Arts & Entertainment Networking Night

GUEST DIRECTORY

Wednesday, March 23, 2016, 7-8:30pm
Emory University, Cox Hall Ballroom

Sponsored by:
The Career Center
Center for Creativity & Arts
Department of Theater & Dance
Department of Film & Media Studies
Goizueta Career Management Center
1. **Two things to know right off the bat:** Networking is one of the most effective tools in educating yourself about career options and finding the right fit in your next job, internship, volunteer role or gap year experience; and further, our guests already know that many of you are new to networking! In that spirit, this annual Spring event was designed for students from any background or major who want to explore career paths in the Arts & Entertainment sectors. Join us and mingle with 75+ impressive Emory alumni and professionals whose work spans the conventional and not-so-conventional - opening your eyes to the great variety of entry-level and advanced career possibilities in the Arts & Entertainment sector.

2. **Review this Guest Directory in advance**, to help you discover individual A&E professionals that you might like to meet. Each guest is listed under one PRIMARY category in the guide, but please note: guests have overlapping expertise - so you may find people with the same focus you are seeking that appear in other sections. Give yourself time to review the ENTIRE directory. Early student sign-in begins at 6:45, but if you need to join us later - you are welcome to come for any portion of the event. No RSVP is required, and if you like, you may bring a friend. We’ll start with introductions promptly at 7pm and immediately afterward, you may begin mingling with our guests.

3. **This is NOT a career fair**, so you won’t need to bring a resume or wear a suit (suggested dress is business casual). Nor will our guests be positioned behind rows of tables. The “mixer” format is fun and takes away any such artificial barriers, making networking a more relaxed and personal experience for everyone. To find a particular guest, locate the sign posts in the ballroom that correspond to the 6 Primary Areas inside your Guest Directory. An outline with subcategories in all of the 6 Areas appears on the back cover of this Directory.

4. **“How should I approach someone?”** The PROCESS is simple: make eye contact, offer a smile and a firm handshake, then introduce yourself by name, year in school and academic background or major. **“But what should I say next?”** The STRATEGY is to start by taking an interest in the person you are meeting. Start by mentioning one thing that appealed to you about their personal or professional background. Allow them to respond, and you’re off and running!

5. **Here are some other questions will help keep conversation flowing:** How did you get interested in your particular area of work? What is your average day or week like? What are the core responsibilities that make up your job? What do you find most challenging/rewarding about your work? Tell me about one of your favorite projects. What did you study in high school or college? Did you always know this would be your career? What key experiences told you this role fit?

6. **You may want their advice in preparing or positioning yourself for your next steps:** What personality traits and skills are critical for success in this area? What training or education is required? Can you suggest ways to gain experience to be more competitive for jobs/internships? Do you know other people that I could talk with to gain more perspective?

7. **Don’t wait in single file line to talk with a guest.** Instead, form a semi-circle and get your bearings first by listening as you join existing conversations. This is not considered rude and will allow you to watch others and see how they approach conversation - not to mention, you will benefit from hearing others’ conversations. Make eye contact with others who are present and await a verbal or nonverbal cue to join in and introduce yourself. You yourself can return the favor by encouraging others to join in on your discussions. And if talking in groups isn’t your thing, try finding a guest who is standing alone. They may be grateful for your company, and you can open by thanking them for coming.

8. **Keep an OPEN MIND** - you will often be surprised at what you’ll have in common with individuals you hadn’t planned to speak with. Most of our guests - like yourself - are multifaceted with many interests. Who knows? If you tell them your interests, they might refer you to another interesting colleague you can reach out to later.

9. **Don’t spend all your time talking to one person.** It’s a good goal to try to speak with 3-5 people at the event. Exiting conversations doesn’t have to feel rude. When you sense it’s time to make your exit: 1) politely thank them for the conversation, and 2) ask for a business card you can use to follow up later, should you wish to talk again. Most importantly, use it to send them a thank you note that evening or the next day. **Building relationships is NOT a “one and done.”** You may also wish to send them a request to connect on LinkedIn.com to help maintain the connection.

10. **We strive to attract a diverse group of participants.** Rarely, guests who planned to come have last-minute obligations that get in the way. If there’s someone you missed, let us know. We’ll do our best to connect you.

Enjoy your conversations and have fun!
## Music Industry & Performance

### Music Production & Sound

**Rafael Capone** is owner of The Soul Asylum Studios (SAS) Group, which has been serving industry professionals and artists for more than 23 years. Rafael started as a recording engineer, opening SAS in 1993 after serving four years in the U.S. army with honorable discharge. He went to broadcasting arts school on the G.I. Bill and later moved the company from his mom’s basement in Detroit to Atlanta. He quickly became the go-to engineer and recording location for many of today's Grammy winning stars and producers of past and present. In 1995 MOBSTYLE productions was created, in 1999 Soul Asylum Acoustics and Design, and in 2006 he applied 13 years of knowledge and experience as a recording/mixing engineer to create a one-year, 6-step training curriculum to develop SAS interns into well-trained audio engineers. His experience in music and business propelled him to consult labels, artists and start-up companies. The success of his studio design/building company put SAS at the forefront of acoustic technology with inspiring creative studio designs and functionality. Our company mottos “create relax create” and “where education & experience make a sound difference” has contributed to our winning best studio in ATL now four-years-in-a-row.

**Florian (Flo) Ongonga** is a senior audio engineer at Soul Asylum Studios Group, specializing in recording and mixing. Much of his success is due to his attention to detail and consistent training to provide high quality audio. Flo graduated from SAE Institute, School Of Audio Engineering, in 2011 at the top of his class. He began his career by interning at Soul Asylum Studios, then became a protégé of Rafael Capone, who has over 20 years of industry experience. Flo works on several genres including, but not limited to, Hip Hop, RnB, Pop, Reggae, Rock, Compa, and Alternative. He also has experience doing voiceovers for radio and TV commercials, audio books and sound-to-picture.

**Tyjee Eskridge**, better known by his pseudonym Beat Dilla, is an American record producer and composer. Dilla was born in Newberry, South Carolina and is the oldest of 7 children. He became a music enthusiast at a very young age. During adolescence, he was an outstanding drummer and percussionist in school where he received numerous honorary band participations. He was also a member of his High School Marching Band where he excelled as drum captain. Dilla later moved to Atlanta and enrolled at the Art Institute of Atlanta majoring in Audio Production. Here, Dilla is able to truly shape his production craft and has produced for many major artists including Rick Ross, Rap legend Pastor Troy, MMG’s Duece Popp, and most recently Kevin Gates on his soon to be released Panoramic.

