

## 2007 Conference Speaker List

As of 4/27/07



**DR. PHILLIP ALVELDA** is a co-Founder of MobiTV and serves as its Chairman and CEO. Since launching MobiTV in 2000, Alvelda has played an instrumental role in managing the company's growth from a start-up to being the first and only global television network for cell phones. Previously, Dr. Alvelda was the founding Chief Executive Officer and Chief Technology Officer of The MicroDisplay Corporation, a manufacturer of ultra-high resolution miniature displays for portable systems and low cost HDTVs. **Panelist for Mini Movie Production.**



**KAYRON BEARDEN** has been with the Foundation Center-Atlanta since it opened in 1994. At the Foundation Center, she is responsible for the weekly Atlanta listserv and for keeping the Atlanta home page up-to-date. She also conducts educational programming, oversees technology needs, manages acquisitions, and assists library patrons on an individual basis. Kayron has a BA in Mathematics from the University of Georgia and a Masters of Library Science from Rutgers University. She currently serves on the boards of several nonprofit organizations, including the League of Women Voters, Friends of the Roswell Library and Roswell Woman's Club. Kayron and her husband have two sons and reside in Roswell, Georgia. **Panelist for Grants & Funding for Independent Filmmakers session.**

**ROGER BOBB** is Supervising Producer for The Tyler Perry Company. **Closing session participant.**



**LYNNE BRAGGS** possesses a diverse entertainment background in the areas of television, film, and home entertainment with special emphasis in marketing, production and operations. Not only has she been involved with independent theatrical productions and music videos, but she has also held positions at Sony, Artisan, New Line, TNT and E! Entertainment. While at Artisan Entertainment (now known as Lionsgate) she developed and executed a home video/DVD marketing plan for their most successful release THE BLAIR WITCH PROJECT. She has produced several award winning short films one of which, OUT OF BODY EXPERIENCE, aired on Showtime as a part of Showtime's Black Filmmaker Showcase and another A MESSAGE FROM POPS, which won the prestigious 2005 IFP Market's Gordon Parks Award for Emerging Filmmakers. Ms. Braggs is the VP of Communications for the board of Women in Film and Television Atlanta (WIFTA). **Instructor for the Production Assistant (P.A.) Training Session.**



First time feature director **DAVID BRUCKNER** plays with dark, visceral films that explore the complex choices people make in extreme situations. For some reason, he adamantly prefers doing this to most other human activities. He recently worked as one of three writer/directors on THE SIGNAL, a feature film set to premiere at SUNDANCE in January of 2007. David cut his teeth on television commercials and webisode comedy as MEDIA VS MEDIA, his market production company (co-founded with Jeremiah Prescott), and fueled Atlanta's underground indie film scene as a key player in the DAILIES project, the experimental filmmaking workshop where THE SIGNAL was conceived. David has gone on to produce, write, direct, and edit dozens of original short films, music videos, and film/theater experiments including the feature-length postmodern adaptation of Fredrick Schiller's THE ROBBERS which premiered at Push Push Theater in 2005. Beyond just writer and director, David's work as cinematographer could be seen on big screens across the country in last summer's PSYCHOPATHIA SEXUALIS. **Panelist for Sunday Lunchtime Filmmaker Screening.**



**DANIEL BUSH** is an independent writer and director. He studied filmmaking and anthropology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Dan co-founded the theater troupe "Wish I Had Pie Productions" where he produced and directed for the stage. As a screenwriter, Dan has written several feature-length screenplays, including BEDLAM HOLLOW: A GOTHIC WESTERN, a finalist at the 2000 New York International Independent Film Festival, and YELLOW MAN, a semi-finalist for the 2nd Project Greenlight. Additionally, Dan has written and directed eleven short films, including REUNION, for which he was awarded the Individual Artist grant by the South Carolina Arts Commission, and GOODBYE DAY that won Best Narrative Short and Best Drama at the 2003 Dahlonega Film Festival. Recently, he returned from Indonesia where he was a director of photography for the documentary PLAYGROUND for Blueprint Films, and also completed his first independent feature, THE SIGNAL. His next feature, THE BATESON DEVICE, is scheduled to begin production in fall 2007, and his feature screenplay RIFE is currently in development. **Panelist for Sunday Lunchtime Filmmaker Screening.**



**AMANI CHANNEL** hails from East Palo Alto, California, and graduated from the College of San Mateo. He continued his broadcasting studies at the University of Florida where he worked as a reporter and a sports anchor for the school's TV and radio stations. After graduating from UF, Amani was selected for the Radio Television News Directors Association's News Management Internship program, and spent six months learning about television newsroom operations at WJLA-TV in Washington DC. After working at WTVT Fox in Tampa, FL for eight years, Amani moved to Atlanta and started [www.myurbanreport.com](http://www.myurbanreport.com), a video blog that features stories on the African American community at the Black Family Channel. Amani is also a freelance video producer, and has produced commercials, educational videos, and internet content. **Moderator for Mini Movie Production session.**



