Ms. Sims represents.

Active in organizations both within and outside the film industry, Ms. Sims serves as a board member for My Friends Place, a nonprofit resource center that offers free services to thousands of Los Angeles' homeless youth each year. Ms. Sims is involved in organizing various events to raise awareness and monies for the foundation. Working with such support as Kobe and Vanessa Bryant, Dana's participation through her relationships and experience is integral and inspirational to the foundation.

Ms. Sims is a graduate of The University of Southern California where she received her degree in Communications from the Annenberg School of Communication. She resides in Marina Del Rey.

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| | <u>Deborah Byrd</u> |
| <p>Ms. Byrd is a talent producer/casting director with over twenty years of experience</p> <p>Full biography forthcoming</p> | |



Debra Langford

Debra Langford is a senior-level executive with experience in Fortune 50 organizations, production companies, publishing and academia. Debra has been nationally recognized as a successful strategic networking expert across multiple industries.

In 2012, Debra launched The Langford Company to provide consulting expertise in the areas of corporate external branding, high impact events, diversity and inclusion strategies and strategies to identify and recruit women and under-represented candidates for executive positions.

As of August 2015, Debra has been serving as the Officer of Diversity and Inclusion Initiatives for USC Marshall Business School, working in a new term position to create top diversity and inclusion strategies for the top-25 ranked business school. Langford joined USC in 2012 and created strategies that led to the improvement in the placement rates at time of graduation for the 2014 class, engaged alumni to support current students, standardized reporting metrics and created new strategic corporate partners.

Langford was most recently the Corporate VP of Inclusion and Business Diversity, NBCUniversal, joining in 2009 where she was responsible for designing, executing and advancing the inclusion and business diversity strategies across the corporation, a position she held until she decided to leave to establish her consulting practice. Prior to joining NBCUniversal, Langford was the Corporate VP of Strategic Sourcing for Time Warner, where she excelled in presenting top-tier women and diverse executives for VP and above positions across all divisions of Time Warner on a global basis. Debra was responsible for over 100 senior level positions being successfully filled and increased retention rates of under-represented executives.

Langford spent over 15 years as a high level content creative executive, including her roles as the SVP of Production and Development for UrbanEntertainment.com, VP and GM of Essence Entertainment, Head of Television for Quincy Jones/David Salzman Entertainment and VP of

Warner Bros. Television. Debra began her creative development career in the entertainment industry as Director of Development with Hanna-Barbera Productions in 1986.

President Barack Obama named Debra to the United Service Organizations (USO) Board of Governors in 2011, in his second Presidential appointment to the organization. Debra is one of the founding members and is a Vice President of Colour Entertainment, the organization of diverse creative executives in TV, Film and Digital. Langford was also the President and VP of the Southern California chapter of National Association of Multi-Ethnicity in Communications (NAMIC).

Debra has been a keynote speaker and moderator for the National Executive Women (NEW) organization, Corporate Counsel Women of Color (CCWC) Conference, Wake Forest University, Black Enterprise Women of Power Summit, National Black MBA Conference, NAMIC, Odyssey Women's Conference and the National Cable & Television Association Conference (NCTA).

Langford is a graduate of the University of Southern California's Marshall School of Business with a Bachelor of Science degree. Debra is on the advisory boards of the USC Black Alumni Association and has been named to the USC Provost Diversity Task Force.



Joey Chavez

Joey Chavez serves as the Senior Vice President of Original Programming for TNT where he is helping rebuild the network in a new direction of premium, high end content where he has developed upcoming shows Animal Kingdom, The Alienist, Foreign Bodies, Civil, and Claws.

He previously served as the Vice President of Drama Development at NBC and was honored as part of Hollywood Reporter's Next Gen List: 35 under 35 in 2012 and began his executive career in Current Programming at The WB Network followed by positions at David Janollari Productions and The Style Network/E! Networks and TLC/Discovery Networks before returning to the world of his first love, scripted television.