### Music Vocals & Spoken Word

**Tiye Cochran** strives to be a diverse recording artist - with influences ranging from Queen to Kanye West, her sound is as unique as her perspective. Tiye has combined her talents to create an innovative mixture of hip hop, blues and rock. Born in Bed-Stuy, Brooklyn, NY, she moved to Atlanta at the age of 5, the eldest child of a single parent household. Her mother instilled the values of creativity and free thought at an early age, and at age 11, she taught herself guitar and began classical training on the violin, with song writing soon to follow. Eventually she became less interested in her instruments and more fascinated with the art of Hip-Hop. After surviving a near fatal car accident and sustaining extreme facial trauma, a shattered wrist, broken femur, collarbone, shoulder, cracked ribs, and 1000 stitches to her face, she began to view her music as a realm in which to truly express herself. She is currently finishing her BAF Media Production, concentration in Sound Design. With a lyricist’s flair to cut across genres and a guitarist’s dexterity to captivate audiences, Tiye is poised for international success.

**Tim’m T. West** is an educator, poet, youth advocate, and Hip Hop artist who has, for decades, lectured about a variety of issues at the intersection of race, gender, sexuality, and social justice. A graduate of Duke (BA), The New School (MA), and Stanford (MA), he is author of several books, Hip-Hop projects, and is widely anthologized. In 2004 Tim’m started The Front Porch, a Spoken word, soul, and Hip-Hop series that celebrated 10 years in December 2014 and has mobilized hundreds of poets and artists over the past decade. Tim’m has also appeared in multiple documentaries at the intersection of Hip Hop and black masculinity: Alex Hinton’s Pick Up the Mic, Byron Hurt’s Hip Hop: Beyond Beats and Rhymes, and Mario Van Peebles’ Bring Your ‘A’ Game. In 2015 Tim’m released his 4th poetic memoir, predispositions which contains, in part, a Chapter about
his experiences as an educator. He also released his 6th solo Hip-Hop/Soul project, *ICONography*, incidentally at the same time that he was named 2015 LGBT History Month Icon. Tim’m is based in Atlanta, where he leads Teach For America’s national LGBTQ Community Initiative, advancing safer and braver classrooms for LGBTQ students preK-12 and their educators.

**Artist Management, Branding & Promotion**

**Dustin Boyer** is an Artist Manager out of Atlanta who currently works with Tod Elmore at Hubbub!Music, an artist management company which also specializes in label services and event planning. Dustin is a musician himself who played in bands for many years. He also has experience booking and promoting shows, as well as agency work. He currently works with Radio Birds, The Georgia Flood, and Besides Daniel. Dustin earned a Bachelors in Marketing at the Robinson School of Business at Georgia State University.

**Leah Masterson** is Founder/CEO of ATL-based entertainment company Master Music Enterprise, LLC, which focuses on artist development, music management and consultation for independent musicians. After attaining a B.A. at Butler University, along with studies at New York University Tish School of Arts, Leah worked with companies such as Warner Music Group, MTV Networks, Law Offices of Greenberg Traurig & Universal Music Group. With the Film & TV industry booming in ATL for all of NY and LA to hear, Leah decided to leave the corporate sector to create her current company, helping Independent Artists learn about the business aspect of the industry and reach their full potential. There, Leah has partnered with various movers and shakers of the Atlanta Music Scene and is a Member of The Recording Academy (NARAS) that hosts The Grammy’s (ask her how you can become an acting member). Leah is also a freelance Photographer and a Creative Director at a small production company in Atlanta. She has an Applied Associates degree from Compass College of Cinematic Arts.

**Diana Schweinbeck** is the 25-year-old CEO of Schweinbeck LLC, which offers music industry artists branding and exposure, and she also manages artists like Sy Ari Da Kid, Damar Jackson, a producer named Kato and the DJ coalition Mixtape Monopoly. Her first taste of the music industry came after starting an entertainment company called FYF Entertainment at the age of 20, doing publicist, branding, and exposure work. In June 2012, Diana initiated what have come to be very popular monthly industry mixers, featuring performances by upcoming artists in Atlanta, along with monthly special guests. Her brand growing at a fast pace and Diana is becoming the person to know in the industry. She earned a Bachelor’s in Business Management at Georgia State University in 2012.

**Tamiko Hope** started her career as a college intern at LaFace Records in Atlanta and went on to work for Usher and Goodie Mob before launching her own PR and editorial firm Word Ink. As a Publicist and Manager for southern artists, Tamiko has spearheaded national PR campaigns for Grammy award winning artists, producers and DJs such as OutKast, Rocko, Shawty Lo, DJ Toomp, Zaytoven, Sonny Digital, Metroboomin, DJ Spinz, Nipsey Hussle, Que, and DJ Scream. She also manages DJ Princess Cut, and in 2014, the pair toured with Oprah Winfrey on her 8-city *Life You Want Tour*. Tamiko served as label publicist for Big Boi’s Purple Ribbon imprint, where she oversaw the projects of Killer Mike and Janelle Monae. She has contributed to media outlets such as XXL, Upscale, MTV and Allhiphop. Her writing skills were tapped by ASCAP to compose the print program feature on Jay-Z to commemorate his 2004 Golden Note Award, and she is also the author of series. Born in Atlanta, Tamiko holds a B.A. in Mass Communications concentrating in PR from the State University of West Georgia.

**Radio / Concert Ticketing & Fan Experience**

**Daniel Assan (15B)** began The MIX radio show at WMRE as an Emory senior in fall 2014. After some initial success, he and his co-host had begun interviewing Atlanta hip-hop artists and were able to bring artists like B.o.B to Emory’s campus. Artists continued to show interest in doing interviews even after graduation, so Daniel decided to continue growing The MIX into a team of current and former Emory students. The current team is solely responsible for organizing interviews, curating content, and marketing the radio show. Now Daniel also has a full-time job as an account executive at a digital advertising agency, DigitasLBi. Daniel holds a Bachelors of Business Administration from Emory.

**Brandon Walker (16B)** works with The MIX, popularly known to Emory students, alumni, faculty, and listeners from the general public who tune in each week to hear Brandon (a.k.a. Marlon Brando) and co-host Daniel Assan (a.k.a. The Karate Kid) as they interview and hang out with special guests. Brandon and crew have helped bring several notable guests to the show, including: Ty Dolla $ign, B.o.B., Travis Porter, DC Young Fly, Tk n Cash, Lil Scrappy, Jason Geter (CEO of Grand Hustle), OG Maco, and Bankroll Fresh, as well as Black Lives Matter protesters. The MIX is broadcasted on Emory’s cable network and can be heard via internet radio.
Richard Firth is the Operations Manager at 90.1 WABE, Atlanta’s NPR station, which has been serving Atlanta since the mid-40s. Richard spent many years in front of the mic, but now prefers working behind the scenes, where he remains passionate about station imaging and loves hearing well-produced radio. His role is to help provide Public Radio content that includes news, current affairs and the arts, and WABE’s programs are made up of a mix of locally produced shows and national and international programs. Richard began his radio career in Hospital Radio in the UK before spending nine years in commercial radio in Wales. He joined BBC Radio Wales in 2004 as a producer, then moved to the U.S. in 2009, where he spent four years at Cumulus Radio in Montgomery, AL, prior to joining WABE in 2012. He studied English and Media at College in Wales.