**DELLA COLE** has been a professional actress for over 24 years, working in film and TV with the likes of Jane Kaczmarek, Vanessa Redgrave, and Larry Hagman. She has appeared on "In the Heat Of The Night," "Savannah," and film credits include *Door To Door* and most recently THE ADVENTURES OF OCIEE NASH. Della was also seen on FOX5 every Sunday morning for three years as the host of "Atlanta's Best New Homes." Onstage she has performed with Fran McDormand at The Alliance Theatre and has entertained troops on military bases worldwide for 10 years. Della keeps her stage presence alive as a producer and performer in [Sketchworks](#), a cutting-edge original sketch comedy troupe. Working as a talent agent with one of Atlanta's top agencies gave her a knowledge and appreciation for the needs of both actors and producers. YourACT is the result of her vision to connect people's dreams with reality. **Instructor for *How to Work Effectively with Actors* session.**



**PAMELA COLE** graduated from Georgia State University in 2004 with a Master's degree in Communications (Film and Video). She founded [Southern Screen Report](#) in September 2005 as part of the Digital Arts and Entertainment Lab (DAEL) at Georgia State University. Pamela is a writer, screenwriter, filmmaker, and photographer and uses all these skills in the publication of [Southern Screen Report](#), a print and online resource for southern film and video news. **Panelist for *Film, Video & Television Distribution* Session.**

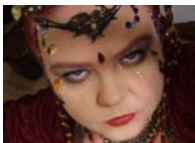


**DAN COSTA** and a team of students created CampusMovieFest six years ago as a way to let non-filmmakers create their first movies by providing all the necessary laptops, camcorders, training, and incentives. After graduating, the team formed the company Ideas United, and working with premier corporate partners, CampusMovieFest has grown into the world's largest student movie-making event. Over 25,000 students have produced short movies in the US and UK, seen them at venues such as The Fox Theater, and posted them online for over 6,000,000 visitors to view. Dan runs the music program for CampusMovieFest, which makes the music of local bands available for use in the films being produced by the CMF student filmmakers. **Panelist for *Sound of Movie Music* session, and *Monday Lunchtime Filmmaker Screening*.**



**TRACY CREWS** is a graduate of The Art Institute of Philadelphia and Georgia Military College. She has written several poems, plays, lyrics and screenplays. She has produced three independent films, "AUNT SALLY," "SPECIAL," AND "OMISSIONS." Two of the films have won awards. Tracy produces an award winning spoken word public broadcast program entitled "NEO SOUL." With unbridled passion and energy, Tracy Crews intrinsically weaves her passion for poetry, education and production, adding a new texture of fabric to the lives she touches, hoping to cover the world with an alternative styled of entertainment, heavily accessorized with consciousness... "ed – u – tain – ment." **Panelist for *Creating a Community TV Show*.**

**MICHELL L. DAVIS** is a partner with Register|Lett LLP in Atlanta, practicing in film, television and entertainment law. She is committed to the promotion of the independent artist and has established herself in the community as a strong supporter of the arts and the creative process. She represents a variety of artists, including directors, producers and writers and has served as production counsel for several independent film projects. In addition to her work in the area of film and television, Michell also has a substantial practice in trademark and copyright transactions. A graduate of West Point, Michell holds a MBA and JD from Duke University and The University of Alabama, respectively. She began her legal career as a member of the Intellectual Property group in Kilpatrick Stockton's Atlanta office and continues to build a practice dedicated to and focused on the artist. **Panelist for *Legal Guidelines for Self-Employed Artists* session.**



**ELLI MAYHEM (ELLI EDY)** is an award-winning digital artist specializing in motion graphic animation and visual effects. Holding her MFA in Computer Art and Animation from Florida Atlantic University's Center for Electronic Education in Ft. Lauderdale, she balances teaching and a variety of outside projects as well as being featured in many venues as a VJ projecting her original fine art animations.. **Instructor for the *Animation Workshop*.**



**KEN FEINBERG** can call upon a productive three-dimensional career that embodies performing, writing and directing. He has a long list of credits that demonstrate the fortitude of his craft. His broad knowledge of the industry and his devotion to the arts, whether on film, television or stage, has been expressed in his many accomplishments. For over 18 years Feinberg has been directing, writing, producing and acting in award-winning films, hit television series and major theater projects in Los Angeles, New York and Atlanta. He has won numerous awards in more than 50 productions, and he has achieved a great deal in the years he has been in Hollywood after nurturing his career in New York and Atlanta. Feinberg's latest 2 films SEVEN GENERATIONS and HEARTS AND SOULS will both premiere in the shorts program of the Cannes Film Festival next month (May 2007). **Instructor for *Directors Boot Camp, Parts I & II, and Networking Hollywood Style* session.**