Joey graduated Cum Laude with a BA in Cinema-Television from USC as well as varied coursework at NYU's Tisch School of the Arts and is actively involved in charities/organizations including Lambda Legal and The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research.



John Gilmore

John Henry Gilmore, Jr. (born September 21, 1979 in Marquette, Michigan) is a former American football tight end in the National Football League . He was originally drafted by the New Orleans Saints in the sixth round of the 2002 NFL Draft. He played college football at Penn State. Gilmore also played for the Chicago Bears, Tampa Bay Buccaneers and Pittsburgh Steelers.

Gilmore went to Wilson High School in West Lawn, Pennsylvania and was voted Wilson's 1996 male athlete of the year, Associated Press first-team All-State, and first team all county (Berks).

John Gilmore is widely known for his deep commitment to community support. Gilmore and his wife, Rebecca, reside in Tampa, Florida with their children Grayson and Lilliana. He is represented by fellow Penn State alumnus Chafie Fields.

Gilmore earned a Bachelor of Science in recreation and parks management in 2001.

In 2010 Gilmore established the Gilmore | Henne Community Fund with Jacksonville Jaguars quarterback, and fellow Wilson High School grad, Chad Henne. The Fund's mission is to revitalize parks and recreational facilities in their native Berks County, Pennsylvania. This is done through renovation, ongoing maintenance and park programming. The Fund's vision is to revitalize communities through their work on the playground. Since inception, the Fund has revitalized 7 playgrounds in Berks County.



Yahayra Reyes

Yahayra Reyes, affectionately called Yaya, is the CEO of YA IndieGround House Management, LLC, a full service artist management and branding company that helps build and guide the careers of independent artists.

For over a decade Yaya has secured high-level advertising campaigns, sponsorships, media placements and licensing deals for her artists. She has been instrumental in the careers of musicians, filmmakers and fashion designers, and consults with start ups within the media industry. Yaya has also worked for global public relations and international law firms in NYC.

Yaya, who is a twin and one of 12 siblings was born in the Dominican Republic and currently lives in Manhattan. In her spare time, she enjoys traveling, yoga, sailing, and hosting cocktail parties.



Kelly Edwards

In June 2013 Kelly Edwards joined HBO as their VP of Talent Development overseeing all diversity programs above and below the line for series, films, Cinemax and miniseries.

Prior to HBO, Edwards was a key corporate diversity executive at Comcast/NBCUniversal for over five years where she introduced diverse creative talent to NBC, USA, Syfy, Bravo, and Telemundo. Edwards' career has spanned both television and film having executive produced the one hour series "Sex, Love, and Secrets" for UPN, serving as SVP of Comedy for UPN, and working with film producers Garry Marshall and Laura Ziskin's as their Story Editor.

In 2000, Edwards co-founded Colour TV, a networking group for diverse creative executives. Colour TV has now branched into Colour Film, Colour TV East, and Colour Assistants, all designed to connect current and future industry executives with one another. Edwards graduated from Vassar College with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Theater and is a member of NAMIC and the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences having served for two years on the Academy Diversity Committee. She is also a former member of the Board of Trustees for NALIP, and served on the Los Angeles leadership council for the United Negro College Fund.



Rose Catherine Pinkney

Rose Catherine Pinkney is a versatile television executive, who has been both a buyer and a seller having worked for networks, studios and independent production companies. She has developed content in the scripted arena (comedy, drama, TV movies and miniseries) as well as the unscripted arena (alternative, reality, reality-competition, comedy, variety, talk, and game shows, docu-series, documentaries and specials). Highly regarded by her peers, this Princeton University graduate and UCLA Anderson School of Management is known for both her creative abilities and her business acumen.

Rose Catherine is currently a consultant at **BET** in the Original Programming Department where she serves as the interim head of scripted development. In this role, she is charged with developing new scripted content for the network as well as overseeing several current productions including *Being Mary Jane* and *The Real Husbands of Hollywood*.