Ben Dostal is Manager of Ticketing & Fan Experience at Rival Entertainment. Having spent the last dozen years in the sports and entertainment industries, Ben has served in a multitude of roles, supporting such events as the NCAA Men’s Final Four, The Rose Bowl Game, and the NHL All Star Celebration, and artists like Matchbox Twenty, The Foo Fighters, and Usher. He has worked in production management, artist hospitality, and sponsor services. Currently at Rival, Ben is responsible for ticketing all events at the Center Stage Music Complex and Rival’s productions elsewhere. Additionally, he manages front-of-house staff while creating an exemplary fan experience with the Rival brand – from ticket purchase through leaving the venue after the show. Originally from Panama City Beach, Ben is a proud Florida State University alumnus.

Shannon M. Turner is Managing Director at CORE, organizational home to CORE Performance Company, internationally recognized for creating and performing innovative contemporary dance, having conducted tours and residencies in Mexico, Guatemala, Sweden, Germany, Croatia and the Republic of Georgia. When she’s not at CORE, Shannon serves on the board at WonderRoot, blogs, and tells a pretty good story, especially at Carapace. She can also be found Mondays at noon as co-host of North Avenue Lounge, an hour-long talk show about arts, culture, and ideas on 91.1 WREK. In 2007, Shannon was pursuing her Masters of Fine Arts degree at Virginia Tech when the tragic shootings there occurred, and in the year after, spearheaded a start-up community organization that facilitated artistic response and public dialogue toward the Blacksburg community’s healing. Other professional roles have included: Manager of Programs & Services at Alternate ROOTS, a nonprofit arts and social justice organization serving 14 states of the South; Development Director for Synchronicity Theatre in Atlanta; and, as both Director of Student Programs and Interim Executive Director at Virginia Tech’s YMCA.

Chyna Williams is Co-Founder of We Entertain, as a top manager for professional dancers and choreographers. Her clients work with the biggest entertainers in the industry like Usher, Ne-Yo, Jason Derulo, TLC, J-Lo, and Austin Mahone. The talent that she manages has appeared and assisted in choreography in Movies like Pitch Perfect 1 and 2, Get on Up, Kill the Messenger and Stomp the Yard. She also manages Collizion Crew and Jungle Boogie, two Atlanta crews that appeared on MTV’s America’s Best Dance Crew. She and partner Johnny Lofton together manage recording artists, actors, producers, writers, dancers, choreographers, videographers and photographers, and have created a state-of-the-art entertainment compound made up of recording, rehearsal, and photography studios and featured on tv shows such as Double Divas, and The Braxtons. When it comes to the world of entertainment Chyna Williams is a powerhouse.

Dr. Charné Furcron is Dance Therapist, Teaching Artist Trainer and Director of Outreach at Moving in the Spirit. She has been actively involved with MITS for over twenty years and currently manages teaching artists’ training, program development, and evaluation. Additionally, Dr. Furcron is a licensed professional counselor, board certified dance therapist, board certified life coach, approved clinical supervisor, and online adjunct professor at Liberty University, where she teaches graduate courses in counseling and family studies. She maintains a private practice in expressive arts therapy and cognitive-behavioral psychotherapy, working with children, adolescents, adults, couples, small groups, and families. Dr. Furcron holds a BFA in modern dance from Texas Christian University, MA in dance therapy from Goucher College, MA in professional counseling from the Georgia School of Professional Psychology, and EdD in counseling psychology from Argosy University, Sarasota.
## Acting (Theatre / TV & Film)

**JON HAYDEN** is a native Atlantan, professional actor, member of AEA (Actor’s Equity Association), and currently serves as 2nd Vice President of SAG-AFTRA (Screen Actor’s Guild – American Federation of Television and Radio Artists). He toured last season with TOTS in *Fiddler on the Roof* and appeared as Drake in *Annie*, starring Sally Struthers, in *Theater of The Stars* at Atlanta’s Fox Theater. Stage credits include: Victor Velasco in *Barefoot in the Park* (Springer Opera House); Applegate in *Damn Yankees* (Springer); *Are We There Yet?* (ArtStation); *The Time of Your Life* (Theater Emory); Metropolis Theater’s Suzi Bass Best Actor-nominated *Diary of a Madman* (14th Street Playhouse); *The Manson Story* (Lincoln Center); Don Wilson in *The Jack Benny Program* (La Mama, ETC); and, Milo Tindle in *Sleuth* (Chautauqua Institute.) Jon is remounting a world tour of *Madman* by Nickolai Gogol @Synchronicity May19-June6 2016. Film and TV credits include: The Admiral opposite Nicholas Cage as Captain McVay in “The USS Indianapolis-Men of Courage” (2016); “Holding Patterns” (2016) with Christopher Meloni and Marg Helgenberger; *Anchorman II, Six Pack*, and *Ghostbusters*. Jon holds a B.F.A. from Carnegie Mellon in 1980.

**JAKE KRAKOVSKY (13C)** is an actor, director, writer, theater-maker, and teaching artist in Atlanta. His specific interests include theater, improvisation, clowning, puppetry, dance theater, variety show, object theater, and theater for young audiences – and particularly new and original works. Since college, Jake has been collaborating with friends and fellow artists to produce original theater around the city, including a full independent production of his original one-man-play, *Yankl on the Moon*. He has performed with The Alliance Theatre, Theater Emory, Dismantle Theater, The Object Group, Ex Somnium, and The Center for Puppetry Arts, where he also works as a Teaching Artist. Jake graduated from Emory in 2014 with a degree in Theater Studies.

**NATALIA LIVINGSTON (98C)** is an Emmy Award Winning Actress, Television Producer, and Founder/Owner of Actor Boutique. A contract player on ABC’s *General Hospital*, she starred in over 900 episodes; she also starred in over 50 episodes of NBC’s *Days of Our Lives*, several motion pictures, and national commercials. She was part of a team recently nominated for her second Emmy in a new category – Outstanding New Approach in a Drama Series. Additional stage credits range from Chekhov to original works from L.A.’s most notable theaters, and living in both Atlanta and on the west coast helped her to expand into producing for major TV networks. She recently worked as Co-Executive Producer of the Gasoline Films and PBS documentary *The Man Who Ate New Orleans*. Represented by The Gersh Agency and Sweeney Management, she has been a guest on The View, CNN, The Tyra Banks Show, Access Hollywood, and Entertainment Tonight. Natalia received her early training at both North Carolina School of the Arts and Emory University, then later studied under master acting teachers Ivanna Chubbuck, Steve Helgoth, Margie Haber, Warner Loughlin, Bobby Lyons, and Candy Kanieki. Natalia has a degree in Sociology from Emory and has guest lectured at Emory’s Goizueta Business School in the field of Entrepreneurship in Entertainment and Arts Management.