**DAVID GIST** is a Technical Director with CNN. **Panelist on Inside Television News session.**



**MARIA FLEET** started her career in journalism at an experimental news entity called CNN. Since that day in June 1981, she has covered the rise and fall (and too close to call) of presidents, the break-up of nations, the birth of democracies, and the death throes of political ideologies, as well as the small and incongruous things that happen in the midst of these world-changing events. Ms. Fleet was based in CNN's Rome bureau for 10 years, working much of that time as a cameraperson. She arrived in Europe in late 1989, on the verge of communism's collapse, and covered the demonstrations in Eastern Europe that heralded the dismantling of the Soviet Union. Those events opened onto a tumultuous decade, during which covering conflict essentially became Ms. Fleet's default assignment. During that time, she covered the Gulf War, the U.S.-led intervention in Somalia, the dissolution of Yugoslavia, and the wars in Chechnya and Kosovo. Ms. Fleet returned to CNN's headquarters in Atlanta and became a senior producer on an investigative team which won a Peabody Award for its reporting on al Qaeda, and broke numerous stories on the September 11th attacks. She covered the U.S.-led war in Iraq, and recently was a Knight-Wallace journalism fellow at the University of Michigan, studying Journalism Ethics as they relate to war coverage. Ms. Fleet recently left CNN to become an independent producer, and has since worked in South Africa on a documentary about cancer, and reported on President Carter's observer mission to the Nicaraguan presidential elections, while developing a number of other projects. **Panelist on Inside Television News session.**



**BILLY HALL** serves as vice president of programming for Turner Network Television (TNT). In this capacity, he is responsible for all scheduling for the network, as well as managing the programming department and budget. Hall comes to TNT from Fox Movie Channel, where he served as vice president of programming and production, having also served as director of programming for FX. He helped launch fXM: Movies from Fox, then re-launched the network as Fox Movie Channel, working on scheduling and programming, on-air promotion and off-air event strategies for the network. At Fox Movie Channel, he also developed and executive-produced the 2000 Aurora Best of Show Platinum Award-winning *Building the Beast*, as well as *Altman on His Own Terms*, *Making the Connection*, *Hollywood Remembers Walter Matthau*, *Hour of Stars*, *Fox Movie Channel News* and *Cult Culture: The Poseidon Adventure*. Prior to joining the Fox Cable Group, Hall worked as coordinator of programming for the Health and Sciences Network. He also worked at Lifetime Television, Walt Disney Studios, Disney Channel and the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences. Hall holds a bachelor's degree (*cum laude*) in communications, cinema and photography from Ithaca College in Ithaca, N.Y. **Panelist on Film, Video & Television Distribution session.**



**BOB HARTER** is one of Atlanta's most respected actors. He is frequently in demand on-camera and as a voice-over artist, known for his many celebrity impressions and character voices. Bob's feature films include *THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON*, starring Brad Pitt and Cate Blanchett, *SIMPATICO* with Jeff Bridges, Nick Nolte, and Sharon Stone, and *STROKE OF GENIUS* with James Caviezel. He has appeared on TV in "I'll Fly Away," "Savannah," the USA Network movie, *Web of Deceit*, and in a recurring role on TNN's "I-40 Paradise." Performing for military audiences on three national tours with *Sketchworks* co-Founder and wife Della Cole has been a highlight of his career. Bob began coaching actors privately, then teamed with Della to do intensive weekend workshops. Demand from their students led to the creation of YourACT. **Instructor for How to Work Effectively with Actors session.**



**JOHN HASHIMOTO** is a Senior Producer at Atlanta-based virtual entertainment world, Kaneva. A native of California, John has produced broadcast, interactive television and Web programming for media giants Time Inc., CNN, CBS and WGBH-TV. John has won numerous online and broadcasting honors, including the prestigious Peabody as executive producer of the Web site companion to CNN's acclaimed "Cold War" documentary series. **Instructor for the Reel World Meets the Virtual World Gaming session.**

**ELISE HINES** is a writer, journalist and radio personality. **Interviewer for Monday Lunchtime Screening.**



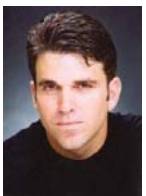
Award-winning Filmmaker, **CASSANDRA HOLLIS**, founder of Holy Hill Productions, has been involved in the film and entertainment industries for over a decade. Hollis executive produced, directed and wrote, "The Altar," starring Elisabeth Omilami (*Ray, Glory Road*) and L. Warren Young (*Selma Lord Selma, We Are Marshall*), which won Second Place for Best Feature Film at the 2006 Urbanmediamakers Film Festival and continues to screen in film festivals and events in the U.S. and Canada. Hollis also received national award recognition for her film series about the Underground Railroad, "Mattie, Johnny and Smooth White Stones: Parts I & II," from the National Park Service (NPS). Both films were selected for inclusion in the NPS Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Program. Currently the films are in national distribution to schools, libraries and museums. Holy Hill Productions is currently in post-production for Part III of the series which was filmed on-location in Chatham, Ontario, Canada. Having directed everything from music videos, to television, to short films, Hollis has an array of credits under her belt including, a Producer credit for The 1996 Centennial Olympic Games, as well as producing a nightly live talk show at WATC TV 57. **Panelist for Independent & Documentary Filmmaking session.**