Before BET, Rose Catherine consulted for **ABC Network** where she covered several comedies for the Current Programming Department including returning hits *The Goldbergs* and *Fresh Off the Boat* as well as new entries *Dr. Ken* and *The Real O'Neals*. Under her care, both shows that were up for back nine pick-ups received them and all four shows were recently renewed for next season.

Prior to ABC, she served as VP, Development and Original Programming at **TV Land**, where she developed new series for the Viacom network's "hipper" rebrand including the critically acclaimed *Younger*, *Impastor*, and *The Jim Gaffigan Show* as well as more traditional content such as *Kirstie* and the *Candid Camera* reboot. At TV Land, she also oversaw *The Exes* and *Happily Divorced*.

As Head of Television and Producer at **Cinema Gypsy Productions** (Laurence Fishburne's company), she developed content for the broadcast and cable networks including drama, comedy, TV movies and miniseries as well as unscripted projects. She launched the TV division of the Oscar-nominated actor and producer, managed the TV department's first look deal and relationship with CBS Television Studios, sold projects to broadcast and cable networks including FOX, CBS and Lifetime and developed TV Movie "*Wedding Planner Mysteries*" which aired on Hallmark Channel in Fall 2014

Rose Catherine also served as the Executive Vice President of Programming and Production at **TV One**. As head of programming and production charged with formulating programming philosophy and branding for successful start up network then distributed in forty-three million households. At TV One, she made all programming decisions including green-lit original productions and selected acquisitions, including *Whose Got Jokes?*, *Baisden After Dark* and *Stage Black* and won the network's first Image Awards for *Unsung* and several *White House Interview* specials. She also oversaw program planning and scheduling, research, casting, talent relations and VOD offerings.

As Senior VP and Head of the Comedy Development department at **Paramount Network Television**, Rose Catherine was in charge of the development of comedy series including identifying concepts, writers, directors, and talent as well as cultivating the studio's A list roster of writers. During her time at Paramount, she sold more than 30 series across all six broadcast networks including *Andy Richter Controls the Universe* (FOX), *Becker* (CBS) and *Girlfriends* (UPN)

Between TV jobs, Rose Catherine developed, sold and co-produced the popular romantic comedy movie *Def Jam's How To Be A Player*; released by Island Pictures/Polygram.

At **Uptown Entertainment** (MCA/Universal Based Production Company), as VP and Head of Television, Rose Catherine developed and sold *New York Undercover* not long after she left her first executive job in the industry at **Twentieth Century Fox Television**. At this studio, as Manager and then Director of Programming, she helped developed the cutting edge series *X-Files*, *South Central* and *Alien Nation*, supervised *In Living Color* and oversaw Twentieth Century Fox's Television Writer Training Program responsible for launching the careers of several successful writers.

Rose Catherine's early career includes stints as an assistant to a TV packaging agent at CAA, a freelance story editor, reporter and commercial producer.

Rose Catherine received an M.B.A. in Entertainment Management and Marketing from UCLA Anderson School of Management and has a B.A. in sociology with an emphasis in Communications and Economics from Princeton University Princeton, NJ.



Samata Narra

Samata is currently the Senior Vice President of Comedy Programming and Development at FOX where she is responsible for developing, launching, and overseeing live action and animated half-hour comedy series for the network. This year, she was instrumental in the development and launch of critically acclaimed *The Last Man on Earth* starring Emmy-nominated Will Forte. She is also behind *Son of Zorn*, which comes out this fall. In her time at Fox, she has been involved with Emmy Award winner *Bob's Burgers*, Golden Globe winner *Brooklyn Nine-Nine*, Golden Globe and Emmy-nominated *New Girl*, and *The Mindy Project*. She started at Fox in 2011 as Director of Comedy Development.