## Fashion & Costume Design

**LA-QUAN X. BATES (14C)** is Visual Brand Manager at Express in Atlanta and engages in entrepreneurial endeavors that include fashion show production and creative direction. As a Visual Brand Manager at Express, he is responsible for managing visual executions, retail store operations, along with supervision of Sales Managers and full- and part-time associates. During his time at Emory, La-Quan produced Identities Xposed Fashion Show, which was Emory’s (and his own) first-ever fashion show. This successful project helped him realize he had a niche for producing fashion shows and he proceeded to make a career out of it. With the experience he is gaining at Express, his mission is to build his own brand and focus on it full-time in the near future (@iamlxb). He holds a B.A. in Economics from Emory.

**SEAN PATTON** has been designing costumes for more than 20 years is Principal and Founder of SMP Designs in Atlanta. He first learned his craft while working in local theatre in Decatur, then studied costume design at Winthrop University. Sean currently operates his own studio, SMP Designs, and is very active in a community of fellow designers, fabricators, sculptors and artists. Specializing in custom specialty costumes, he has created pieces for clients such as AutoTrader, Cartoon Network, Delta Airlines, Diageo North America, Georgia Power, Hanson Brick, Turner Studios and Verizon Wireless, as well as numerous commissions for individual clients worldwide who frequent cosplay conventions such as Dragon*Con, San Diego Comic Con, NYCC, MomoCon, Katsucon and numerous events abroad. He loves collaborating with ATL’s indie film community and has designed for several short films and 5 feature films including recent releases, *The Unwanted*, *Dekiru: The Three Stones*, and *Invasion of the Undead*. 
Theatre Marketing & Community Engagement

Jenny Costantino established KICK Strategy, LLC, a communications and project-management consulting firm, specializing in the arts and entertainment fields, in 2008. The firm’s work includes internal and external communications, strategic planning, branding, and development. Prior to founding KICK Strategy, Jenny helped launch and build True Colors Theatre Company from 2002 to 2008 alongside friends Kenny Leon and Jane Bishop. Clients include The Alliance Theatre, Whole World Improv Theatre, Broadway and film director Kenny Leon, Telluride MountainFilm On Tour, novelist Stephanie Bond, The AIDS Memorial Quilt, Stage Door Players, among others. Jenny is a graduate of the 2011 Arts Leaders of Metro Atlanta class, and she also serves on the boards of Serenbe Playhouse, The Atlanta Musical Theatre Festival, and The Suzi Bass Awards. She holds a B.S. in Marketing and Business Administration from Middle Tennessee State University.

Collins Goss is Development Manager for Horizon Theatre Company – where audience development, fundraising, and communication have been the focus of her work. For the past two years she has overseen all things fundraising for Horizon, including its annual fund, foundation grants, government contracts for services, special events, and board relations. Favorite projects have included project managing Horizon’s production of Avenue Q in Piedmont Park and assisting with the launch of a multi-theatre audience development project. Previously, Collins worked for the University of Alabama Department of Theatre and Dance, the Texas Shakespeare Festival, and Rose of Athens Theatre here in Georgia. She serves on the Board of Directors for Atlanta Intown Theatre Partnership and the Association of Fundraising Professionals Greater Atlanta Chapter. She has an MFA in Theatre Management from University of Alabama and B.A.’s in English and Theatre from University of Georgia.

Emily Russell is a founding member, veteran performer and Managing Director of Whole World Improv Theatre, a non-profit founded in 1994 to provide an artistic home for people of all ages to learn and grow through improv theatre. Emily helps cultivate actors to compete on a global stage, never losing sight of the voice of the community as the inspiration for their work. A native Atlantan, Emily’s work in developing educational programs for children and adults at Whole World began while she was a student at Chamblee High School, where she is recognized in its Hall of Fame. She has a Bachelor’s degree from Georgia State University and minored in Art.

Michael D. Winn is the Community Engagement Manager at The Alliance Theatre, Atlanta’s Tony Award-Winning Theatre company. Recently his work involved engaging Atlanta’s Islamic and Jewish Communities around Ayad Akhtar’s DISGRACED, organizing a town hall discussion between Alliance’s Jennings Hertz, Artistic Director Susan V. Booth, and the playwright. Michael also developed nightly post-show discussion involving cast and community leaders – which led to ongoing formalized dialogues between with the El Farooq Masjid, the Atlantic Institute and American Jewish Committee. Michael is an alumnus of Stillman College and The Lila Acheson Wallace American Playwright’s Program at The Juilliard School. His plays have been produced at New York Theatre Workshop, Dance Theatre Workshop in NYC, American Theatre Project in Washington, DC, and the Shubin Theatre in Philadelphia.

Screenwriting

Crystal Garrett is a Screenwriter and Founder of Liquid Crystal Entertainment. She has worked closely with major networks, had an original television pilot optioned by Warner Bros. Television, and has collaborated with Yari Film Group (Crash), Will Packer (Straight Outta Compton, Ride Along), Codeblack Entertainment (Kevin Hart: Let Me Explain), and Tyler Perry Studios (For Colored Girls, Good Deeds). She has served as Head Writer for an independently financed sitcom, and her latest venture is a feature-length adaptation of the best-selling novel Let The Church Say Amen, directed by Emmy winner Regina King and produced and released by the Viacom / BET Network in 2015. Crystal’s career began in theatre. She made her Broadway debut in the principle role of CeCe in Play On!, which she originated, and later landed acting roles on both ad and pay cable networks including HBO, Showtime, BET, OWN, and Lifetime. She has a Master of Fine Arts degree from the prestigious Old Globe Theatre’s Professional Actors Program at University of San Diego, where she was awarded a full academic scholarship and later chosen as a distinguished fellow.
**MARTIN KELLEY** co-founded and became co-president of the Atlanta Screenwriters Group, one of the largest screenwriter organizations in the Southeast, and is Editor-In-Chief of CinemATL. He has a diverse background in independent film and has written two films released by Lionsgate: *Immigration Tango* and *Step Off*. Recently his latest film that he co-wrote and produced, *blackhats*, screened in limited theatrical release and will be available on VOD later this year. After graduating from the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta, Martin previously started two independent record labels and worked as a music journalist before writing screenplays and making films.

**MICHAEL LUCKER** is President of Lucky Dog Filmworks and is a Professor of screenwriting in the Creative Writing Program at Emory. A writer, director and producer with 20 years of experience creating film and television, Michael began his career writing and directing commercials, before moving to Los Angeles to work in production for ABC, NBC and CBS. There he landed a role at Amblin Entertainment as assistant to Steven Spielberg on feature films *Always*, *Arachnophobia* and *Indiana Jones & the Last Crusade*. Later he embarked on a career as a screenwriter, working on screenplays for *Vampire In Brooklyn*, *Home On The Range*, *Mulan II* and *Spirit: Stallion of the Cimarron*, which was nominated for an Academy Award in 2002 as best animated feature. In 2007, Michael came to Atlanta to serve as creative consultant to Turner Entertainment, before launching his own production company, Lucky Dog Filmworks, where he has worked with Animal Planet, Cartoon Network, Travel Channel, History, and Discovery, to name a few. Current projects include directing a movie he wrote called *Black Mountain* and co-writing a book with radio icon Larry Wachs. He has a degree in Broadcasting and Film from Boston University.