**JOE HOWELL** is an executive music producer and President of Stage Ten Entertainment. Joe has been in the music industry for over 10 years, working as a songwriter and engineer with a number of well-established producers. After becoming an accomplished recording engineer, he was able to land a publishing deal with Polygram/ Universal Music Publishing. Joe has worked with a number of established producers and recording artists, such as D'Angelo, 112, Notorious BIG, Heavy D, Craig Mack, Usher, Chico Debarge, Mary J. Blige, and others. Joe's work is showcased on albums such as LaFace/ Arista artist Usher and many Bad Boy recording artists. He has also received the ASCAP Rhythm & Soul Award for co-writing the No. 3 Billboard Hit, "Can't You See." **Moderator for Sound of Movie Music Session.**



**CARLETTA S. HURT** is a graduate of Oglethorpe University and Georgia State University. She is currently working on her second V-Day World Wide Campaign, featuring Jane Fonda, Eve Ensler, Pearl Cleage, Sara Blakely and over 30 women in the Metro Atlanta area. She produced a successful theatrical run of *For Colored Girls...* and is preparing for a full slate of inspiring, thought-provoking and dynamic theatre productions this year. Carletta is an award winning film and television producer with film credits including REMEMBER THE TITANS, ROAD TRIP, DRUMLINE, THE FIGHTING TEMPTATIONS, LAND OF THE FREE, *STAIN*, and HIS/HERSTORY. With her vast level of experience she was handpicked to head up the Blank Summer Video Project funded by the Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation. She and her company, IKAM Productions, have worked with United Way of Metro Atlanta, C.S. Mott Foundation, and the National Black MBA Association. In addition to her production work, Carletta is an educator and youth advocate serving as the Director of Youth Programs for the Shandon Anderson Foundation, Director of IN THE LOOP Program of Success and Director of Leaders of Tomorrow (NMBBAA – Atlanta Chapter). **Moderator for Creating a Community TV Show, and Panelist for Grants and Funding for Independent Filmmakers .**



**CONN JACKSON** is no stranger to challenges and achievement. Known as the "Conn"ector of people, Conn has traveled the world, graduated from both Harvard and Cornell, and worked not only on Wall Street but also the Walt Disney Company. Conn has served on the Disney Volunteer Board, President of the Harvard Council, and presently sits on the Women's Leadership Exchange Board. Recently, Conn has created a show dedicated "to connecting you with people in the know and places you want to go." The show is provocative, interactive, and informative. Conn's distinct passion for life, ability to listen, and quick wits have allowed him to gain emotional appeal with his audiences. **Panelist for Creating a Community TV Show.**



**CHRISTOPHER KLAUS** is the Founder and CEO of Kaneva Inc. and is highly regarded as one of the youngest and brightest Internet pioneers of our time as well as a foremost philanthropist and community leader. At Kaneva (Latin for "canvas"), Klaus is leading the charge to be the first to unify a 3D Virtual World with the 2D web - tightly integrating social networking, collaborative communities and shared media (videos/film, photos, music and games) in an immersive 3D environment. Kaneva, a virtual entertainment world, provides unique ways to socialize, communicate, share interests and experience entertainment. A former student at Georgia Institute of Technology, Klaus donated \$15 million in 1999 for the construction of a new building on the Georgia Tech campus – the Klaus Advanced Computing Building – representing the largest personal donation from anyone of his generation. Appointed by Georgia Governor Sonny Perdue, Klaus currently sits on the Film, Video, and Music Advisory Commission where he plays an active role in helping define legislation to support the number of films and games made in Georgia. He is a game advisor to American Intercontinental University (AIU), serves on the Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD) Board of Visitors and the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce Technology Marketing Council as well as the boards of VerticalOne, the Georgia Game Developers Association (GGDA), Georgia Tech Advisory Board (GTAB), and the Georgia Tech College of Computing. **Closing Session participant.**



**SIMON KORNBLIT** supervised the marketing of over 100 films during his tenure at Universal Pictures, including *Jurassic Park*, *Field of Dreams*, *Scent of a Woman*, *Fried Green Tomatoes*, *Back to the Future* and *Cape Fear*. A popular lecturer, Kornblit served as Director of the Film Institute at Kennesaw State University from 2001 to 2003 and has been a guest lecturer at the Goizueta School of Business at Emory, GSU, UCLA and the University of Southern California, as well as industry-sponsored forums. Kornblit is a voting member of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences and serves on the Board of IMAGE Film and Video Center. **Instructor for Business of the Movie Business Session.**