Prior to FOX, Samata spent over seven years as a literary manager at Fineman Entertainment where she represented writers and directors in both television and features including Dick Donnor (*Lethal Weapon*, *The Goonies*), Phillip Noyce (*Quite American*), Jack Bernstein (*Ace Ventura Pet Detective*), Steve Herek (*Mr. Holland's Opus*), and Neal Israel (*Police Academy*). Through Fineman Entertainment's producing deal at Fox Television Studios, Samata developed the series *Lights Out* for FX. This is also where she began executive producing *Meet the Patels*, a romantic comedy documentary and festival favorite, which was released in September 2015.

A native of Pikeville, KY, Samata started her career at the William Morris Agency working for CEO Norman Brokaw after graduating from Boston University School of Management. She is on the board of Film 2 Future, a program launched with the help of Mayor Eric Garcetti. The program was built to affect positive change, promote core values of pluralism, and influence critical social challenges through film and social media. She also serves on the board of Colour Entertainment Groups, a networking organization which also hosts entertainment education panels and community service events.



Samantha Gordon

Vice President for Corporate Communications, MWWR

Full biography forthcoming

Ms. Gordon is a highly talented communication professional with the ability to develop and drive media strategy, messaging, rapid response and other key tactics for this firm's crisis management and corporate clients, and issue-based advocacy campaigns. In addition, career work includes cultivating strong relationships with members of the media, elected officials and other key stakeholders, community partners. A few publicly-named clients include Deloitte, Atkins and TIDAL.

Director of Public Affairs
NARAL Pro-Choice America

Regional Political Lead- Industrial States
Democratic National Committee

New Jersey State Director- Organizing for America
Democratic National Committee
Political Consultant

National Education Association
NJ Political Director
HCFP

Special Asst to Governor Corzine
New Jersey Governor's Office



Sharon-Frances Moore

A native New Yorker, Sharon-Frances Moore is a global manager across corporate industries in the area of community affairs, labor relations, entertainment, diversity and corporate transition management. She has developed cutting-edge national priority initiatives and business amplification programs, which increased revenue, public recognition and innovation between inter-departmental stakeholders and outside partners.

Ms. Moore has worked in executive leadership roles for the United State Senate, Owens Corning, Girl Scouts of the USA, various labor unions and Viacom - BET Networks.

She is the owner of *Shances -Etiquette for Everyone and Any Occasion* www.shances.com Shances offers etiquette classes that helps to develop confidence, cultural awareness, personal empowerment and career advancement.

In addition to her undergraduate and law degrees, Ms. Moore holds several certificates in culinary arts and restaurant management. She is a member of the elite Protocol and Diplomacy International – Protocol Officers Association, which provides the highest level of collective expertise regarding internationally and nationally accepted rules of protocol.



Shruti Ganguly

Shruti is a filmmaker and the co-founder and a partner at Fictionless, a film and video production company that focuses on digital series and branded content, narrative features, documentaries, and TV series. Clients include the United Nations, IMG, Sotheby's, ESPN, GE, Apple, and NYU, with representation at CAA. Prior to Fictionless, Shruti has run video departments and developed the video strategy at various media companies from MTV, to Conde Nast (crafting the CLIO-winning 73 Questions series), to being the VP of TV & Video at NYLON.

Shruti has worked with James Franco and his Rabbit Bandini productions for the last four years on feature films, digital content, and other productions including a performance piece at MoMA PS1 featuring Franco and Marina Abramovic. The films have included talent such as Jessica Chastain, Mila Kunis, Zach Braff, Olivia Wilde, Whoopi Goldberg, Chloe Sevigny and Logan Marshall-Green, to name a few, and have gone to Sundance, Venice, Berlin, Telluride, and AFI etc. The feature *H.* which she produced and was directed by Rania Attieh and Daniel Garcia, received a Spirit Award for the directors and a Spirit nomination for Best Supporting Actress for Robin Bartlett. She is currently producing a feature with Keanu Reeves, and is developing several other scripted films and TV series.