### Film Crew & Production

**CHRISTINA BARBER (12C)** is a former Theater Studies major from Emory who, in her senior year, decided to switch focus to film/TV production. Since then she has worked as a set production assistant both in Atlanta and LA on feature films such as *Hunger Games: Catching Fire*, *Hunger Games: Mockingjay part 1 & 2*, Marvel’s *Antman*, *The Fifth Wave*, HBO’s *Bessie*, *A Walk in the Woods*, and *Endless Love* (2014), *The Boss*, *The Founder*, and *Middle School: The Worst Years of My Life*. She has also worked on LA based TV shows such as ABC Family’s *The Fosters*, ABC’s *The Goldbergs*, and ABC’s *Selfie*. And has worked on Atlanta-based TV shows such as The CW’s *The Originals* and *The Vampire Diaries*, Playstation Network’s *Powers*, and the upcoming TBS show *The Detour*. Christina is currently working on the movie *Thank You For Your Service*, which is based on the book of the same name by David Finkel about PTSD.

**DAVID CHAMPION** is a Second 2nd Assistant Director in the Director’s Guild of America. He originally attended the University of Southern California under a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Performance in 2001-02, then later attended and graduated from Valdosta State University with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Mass Media in 2006. He began his film and television career by a stroke of luck and the state of Georgia tax incentive on the film *Zombieland*. Since then he has been a production assistant on productions such as *Hunger Games* and *The Walking Dead*. Most recently, his career as an AD has provided amazing opportunities to travel to Calgary, Alberta for an HBO miniseries and to Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic on a Netflix original movie.

**BILLY TISANO (14C)** graduated from Emory in Fall 2014, majoring in Film Studies with a concentration in Film and Media Management. Since graduating, he’s moved into freelance in the AD department, working commercial, reality, feature films, and a variety of independent productions. He’s currently in pre-production on a number of new projects in assistant director and producer roles, with plans to shoot May and June 2016.

### Independent & Feature Films / Documentaries

**WILLIAM A. BROWN** is an independent filmmaker whose award winning work has been shown at festivals throughout the world. As President, Producer, Director, and Independent Media Artist at Atlanta Video, Bill’s documentaries have aired on PBS and The Arts & Entertainment Network (winning an Emmy Award), and he has produced thousands of media projects since the company’s inception in 1976. He has written, produced, and directed corporate projects for IBM, the Coca-Cola Company, UPS, King & Spalding, Emory University, and the High Museum of Art. His video and film art works have been shown at the Corcoran Gallery in Washington, DC, The Oberhausen Festival, The Tokyo International Film Festival, Seoul Net Fest, L’immagine Leggera Festival in Palermo, Italy, Hamburg Short Film Festival, and The World Wide Video Festival in the Hague, Netherlands. Bill also has a permanent video installation at the George Brown Center in Houston, TX.
RAFAEL GARCIA is the Director of Visual Media for The Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD). From 2006-2014, he worked as Creative Director with Standoff Studios and has also worked as an independent content producer with Taschen books and National Geographic. He was also a Producer on the International Emmy and Peabody Award-winning film Banaz; A Love Story. His work has included several feature films, as well as a range of television programming and commercials, with projects ranging from smaller corporate branding projects (Director/Producer Dish Network, Dish Ninjas ad campaign) to large-scale feature films (Director/Producer, Mayan Blue). He has led several production expeditions to various parts of the world, gaining experience in underwater filming logistics and directing (freshwater, saltwater, high altitude and cave environments), and has directed projects throughout North and Central America, Europe, and Australia, with fluency in both English and Spanish. Rafael earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Film and Television in 2005 from the Savannah College of Art & Design.

CHRIS MILLS is a Producer and Director of independent films here in Atlanta, where he has lived since the mid-70s. Recent Feature Producing credits are Be Here Now (2016, also director), The Unwanted (2014), and Santa’s Boot Camp (2016). He is active in indie film and large-budget studio projects, alternating between short form, such as studio film EPK, documentary, and corporate image. He also has expertise as a DoP and Sound Mixer, frequently working in those capacities when not producing. Chris got his start in the music industry while in high school, before studying Journalism at Georgia State University. He later switched over to film in the late 80s, getting an education from the ground up as a Production Assistant on the TV series In The Heat of the Night. After 5 seasons, Chris became a Directors Guild of America (DGA) Assistant Director (AD) and worked on 90 episodes in the production unit (more than any other person on the show, including cast).

ROB SCHMIDT BARRACANO is an American film director, writer and educator. His film credits include Crime and Punishment in Suburbia. He also created a pilot called American Town for Twentieth Century Fox. He directed a Masters of Horror episode called “Right to Die.” His thriller The Alphabet Killer, which reunited him with Eliza Dushku (Wrong Turn), Martin Donovan (“Right to Die”), and Michael Ironside (Crime and Punishment in Suburbia), was produced by New Films International. He is currently casting for the film The Valley with New Films producing. Rob is a graduate of the American Film Institute Conservatory and a member of the Directors Guild of America and the Writers Guild of America, East.

Directing & Producing for Television & Corporate Media

MATTHEW GAYNES (12B, 12C) is an Editor and Producer for Turner Studios. He edits NBATV’s new series Beyond The Paint, a monthly 30-minute show profiling basketball’s lesser-known figures and stories, and he also serves as a Producer for segments within the show. Matt was the Associate Producer and Co-Editor of NBATV’s hour-long special Hang Time Road Trip II. Some of his early industry experiences include working as a local camera assistant, interning for Turner Sports in Atlanta and at Warner Brothers Pictures in Los Angeles, working on Green Hat Film’s Project X. Matt graduated from Emory with a double-major in Film Studies and Business, concentrating in Marketing and Film & Media Management.

STEVEN PANAYIOTO is Producer and Director of Photography for On-Line Productions, an independent video production company that specializes in producing corporate movies. He has expertise in writing, shooting and editing video projects – and is currently writing a manuscript with intent to sell to major motion picture company. Steven particularly enjoys human interest stories and work that focuses on overlooked historical events. He is a member of groups such as the Media Communications Association – International, the Georgia Production Partnership, National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences (NATAS), and the American Hellenic Education and Progress Association (AHEPA). He has a B.A. in Cinema Studies from State University of New York (SUNY).