**DAN KROVICH** is the Festival Director for the Atlanta Film Festival, produced by IMAGE Film & Video Center. Dan spent his academic career in science, receiving a B.S. in chemistry from the College of William and Mary and a Ph.D. in pharmacology and molecular sciences from Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. His passion for film led him to pursue a career in that arena leading to the position of programming administrator at The Maryland Film Festival where he served for six years. During his time there, he also worked on several film productions including *SWIMMERS* and *SYRIANA*. Additionally, he has served as a reader for the Maryland Filmmaker's Fellowship in conjunction with the Sundance Institute, been on the programming committee for the underground film festival MicroCineFest, and participated in the Maryland Humanities Council's Youth Film Jam. **Panelist for Independent & Documentary Filmmaking, and Film, Video & Television Distribution sessions.**

**PETER LEVY** is the author of nine screenplays and a reference book on screenwriting, scheduled to be published this year. Peter has completed a short film and a documentary, and has been instructing people on the craft of screenwriting for the last three years. He has served on panel discussions and has utilized his background as a technician in the theatrical arts to advance his career as a filmmaker. For three years he has facilitated the screenwriting workshop with the Independent Black Film Festival. He also operates a script consulting service and is an activist in the arts. **Instructor for the From Head to Screen: A Writing Workshop session.**



**CLIFF LOVETTE, ESQ.** For over 25 years as an entertainment attorney, Cliff Lovette has represented recording artists, record companies, independent motion picture producers, writers, and other entertainment clients. For 6 years, Cliff was SR VP of Business & Legal Affairs of LaFace Records, reporting to multi-Grammy producers Antonio "LA" Reid (the President of Arista) and Kenny "Babyface" Edmonds. Currently, Cliff heads The Lovette Entertainment Law Group, a boutique entertainment law firm in Atlanta, servicing various clients such as Usher, Organized Noize Productions, The Estate of Lisa Lopes, Sean P, Fathom Studios (an animated film studio) and other independent film and digital media producers. Prior to working at LaFace, Cliff was a senior associate of the law firm Katz, Smith & Cohen, where he had primary responsibility for over dozen entertainment clients and handled legal work for Jimmy Buffet, B. B. King, Waylon Jennings and Willie Nelson. Cliff is also leading Atlanta's bid to secure *Teatro Zinzanni's* location of a cirque/cabaret dinner theatre in what will become Atlanta's new downtown theatre district. Cliff is also writing the screenplay based upon the story of a Soviet-era circus that was abandoned in the United States around the time the USSR collapsed. Cliff is a board member of the Entertainment & Sports Section of the Georgia State Bar. **Panelist for Legal Guidelines for Self Employed Artists session.**

**NIKKI MARSHALL** is Senior Manager of Publishing for Dallas Austin Recording Projects in Atlanta. Nikki has always loved music. By her own account, songs score many of her favorite memories. A native of Atlanta, she was drawn to the music scene which began to emerge in the early 1990s. Throughout her career she has worked for an urban radio station (HOT 97.5 now 107.9), a gospel record label (Arrow Records) and Grammy® Award winning producers (Organized Noize Productions). **Panelist for Sound of Movie Music session.**



**TRACY MARTIN** is an actor turned producer, sometimes casting director, turned director. Her home base is Atlanta, where a flurry of filmmaking activity has greatly contributed to her growth as a filmmaker. Tracy's short, *DAY TRIP*, screened in this year's Atlanta Film Festival, and her short, *SUCKER PUNCH*, will premiere in the inaugural screening of *THE WOMAN'S ANGLE* Film Project June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. in which she co-founded, along with Bret Wood, with the goal of fostering an alliance of women directors to produce short films from a woman's perspective. Producing credits include *ILLUSTRATED FILMS' RAPTURE*, *JUDGEMENT* and *PSYCHOPATHIA SEXUALIS*. **Panelist for Producing the Perfect Short session.**



**KATHY MATHES** has composed original music for plays, commercials, corporate videos, documentaries, and in 2006 released her first CD, *Undeniable Light*. During her career in the corporate world, Kathy earned an MBA and Six Sigma Black Belt Certification. Kathy has written music her whole life, and left the corporate arena to pursue her dream of composing music for film and television. A sampling of Kathy's credits include composing the score for the 90-minute documentary film, *The Women Will Howl*, original composition airing on *The Weather Channel* cable network, and music and lyrics for theatrical productions. Kathy also serves on the board of Women in Film and Television Atlanta. In May she will receive the 2007 Music Celebrity Honor from the Atlanta chapter of the National League of American Pen Women. **Panelist for The Sound of Movie Music session.**



**SHANDRA L. MCDONALD-BRADFORD** is an award-winning filmmaker and television producer. She recently directed, wrote and executive produced a short film titled, *THE PROMISE*. She's been commissioned to co-write another feature screenplay, while consulting on several other projects. Her award-winning feature film, *The Last Adam* continues to appear in festivals across the country. With ten short films under her belt, the majority of which have aired on network television; McDonald has truly emerged as a master of the craft. **Moderator for Producing the Perfect Short session.**