Shruti received her Bachelor's degree from Northwestern University, and was the first graduate of NYU's dual MFA (in Film) at Tisch and MBA at the Stern School of Business, where she received a Kenshin Oshima Scholarship and a Wayfare Fellowship. Shruti has also been a TED India (INK) Fellow and was a Global Economic Symposium Young Fellow. Shruti is on the Creative Council for Emily's List alongside Lena Dunham, Shonda Rhimes and Jane Rosenthal. Shruti hails from India by way of Oman, and loves scrabble, popcorn and scuba diving, in no particular order.



Stephen Hill-

Stephen Hill is the President of Programming for BET. Previously, he was the President of Music Programming and Specials for BET Networks, a unit of Viacom Inc. (NASDAQ: VIA, VIAB) and the leading provider of entertainment for the African-American audience and consumers of Black culture globally.

Hill's responsibilities include managing and directing the creation, development and production of all music programming and specials. A music enthusiast with a keen eye for talent, the Washington D.C. native has built a noteworthy catalog of programs and specials for BET Networks, including the #1 black family event on television, the BET AWARDS, the only show in television that salutes African American women, BLACK GIRLS ROCK, the #1 hip-hop themed show on television, the HIP HOP AWARDS, the soul clapping CELEBRATION OF GOSPEL, the inspiring BET Honors and the perennially-popular 106 & Park. Hill and his team successfully launched the #1 prime time sitcom among all adults 18-49 and total viewers, the "Real Husbands Of Hollywood". The semi-scripted reality television satire starring Kevin Hart, Boris Kodjoe, Duane Martin, J.B. Smoove and Nick Cannon debuted at the BET Awards '11 and proved to be an instant hit.

Previously, Hill was Executive Vice President of Entertainment and Music Programming for BET Networks. Prior to joining BET Networks in 1999, Stephen worked for four years at MTV in New York City as Director of Music Programming. As Director, Hill was responsible for selecting and programming all genres of videos for airplay, working with talent and supervising the network's standards processes.

Hill got his start in the music industry working with industry legend, Elroy Smith, who was program director at WILD-AM in Boston, MA. In 1993, Hill and his team took WILD-AM to its highest rating ever, beating six full-time FM stations in the process. Hill has also done extensive work with ABC Radio Network's Urban Gold Format, launching their 24-hour format. Gaining many accolades for his work with ABC Radio Networks, he also served as executive producer for the Tom Joyner Morning Show.

Hill credits much of his success to his childhood passion of announcing various songs that he kept on a tape player. He began shaping his formal career at Brown's University's radio station, WBRU-FM, in Providence, RI.

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| | <u>Stephen Barnes</u> |
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Stephen D. Barnes was born and raised in Los Angeles, California. He attended the University of Southern California, receiving his Bachelor's Degree in English Literature in 1978, and is now an honored alumnus of the school. He earned his Juris Doctorate and Harvard School of Law in 1981.

In December 2002, he joined Morris Yorn Barnes Levine Krintzman Rubenstein Kohner and Gellman ("MYBLKRKG") as a name partner, where he continues his practice of music, motion picture and television representation.

MYBLKRKG is a prominent entertainment firm representing artists and companies active in the industry. The firm's client list includes: Scarlett Johansson, Mathew McConaughey, Ellen DeGeneres, Trey Parker, Matt Stone, Heather Graham, Laura Linney, Zack Galifianakis, Zoe Saldana and NASCAR. Stephen D. Barnes represents clients including actors, writers, directors, producers, recording artists, companies, and entertainment industry executives, among them: Kevin Hart, Chris Rock, John Singleton, Katherine Heigl, H.E. Sheik Abdulla Bin Khalid al-Kalifa, Nelson George, Mara Brock Akil, Salim Akil, Jill Scott, Sanaa Lathan, Jesse Williams, Megan Good, Pepsi and Red Bull.

Stephen is an active member of many professional, charitable and educational organizations.