MARY ZIEGLER-MARTIN is an independent Writer, Producer, and Production Coordinator at MzM Creative Services, where her expertise in delivering creative, high-quality messages through skillful use of visual media. She founded MzM in 1993 after years of experience in broadcast television and corporate video, which included jobs at KMOS-TV, KPLR-TV and KSDK-TV, as well as working in medical video. Now she enjoys independent production and hasn’t looked back. She has written scripts, commercials, medical videoconferences, articles, web content, speeches, manuals, poetry, and newsletters. Her special talent is the ability to take textbook-style material and condense it, while making it sound like a comfortable conversation that relays what the audience needs to know. Clients include: Shaw Industries, Elekta Oncology, TOTO USA, Orkin, UPS, Kimberly Clark, the CDC, Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta, and Southern Company. She has a B.S. in Broadcasting and Film from Central Missouri State University.
Michael Morales is a Freelance Photographer, as well as a Creative Director for Carbon Films, LLC, a small production company in Atlanta. He has experience in small productions as well as on big budget Hollywood productions and aims to produce high quality narrative and commercial content. Michael has an Applied Associates degree from Compass College of Cinematic Arts.

Adam Valeiras (14C) writes and produces commercial and original content at Carbon Film, located in Atlanta’s Old 4th Ward. After graduating from Emory with a B.A. in English in 2014, Adam worked for a year as a paralegal at a criminal defense law firm in Atlanta. But when he found himself working on scripts during his downtime, he decided to give the firm an ample two months’ notice and set off to enter a more creative industry. After two months, a bit of luck, and modest networking, he landed his current role, where he’s advanced to be a lead writer. Outside of work, Adam freelances as a music journalist for FLOOD Magazine, based out of Los Angeles.

Rick Dascher (90C) is Vice President of Creative Services for Turner Studios. After a failed attempt at becoming a waiter at Chili’s, Rick found his way into TV. His career began as a fledgling writer and producer in Turner’s Home Video department, where he quickly realized that editing was the thing for him. Nearly 15 years later, Rick switched back to the production side at Turner, this time for a seven-year run at The Sponsor Shop, a group dedicated to integrated marketing for tbs & TNT. This culminated in his current role as VP of Creative Services – which is a fancy way of saying he heads up all of the artists on the post-production side of Turner Studios: the editors, sound designers, and design/visual effects folks. Rick helps to steer their teams in servicing their respective network partners – a roster that includes: Adult Swim, Cartoon Network, tbs, TNT, TCM and Turner Sports. Outside of his job, Rick is involved in the Promax group and also enjoys volunteering with Camp Sunshine. Rick graduated from Emory in 1990 with a degree in English and Film and a minor in Psychology.

Kathy Gray is Operations Manager for Crawford Media Services, a privately-owned company providing end-to-end creative and post production services in Atlanta and one of the most highly regarded media services companies in the country. A 30+ year veteran of the television industry, Kathy began her career as an audio engineer and sound designer, eventually moving into the production side of the business. She spent 19 years at Turner Studios serving in the roles of Producer, Executive Producer, and Director of Production Operations before leaving the company in late 2014. She rejoined Crawford Media Services as Operations Manager in 2015. She is a long-time member of the Women in Cable Telecommunications (WICT) Southeast Chapter, where she has served on the board for 7 years, and was honored in 2014 as Chapter President of the year by WICT National. She was also honored with the Rising Star Award for Emerging Leaders at the 2010 WICT Southeast Red Letter Awards. In her free time, Kathy enjoys exploring her creative side by producing art assemblages and tapestry weavings. She is an avid animal lover and supports various animal charities.

Sarah Sykes is Director of Creative Services at Crawford Media, a privately-owned company providing end-to-end creative and post production services and one of the most highly regarded media services companies in the country. Sarah has worked in the advertising and broadcast industries since 2006 and values a balance between work life and home. A lover of fitness and nature, she spends as much time as possible outdoors with her husband, Will, and puppy, Zero. Sarah holds a Bachelor’s in Business Management with a Marketing concentration from North Carolina State University.

Leslie Hochsztein (11C) is an Account Executive at Allied Integrated Marketing, a film and entertainment publicity and promotions agency. Leslie works with studio clients including Disney, Focus Features, and CBS Films to promote films prior to theatrical release. She plans promotional events and advance screenings, pitches and secures press coverage, uses social media to inform followers about upcoming films and events,
and works with talent on local press tours and red carpet events. She is also a board member of Women In Film and Television Atlanta (WIFTA), a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the status and portrayal of women in film, television, video and other screen-based media by offering opportunities for media makers to connect, create, champion and inspire. Leslie graduated from Emory in May 2011 with a degree in Art History and Journalism.

**Olivia Holmes** is the Media Management Coordinator for Bounce TV and Katz Broadcasting, coordinating the arrivals of all programming materials for both companies. Olivia monitors each step of the ordering process, involving major movie studios and the four networks combined between Bounce TV and Katz Broadcasting. Olivia also assists with the production of all original programming for Bounce TV, coordinating meetings, collecting production documentation, visiting locations and assisting the Executive Producers with their needs. A graduate from Georgia State University, Olivia holds a Bachelor’s in Film and a Bachelor’s in Journalism. Olivia believes that you don’t find your place in the media industry, you make one!

**Brian Richey (12G)** brings his passion for delving into the cable audience to his role as Research Manager at CNN TV Research & Analytics. There, he provides insights into the cable news landscape to support CNN’s new and evolving programming initiatives. He also is responsible for CNN’s long-term estimates, forecasting CNN’s yearly performance as well as specific events and programs. Further, Brian has delved into CNN Original Series’ performance on platforms beyond linear television, including Netflix, TV VOD, and tablet/desktop. Brian received his Bachelor’s in Film Production from the University of Southern California and his Master’s degree in Film Studies from Emory in 2012.

**Gabe Wardell (@gabesmail)** co-produces @48HFP_ATL, which just hosted Filmaplooza 2006, the 48 Hour Film Project's international extravaganza in Atlanta. He co-chairs the selection committee for @atljewishfilm. Gabe has over two decades of film programming experience including @AFISilver and @MDfilmfestival. He served as the Executive Director of @athenscine and he earned an @IntFilmFestSumm Excellence Award heralding his tenure as the Executive Director of @atlantafilmmfest. In addition he hosted Cinema Sundays @charlestheatre in Baltimore for six years; produced the inaugural edition of @afidocs; and, projected 16mm and 35mm films(!) for @Slamdance back in the day. Gabe will be presenting @FilmForward shows for @sundancelabs at Emory on Monday March 28.

### On-Air Promotions & Graphic Design

**Lashea Echols** works as a Graphic Designer at Fox Sports South here in Atlanta. Lashea has created on-air promo toolkits, social media graphics, interactive demos, print collateral, and in-arena assets for several clients including AT&T, Samsung, FOX Sports, Atlanta Braves, Atlanta Hawks, Taliah Waajid’s Natural Health & Beauty, and Egos Ventures’ Cycloramic App. She holds a Bachelor’s in Broadcast Design & Motion Graphics from the Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD) in 2011.