**ROBERT MERRICK** is a graduate of Drury College, Springfield MO with a degree in Speech Communications. He worked with WSB from 1999 – 2006, transitioning from a "feed bay" operator to camera and Master Control operator during Prime time programming. Robert was responsible for airing commercial breaks at the assigned time slot, and the downlink and preparation for syndicated programs to be aired. He also monitored the output of the Standard and Hi-Def signal from the transmitter. Robert is currently the Production Coordinator for Gilbert Creative with The Coca-Cola Company. **Panelist for Inside Television News session.**



**EVELYN MIMS** was born in Hazlehurst, Mississippi, but has called Atlanta home for the last 28 years. She started working for WXIA-TV in 1977 where, for a number of years appeared on the *Noonday* program as "The Soap Sultress" providing Atlanta viewers with daily updates on their favorite TV Soap Operas. Now she serves as Film Director & Program Coordinator at WXIA. In 1995, she became the first African-American woman in the United States to serve as president of a NATAS chapter (Southeast regional chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences). As President, she helped implement some major changes from Scholarship programs to the Emmy awards, to creating a Silver Circle ceremony honoring broadcasting's regional elite figures. She continues to serve NATAS on the Board of Governors and as a National Trustee for the Academy. Evelyn is also president of the Board of Directors for People TV, which provides public access television for Atlanta. **MC for Opening Session.**



**LISA MOORE, ESQ.** is the Executive Director of Georgia Lawyers for the Arts, principal of her own entertainment and intellectual property boutique law practice, The Moore Firm, and an Adjunct Professor at the University of Georgia School of Law. She received a BA in History and Political Science with Honors and Highest Distinction from University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and graduated from the University of Virginia School of Law. Ms. Moore joined the law firm of Arnall, Golden & Gregory in the fall of 1999 where she worked in the general litigation department and practiced in the areas of employment, bankruptcy, intellectual property, and entertainment. Moore currently represents numerous production companies, screenwriters, authors, songwriters, bands, producers, visual artists, performing artists and other entertainment clients on contracts, licensing, copyright, trademark, First Amendment issues and other aspects of the film, television, music and literary publishing businesses. Her practice focuses on both litigation and transactional entertainment and IP matters. **Panelist on Legal Guidelines for Self Employed Artists session.**



**MYRNA MOORE** began her career in broadcasting in 1985 as a news intern at WKSJ radio while completing her degree in Communication Arts at the University of South Alabama. She later worked as a radio announcer/reporter and then a weekend producer/reporter. After moving to Durham, North Carolina, Myrna worked as a general assignment reporter and then Manager of Community Involvement for WGHP in High Point, North Carolina, and received the Scripps Howard National Journalism Award for Literacy. Upon moving to Atlanta, Georgia, Myrna began working at **TBS** as a freelance producer. She joined the Public Affairs department in 1994 working in several positions including, associate producer and co-producer of **TBS'** magazine show, *interact america*. She is currently Director of Community Affairs and host of **TBS** Story|line. Myrna is a 2000-2001 fellow of the *Betsy Magness Leadership Institute*, sponsored by Women In Cable & Telecommunications. She is a ten-time Emmy winner and two-time recipient of the Atlanta Association of Black Journalist award for Community/Public Affairs Reporting in Television. **Opening Session Keynote Speaker.**



**ALESHIA MUELLER** has been editing and working on movie projects since 1997. Aleshia has worked on long and short media projects that range from podcasts, music videos, travel videos, archival DVDs, and scientific, social, and historical documentaries. A movie she produced and edited in 2001 about the Crustal Stress Community Awareness Network in the Philippines is used as a tool in community education initiatives for earthquake hazard mitigation. She edited **OBERLIN-INANDA: THE LIFE AND TIMES OF JOHN L. DUBE**, which won special mention for Best Documentary in the 2005 PanAfrican Film and Television Festival of Ouagadougou (FESPACO), screened at festivals worldwide. In 2006, she edited **BUST!**, a film about women's relationships with their breasts, which has screened in the United States and Europe. A free-lance media producer and FCP editor in Saint Paul, MN, Aleshia is currently producing online video for the Science Education Resource Center and is in various stages of production on three feature-length documentaries. She currently serves as the Secretary of the Minnesota chapter of Women in Film. **Speaker for the Adventures in Editing for Beginners: FinalCut Pro Workshop.**



**NILS ONSAGER** has an affinity for violence and action, and thrives in a world of mayhem and risk. He attended Georgia Institute of Technology and got both an engineering degree and a black belt degree in martial arts. During college, he supplemented his tuition by falling off of horses and sword fighting in a live stunt show which toured the US. In the decades that followed, he focused on developing his coordinator and choreography skills. He also established the Black Knight Stunt Team, which consists of skilled professional craftsmen (and women), whose year round extensive training and dedication to safety is evident in everything they do. The team leverages PhD's and Masters Degrees in Engineering for determining the physics and requirement for every stunt. In addition to training, the Black Knight School of Martial Arts offers regular instruction in Hapkido, and many of the stunt team members are Black Belt martial artists. The Black Knight Stunt Team will be doing a **demonstration during the Weapons, Driving and Stunts Session.**