Tim McNeal

A veteran of television programming development, Tim McNeal transitioned into talent development when he joined Disney | ABC Television Group (DATG) as Vice President, Talent Development & Diversity in 2006. With the 2013 restructuring of the team, he was promoted to head of Creative Talent Development & Inclusion.

In his role, McNeal oversees DATG's Creative Talent Development programs, including the Disney | ABC Writing Program, Disney | ABC Directing Program, and National Latino Media Council (NLMC)/National Hispanic Media Coalition's (NHMC) Latino Television Writers Program, among others. He is also responsible for further expanding the scope of these programs across DATG to include ABC Family and Disney Channel. Additionally, McNeal serves as a primary liaison between DATG and diversity-related coalitions, nonprofit arts institutions and entertainment industry guilds, and he leads the strategic planning for the Company's diversity agenda across DATG business units.

Prior to DATG, McNeal joined the programming team that launched The WB Television Network in 1995. As Vice President, Drama Development, McNeal developed such groundbreaking series as *Dawson's Creek*, *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, *7th Heaven* and *Felicity* – all of which were instrumental in building the success of the new network. After working in development for several years, McNeal had a first-look writing deal at The WB. He eventually returned to the executive ranks as Senior Vice President, Development, Tom Lynch Company, where he led the production company's expansion from kid-centered daytime entertainment to primetime television. Prior to making the move into development at The WB, McNeal was a literary agent at InterTalent and ICM Agencies.

A California native, McNeal is on the board of Colour TV, an organization of diverse television executives; and a director on the board of the UCLA Alumni Association. He received his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from UCLA.



Tracey Baker-Simmons

Tracey is a 20-year production veteran in film and television. Baker-Simmons produced national commercials and hundreds of Music Videos for LeRoux Pictures and Westside Stories in Atlanta, Georgia. In 2002 she produced the independent feature film *The Book of Love*, starring Treach, Richard T Jones and Sally Richardson.

In 2005, Tracey created the pop culture phenomenon-Bravo reality series *Being Bobby Brown*, starring controversial music legends Bobby Brown and Whitney Houston. Then in 2010, Baker-Simmons and her partner Wanda Shelley executive produced MTV2's *Sprite Step-Off*, which debuted to record breaking ratings for the network. In the same year, Baker-Simmons received an Emmy™ nomination from Southeast Region - for the series *Platinum House*, featuring R&B legend Keith Sweat and Dru Hill.

Tracey recently served as the Head of Development for the New York based production company, Jarrett Creative and oversaw development of all Non- scripted projects. While at Jarrett she was responsible for the development of series such as TNT's *Boston Finest*, TLC's *Alaska Women Looking for Love*, LMN's *I killed my BFF*, TVGN's *Rock the Boat* (featuring New Kids on the Block), and several other series. She also brought Jarrett the Lifetime's series "The Houstons: On Our Own" which starred the family of late Whitney Houston. Tracey served as Executive Producer and Showrunner for the series.



Trina Bardusco

Trina Bardusco is an American-Venezuelan producer with fifteen years' experience translating global culture into award-winning content for American audiences. After earning her B.A. from Hunter College, she traveled to Spain as a Fulbright fellow in ethnomusicology. Her project, "Flamenco's Duende and Deep Song," led to her debut documentary feature, *I'm the Tourist*, which was featured on HBO Latino.

After a stint in the marketing department of David Byrne's world record label, Luaka Bop, where she worked with musicians on numerous global releases, Trina became a producer of on-air promotions at HBO Latino, where she co-pioneered the innovative documentary series *Habla*, bringing real Latino voices in the U.S. to the screen. Currently celebrating its thirteenth year with *Habla y Vota* that encourages Latinos to vote, *Habla* has featured hundreds of men and women, including dozens of celebrities. The phenomenal success of *Habla* led Trina to cofound Latino Media Works, which continues to produce the series along with documentaries, campaigns, and commercials. Soledad O'Brien commissioned Latino Media Works to produce *Habla* style segments for Latinos in America on CNN.