**Matt George** is a Senior Editor at Turner Studios and a 20-year veteran of network television on-air promotions. Currently he works with TNT and tbs where he writes, produces and edits sponsored content and feature film integration (including Mortdecai, American Sniper, American Hustle, Hot Tub Time Machine 2, Robocop, Men In Black 3, The Neighbors, Lone Survivor, Dead Man Down, Inception, and Monuments Men, just to name a few). He began his career in 1994, working in the promotions department at Fox Broadcasting in Los Angeles, where he served as a coordinator for the Fox Kids Club. In 1998, he moved to Warner Brothers, where he began editing promos for The WB Television Network and Kids WB. He later worked at NBC, The CW, The Discovery Channel TLC, The Sundance Channel, and FOX, before coming to Turner.

### Digital Game Development, Animation & Visual Effects

**Jennifer Ashiru (14C)** is passionate about games, all things digital, and visual puzzles and narratives. She is currently an Associate Games Producer at Cartoon Network Digital, where she aids in producing fun and innovative mobile and web games. While at Emory she began creating and programming short experimental games in her coursework and spare time. She has previously held roles with Cartoon Network and Macmillan Publishers in Game Testing & Production, and Web Development/Graphic Design, respectively. She graduated from Emory with a Bachelor’s in Art History and Visual Arts and a minor in Computer Science in 2014.
Brigid Choi (15C) is a freelance Sound Designer and Composer who has written music and sound effects for video games such as: Newgrounds (“Box”) and Kongregate (“Box”); games soon to be distributed on iOS (“Omniball”) and Big Fish Games (“Clutter VI”); and many more that are still in development. Choi has worked on puzzle, platformer, puzzle-platformer, stealth, hidden-object, and RPG games. Along with writing music and sound effects for video games, Choi was the Assistant Sound Designer for the play Celles d’en haut and Lead Sound Designer for the audiobook Floating, Brilliant, Gone. Besides writing music, Choi also writes reviews of video game soundtracks for RPGFan Music. Brigid graduated from Emory in 2015 with a BA in English, minor in Music, and has collaborated with students at Emory, Rice, and Cornell universities.

Caroline Guevara is a Production Coordinator at Cartoon Network Digital, focusing mainly on mobile and web games released on an international level. In her graduate career, Caroline focused solely on the effects of games that evoke empathy and encourage social change on various issues. She still holds an interest in this area, as well as STEM-based games. Caroline holds a B.F.A. in Computer Game Design from George Mason University and an M.S. in Digital Media from Drexel University. She is a proud member of Lambda Theta Alpha Latin Sorority, holding true to the values of giving back to community and promoting academic excellence, leadership and empowerment of the universal woman.

Andrew Molan has been working as a Freelance Digital Designer at Turner Studios here in Atlanta for the past two years and has an interest strategic communication and a passion for collaboration. His professional work has included broadcast graphics, effects and compositing for television shows, print and package design, interactive retail graphics, and more. Andrew’s goal is to embrace new technology and all it has to offer without forgetting the fundamentals of communication, using all senses. He holds a bachelor’s in Digital Arts and Design from Full Sail University (Winter Park, Florida) in 2012.

Michael Morphet is a Character Animator at Floyd County Productions, an Atlanta animation studio known for FX’s Emmy-nominated TV series Archer. A Media Arts and Animation graduate of the Art Institute of Pittsburgh, his past contributions include visual design and motion graphics work in various roles at a small independent game company in Rochester, NY, The Onion in New York City, and Glass Eye Screenworks here in Atlanta. He’s also worked as a compositor on Hulu’s The Awesomes at Bento Box Atlanta.

Axel Ordonez (14C) is an Associate Producer at Trick 3D, a production company that specializes in computer animation, visual effects, and interactive media. After graduating from Emory in 2014 with a B.A. in Film & Media Studies, Axel began his career working as a Programming Assistant at the Atlanta Jewish Film Festival before deciding he wanted to do something more hands-on with film. In his current role, Axel coordinates production pipelines for projects spanning various platforms, including graphical images, videos, character animation, and virtual reality (which he’s particularly passionate about). Recently, he worked on a project called Floorplan Revolution that turns 2D floor plans into fully navigable virtual homes, which just debuted at South by Southwest in Austin earlier this month.

Global Technology / Media Software & Services

Stacey Rivers is the architect and director of Turner Broadcasting’s Global Technology Internship Program, which launched fall 2015. In her role as Director of Technology Skills Analysis & Development for the Global Technology & Operations (GTO) Division, Stacey ensures there is skills alignment for GTO’s technology roadmap by conducting assessments and anaysis to support programs of work. She holds a certification as Human Capital Strategist and Strategic Workforce Planner from the Human Capital Institute (HCI) and authored the book 50 Essential Tips to Getting & Keeping the ‘Right’ Job, available on Amazon. Stacey has a B.S. in Technology Management from Clayton State University and an M.S. in Management with a concentration in Leadership & Organizational Effectiveness from Troy University.

Silas Williams is the HR Manager for Turner Broadcasting’s Global Technology Organization, Media, Software and Services (MSS) group. He recruits, hires and develops leaders and individuals that focus on building both linear and digital media products for Turner’s consumers. With over 15 years of HR experience, Silas has held roles as HR Manager at Microsoft, United Technologies, and at Pfizer, Inc. He is passionate about leadership development, change management and organizational design and currently belongs to national and local chapters of the Society of Human Resources Managers (SHRM). He holds a Bachelor’s in Psychology from ECSU and a graduate degree in Industrial and Organizational Psychology from University of New Haven.
David Darracott (73C) was recently honored by the Georgia Writers Association as the 2015 Author of the Year Award for his novel *Wasted* (detective/mystery category). David is also author of the novel *Internal Security* as well as short stories and nonfiction for magazines, television, and film productions. He holds a Master’s degree in English and received a Hambridge Fellowship in 2009-2010. Though fiction is his passion—first, last, and always—fly fishing and golf run a close second. David graduated from Emory with a B.A. in English and lives in north Atlanta. You can learn more about his work at www.daviddarracott.com.

Emily Dowdell is a Publicity & Marketing Associate for Peachtree Publishers, an independently owned trade book publisher specializing in quality children's books, from picture books to young adult fiction and nonfiction. There, she has worked in both Sales and Subsidiary Rights, and now works in the Integrated Marketing and Publicity department, where she handles all facets of the marketing and publicity plans for Peachtree's lead titles. This entails planning author tours, pitching media, creating marketing materials, and managing social media, among many other projects. Prior to landing at Peachtree, Emily had internships at the University of Alabama Press and August House, Inc., and worked most recently in the Children's Marketing and Publicity department at ABRAMS, a trade book publisher in New York. She is a graduate of the Columbia Publishing Course and received her Bachelor's in English from the University of Alabama, where she minored in Spanish and Creative Writing.