**SHANALYNA PALMER** received a BA in Theater Studies from Swartmore College and promptly started her career like many, in front of the camera as an extra. Her experience has since taken her behind the scenes as an assistant director. Since 2005 she's worked in television on series such as HBO's "The Sopranos", and several films including "Big Momma's House 2" and the soon to be released "The Salon" (starring Vivica Fox) as second and additional assistant director. Recently Shanalyna served as the Executive Director of the 2006 Spirit of Humanity Film Festival held in New Orleans, LA. Currently she is the second second assistant director for Tyler Perry's hit series "House of Payne" shot here in Atlanta. **Moderator for Independent & Documentary Filmmaking session.**



**MELISSA RANDLE** serves as Sr. Advertising Executive and contributing writer for Southern Screen Report Film and Video magazine, helping to increase awareness of the local & regional production industry. She currently sits on the Board of Directors for Women in Film and Television Atlanta (WIFTA). Whether in front of the camera or behind the scenes, she can usually be found on set, as an actress, freelance Teleprompter Operator or production assistant. She's an experienced prompter operator for cable TV, commercial, industrial, political/live event and award shows. A few years ago Melissa got her start as a PA on an Indie feature film and ever since has been involved with various aspects of production including coordination, assistant directing, producing and script supervising. Her previous background is in Corporate/Commercial Real Estate and project management. **Interviewer for the Sunday Lunchtime Screening.**



**DEBBIE RODKIN** is the Executive Director of **RE:FOCUS ON CAREERS**, the premier networking organization dedicated to helping professionals with career development. She began running networking events for *The Layoff Lounge* which closed in 2004 when Donald Trump hired the CEO, Kelly Perdue, during the second season of *The Apprentice*. After numerous requests to continue assisting the public, Debbie founded **RE:FOCUS ON CAREERS**. Debbie has successfully grown this organization, and has spoken to audiences and facilitated events in Georgia and Florida. In addition to running **RE:FOCUS ON CAREERS**, Debbie is the Regional Manager at Bedford Capital Consulting, building the cost segregation practice in the southeast. She also finds time to volunteer at a number of organizations, including *Hands on Atlanta*, *Habitat for Humanity*, *Gators for Business*, and *ACCESS*. Debbie received her M.B.A. in Marketing from Georgia State University, and her B.S. in Telecommunication Production from the College of Journalism at the University of Florida. **Instructor for Making the Most of Your Networking Tim session.**



**DAVID ROEMER** and a team of students created Campus MovieFest ([www.campusmoviefest.com](http://www.campusmoviefest.com)) six years ago as a way to let non-filmmakers create their first movies by providing all the necessary laptops, camcorders, training, and incentives. After graduating, the team formed the company Ideas United, and working with premier corporate partners, CampusMovieFest has grown into the world's largest student movie-making events. Over 25,000 students have produced short movies in the US and UK, seen them at venues such as The Fox Theater, and posted them online for over 3,000,000 visitors to view. As CEO of Ideas United, David focuses on the long-term strategy and vision for Ideas United while working closely with the Company's most valued partners and advisers. Prior to founding Ideas United, he spent three years in marketing at one of the world's greatest providers of technology. **Panelist for Producing the Perfect Short session and Monday Lunchtime Filmmaker Screening.**

**ERIC SAPERSTON** is the founder and president of Journey Productions, Inc. His feature film THE JOURNEY was awarded a development deal with Disney Studios to turn his adventures into a feature film. That film, THE JOURNEY, world premiered to sold out shows and standing ovations. It also won six major film festivals. Eric's message is one of "insurmountable" obstacles being overcome with tenacity, humor and love. Eric recently wrote, directed and produced the pilot "What's Your Story?" which was shot in Atlanta, and he continues to speak to audiences world-wide, including a recent speaking engagement with Walter Cronkite and Jay Leno. **Instructor for the Film Entrepreneurism session.**



**SUZAN SATTERFIELD's** media career has included television, radio, film production and advertising. She is currently a Managing Partner of Picture Window Productions, LLC, and co-founder and president of SaltRun Productions, Inc.. Picture Window Productions creates and produces television series, and is currently in production on the 11<sup>th</sup> season of "Ground Breakers", a major landscaping makeover show for HGTV. SaltRun Productions, Inc. created and produced 66 episodes of "The Natural South", an environmental adventure series for Turner South. "The Natural South" won 15 Tellys and received 4 Emmy nominations. SaltRun also produces documentaries, including "Herren's: A Sweet Southern Spirit," about the voluntary integration of Atlanta's famous Herren's restaurant in the 1960s, which is currently airing on Georgia Public Television. **Moderator for Inside Television News session.**