Trina was also the executive producer for the launch of *Viva Voz*, a nightly current affairs program for V-me, the first-ever national Spanish-language television network presented by public television stations, which reaches more than 70 million US households; she was also the head of US Hispanic at digital production company Prime Content, where she wrote, directed and produced and/or co-hosted more than 400 brand-sponsored videos for Procter & Gamble on Yahoo en Español. Her original web series' targeting a female audience for Yahoo Mujer that ran from 2008- 2014, boasted 25 million unique monthly visitors.

Passionate about innovative storytelling, championing multiculturalism, diversity and content for women, Trina launches Flamenca Films in 2015, kicking off with producing four series for Cafe Mom's latest venture on-line venture targeting Latina millennials, Vivala. These original series feature Orange is the New Black star, Jackie Cruz aka "Flaca," fitness guru, Ary Nuñez, and blogger slash model, Natalie Suarez. She also creates *Wanderlust*: a musical series with a distinctly feminine take on the impulse to travel that she writes, directs, produces and hosts.



Neil Gladstone

Neil Gladstone has launched websites for AOL and MTV that quickly amassed seven-figure audiences. As part of those builds, he oversaw editorial voice, marketing and partnership deals. As VP of Content for Dailymotion, he co-produced videos with VICE and negotiated distribution agreements with Conde Nast, CBS and the Wall Street Journal. He's written for The New York Times, People Magazine, USA Today and Huffington Post. Currently, he's a digital strategist working for Gyrate Media. He's also the co-founder The Craftys, the annual awards for handcrafters.



Nina Yang Bongiovi

Nina Yang Bongiovi, is a feature film producer with over 17 years of combined production, finance and management experience in the entertainment industry between Hollywood and Asia. Although Nina grew up in Southern California, she started her film career as a director's assistant in martial-arts action films in Shanghai, China. Challenged and inspired by the art of storytelling and the logistics of producing, Nina then went onto starting her own independent production company in 2002, based in both Taipei and Los Angeles, and consulted investors primarily from Asia.

After many years navigating the trenches of Hollywood, Nina met her now producing partner Forest Whitaker in 2009 and they've set on a path to champion distinct filmmaker voices, under the banner - Significant Productions. During their first year in operations, Nina and Forest met filmmaker Ryan Coogler, who was still in school at USC's MFA program, through an introduction by a professor. They went on to produce the critically acclaimed *Fruitvale Station*, written and directed by Coogler, which won The Audience and The Grand Jury Prize at Sundance Film Festival 2013, Cannes Film Festival's L'Avenir Award, Indie Spirit Award for Best First Feature, Producers Guild's Stanley Kramer Award, alongside 40+ prestigious awards worldwide and was released theatrically by The Weinstein Company.

In 2015, the producing duo returned to Sundance Film Festival with two feature films: *Dope*, written and directed by Rick Famuyiwa, and *Songs My Brothers Taught Me*, written and directed by Chloé Zhao, in U.S. Dramatic Competition. *Dope* and *Songs My Brothers Taught Me* also had their international premieres in Directors Fortnight at the Cannes Film Festival, and both films continue to be represented in the 2016 awards circuit receiving nominations from NAACP Image Awards and Indie Spirit Awards, respectively.

Significant Productions' projects cover feature films, documentaries, and digital endeavors which all strive to be at the forefront of discovering emerging talent, developing and producing quality projects with a focus on diversity in front of and behind the camera. Nina serves on the Board of Directors at Film Independent and the Oscar Grant Foundation. She is fluent in Mandarin, Chinese and received her Master's degree in Entertainment Management from the Walter Annenberg School at the University of Southern California.



Ajit Samra

Ajit Samra is a student at University of Maryland who is creating his own major encompassing classes from business marketing, film studies, and theatre. He resides in his hometown Baltimore, Maryland. His interests include directing, producing, and acting. He aspires to become a director and wants to produce diverse content. Ajit wants to give back to his community after he is successful and be a mentor for his community.