**NAKEESHA SENE** began her career working in non-fiction television for the likes of Discovery Communications (The Discovery Channel and The Learning Channel) and National Geographic Television. She has coordinated, managed, and produced production for wildlife, science, and adventure films here nationally and on every continent, including both poles, and has met some of the world's most fascinating people. After having children of her own, she slowed down and began to teach her craft to the next generation of producers, directors and editors. Recently, she has begun writing and producing children's programming for various networks and organizations. Mrs. Seneb is also an accomplished editor, with credentials from Apple Pro Training. Currently, she is a full-time professor at The Art Institute of Atlanta, and will be the **Instructor for the Adventures in Editing: Final Cut Pro Editing Workshop.**

**ROBERT (BOB) SHELLEY, SR.** is owner of Bob Shelley's Special Effects International, Inc. provides the latest on-location environmental, pyrotechnical and mechanical effects available. His services include all types of high explosives, pyrotechnics, bullet hits, wire work, action props, construction and other special effects, including rain, fog and artificial snow equipment and large ritter wind machines; weapons/automatic weapons, blanks and other equipment associated with special effects. Since retiring from the U.S. Army in 1977 Bob has provided special effects for filmmakers throughout the United States for movies, television, commercials, live shows, industrial safety training, Army training and law enforcement projects. He has served as special effects coordinator and/or foreman on many, many projects. Some of them include: *Touched by an Angel, Ghostbusters, Driving Miss Daisy, Patch Adams, Remember the Titans, Blue Collar TV, I'll Fly Away, Sweet Home Alabama* and *The Notebook*. **Panelist for the Weapons, Driving & Stunt Effects Session.**



**SCOTT SONNENBERG** has been working in the freelance world of video and film production out of Charlotte, North Carolina and Atlanta, Georgia since 2001. Originally based in the emulsion and film world of cinematography Scott has embraced 24p video. "The best thing about shooting video is the cost. Most people find it is easier to work with in post. It is often quite hard to make video look good." His attention to lighting is evident in the commercial projects and narrative shorts he has shot. Notably winning two awards for cinematography in the 48 hour film project in Washington D.C. Scott received his Master of Fine Arts in Television and Film Production from Chapman University located in Orange County California, in 2001. **Instructor for the Advanced Editing: AVID Workshop.**



**BILL THOMPSON** is the division director of Georgia's Film, Video & Music Office. He is responsible for developing marketing and sales strategies that will grow and enhance Georgia's entertainment industry. A communications industry veteran with over 25 years of experience in the film, video and television arenas, Mr. Thompson has worked in 28 countries on five continents and in 44 U.S. states. His clients have included television networks, Hollywood studios, advertising agencies, production companies, institutions and Fortune 100, 300 and 500 corporations. He was very involved in numerous projects during the Centennial Olympic Games in Atlanta and in 2005 produced several projects for the Brand Atlanta campaign, Coca-Cola and General Electric. Mr. Thompson was nominated for an Emmy award in 1998 for producing the Georgia Music Hall of Fame Awards show, and has won an MTV music video award, several Telly awards, a Cable Atlanta "Best Original Series" award and an International Television Association award. He is a member of numerous professional organizations including the Georgia Production Partnership, Media Communications Association International, IMAGE Film/Video Center and the Atlanta Film Festival, and Women in Film and Television. Mr. Thompson holds Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Communications from GSU. **Closing Session Keynote Speaker.**





**GABRIEL WARDELL** is the Executive Director for the IMAGE Film & Video Center in Atlanta. Gabe has worked for festivals and non-profits for over a decade, programming for the AFI Silver Theatre and numerous festivals from Maryland to California, producing the inaugural edition of SILVERDOCS: AFI/Discovery Channel Documentary Festival and hosting Cinema Sundays at the Charles in Baltimore for seven years. With a B.A. in Film from Bard College, where he matriculated after graduating from Phillips Academy Andover, he has written film criticism, a sports column, and freelance articles in publications such as *Film Threat*, *The Baltimore Sun*, *The Jewish Times* and *City Paper*. He also writes an indieWIRE Blog, called "Gabe's Declaration of Principles." **Panelist for Independent & Documentary Filmmaking, Film, Video & Television Distribution, and Grants and Funding for Filmmakers Sessions.**

## Conference Producers



**NANCY B. HOWARD** is the Founder and Executive Director of The Big Picture Film & Video Foundation, and produces the Georgia BIG PICTURE Conference (GABPC). She is also an independent film and video producer with over 15 years of production experience. She studied Mass Media Arts - Radio/TV/Film at Clark Atlanta University. Nancy has worked as Producer, Production Manager, Production Coordinator, Locations Assistant, Office Production Assistant and Production Assistant on music videos, commercials and feature films. She is currently producing a short film entitled THE PROMISE, written and directed by Shandra L. McDonald-Bradford for the Atlanta initiative, The Woman's Angle. Nancy is also a former secretary of the Board of Directors for Women in Film/Atlanta, and also a member of IMAGE Film & Video.



**KEN FEINBERG.** See bio above.



**CARLETTA S. HURT.** See bio above.