Craig J Klein (14C) is a self-published author in the Atlanta area. At age 24, Craig has released his first book of fiction, *Exit Chained Existence*, examining the relationship between the spiritual, the supernatural, and the natural world. His current work extends to digital art projects. After college, Craig played professional tennis on the ATP tour for a year and currently teaches part-time at an Atlanta-area athletic club. His other interests include piano performance, skateboarding, golf, and computer design. He is a 2014 graduate of Emory with dual degrees in English and Spanish.

John D. Sutter (05C) is an award-winning columnist for CNN and creator of the network’s 2 degrees project, which aims to involve readers in climate change coverage. Since joining CNN in 2009, Sutter has reported on a wide range of topics for the network, from income inequality to environmental justice and global human rights. His online story and documentary on Mauritania, the last country to abolish slavery, won the prestigious Livingston Award for Young Journalists, as well as numerous other honors, including those from the Foreign Press Association, the Online News Association and Investigative Reporters and Editors. It received an EMMY nomination for new approaches to documentary film. Sutter’s work on the Change the List series -- in which readers voted on social justice issues for him to cover -- won the Batten Medal for public service journalism from the American Society of News Editors. His series on LGBT rights in Mississippi won the 2014 Al Neuharth Award for investigative reporting. He graduated from Emory in 2005 with a B.A. in International Studies and Journalism.

Michelle Valigursky is a lifestyle blogger, novelist, book ghostwriter, speechwriter and photojournalist. For more than 20 years, she has written books and magazine articles for a variety of corporate and commercial publishers. Now, as Associate Director of Alumni Communications for Emory Alumni Association, she is the primary writer and editor for EmoryWire, Emory’s digital alumni magazine. On and off the job, she is known for her creativity and resourcefulness. Interestingly, Michelle is also an award-winning chef who earned highest honors in the U.S. Chef’s Open.

Brand Advertising & Design

Buzz Busbee is President and Creative Director of A Better Buzz Brand & Experience Design, a multidisciplinary design studio specializing in brands and environmental design. He develops brand systems, including visual identities, visual communications and branding for the built environment. He is intrigued by smart and simple solutions to complex ideas and his agency’s designs bring ideas to life, transform brands and help businesses grow and evolve. Buzz often tells folks, “I take my work very seriously, but not myself.”
Fernando Guerrero is Head of Admissions and Recruiting for Portfolio Center, the preeminent school for design, advertising and the communication arts in the U.S. Founded in 1977, Portfolio Center prides itself as a progressive school, respecting tradition, yet constantly evolving to stay ahead of the dynamic industry driven by cultural shifts and technology. Fernando’s role is to recruit talented future designers, art directors, copywriters, photographers, illustrators, critics, architects, social advocates, animators, filmmakers, and poets. He has worked in the legal community for 20+ years in both private and public sectors, and previously worked as the HR Coordinator for both Rolling Stone magazine and Whole Foods Market. He has served on the board of directors for both the American Institute of Graphic Arts and Mainspring Schools. He is a graduate of Portfolio Center, and during his free time, participates in long distance bike rides for charity and enjoys cooking.

Larry Luk (03C) is a Design Lead at Son&Sons, a global brand design firm recognized for advancing the business and cultural objectives of its clients. Larry’s versatility as a designer allows him to move easily between illustration, writing, and content generation. No project is too big for him, maybe because he was born and raised in Texas. Now a true Atlantan, he has acquired the same pride and passion for this city, and he’s doing his part to make it the first choice for top talent and industry. He took his own leap of faith in Atlanta when he and some of his grad school classmates started their own brand, We Are The Process. Besides having a strong entrepreneurial spirit, Larry is chronically young; he is particularly interested in using his variety of skills to analyze trends and shape youth culture. It is difficult to tell if he is more fascinated by sneaker culture or social media. Larry graduated from Emory in 2003 with a B.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies and subsequently completed the curriculum at Portfolio Center in 2007.

Marc Johnson is Associate and Project Architect with HOK, a global design, architecture, engineering and planning firm. Over the past 19 years, he has accumulated a broad range of experience specializing in Cultural, Retail, Office, Institutional, Hospitality, and residential projects. The unique skills he’s developed serve him well, from project inception and design, to providing oversight through construction end and final completion. Notable projects include the Porsche Experience Center; the Center, Hartsfield-Jackson Airport; and, the Center for Civil and Human Rights, where he served as lead architect. He spends free time advocating for the profession of architecture through organizations such as the AIA and NOMA, and always finds time for work in local soup kitchens and homeless shelters during the holidays, as well as mentoring at-risk youth.

Susan Bridges is the Owner and Director of Whitespace, a commercial art gallery opened in 2006 whose mission is to encourage open artistic expression and to promote original, unconventional projects. Atlanta-bred, she is a tireless city booster, obsessive art collector, activist and volunteer, supporter of public art, and mentor and advocate to emerging artists. She serves as VP and Program Chairman for Flux Projects and previously served on the board for Art Papers Magazine, BurnAway, Atlanta Medical Heritage and the Atlanta Preservation Center. In 2014, she received the prestigious Nexus Award that celebrates local leaders instrumental in making Atlanta a vibrant arts community.

Virginia Jackson is currently the gallery assistant at Whitespace gallery. She works directly with artists overseeing sales, inventory and exhibitions. Virginia is also the director of the gallery’s competitive internship program. She is a freelance photographer and works with various clients in the Atlanta area. She studied at the Rocky Mountain School of Photography in 2012 and earned a B.F.A. in Photography from University of Alabama in 2011.

Yu-Kai Lin (01C) is Owner and Director of Kai Lin Art. Recognitions have included: Atlanta Business Chronicle as a 40 Under 40; Common Creative’s Top 50 Most Creative Atlantans; Jezebel Magazine’s Best of Atlanta; and, Emory’s Alumni of the Year. Yu-Kai Lin has maintained an
active role in the Atlanta arts community by working with curators, developers, architects, and designers to collect art. He has collaborated with, or curated exhibitions and built collections for The High Museum of Art, The Hunter Museum of Art, Whole Foods Market, Coca-Cola, W Hotels, Emory University, Oglethorpe University, Atlanta Botanical Garden, FOX Broadcasting Company, FLOR, SAS Institute, Cobb Energy Performing Arts Centre, SCAD, and Turner Broadcasting System, to name a few, in addition to working with private collectors. Yu-Kai graduated from Emory in 2001 with a B.A. in Music: piano performance.

Jessica Schmitz is the Collections Manager at The Museum of Contemporary Art of Georgia, which focuses on highlighting the exceptional contemporary artists of the state of Georgia. There, Jessica cares for and helps to grow a permanent art collection, archive collection and a library. Currently, she is working to digitize the Museum’s archives to make them available to the public via a new website. Previously, Jessica interned with Sotheby’s in the for-profit side of the art world. She has a Bachelor’s in Art History and Italian Studies, specializing in late Renaissance art, from the University of Minnesota and a Master’s in Art and Museum Studies from Georgetown.

Marci Tate is Manager of Public Relations for the High Museum of Art, the leading art museum in the Southeast. Marci has nearly 12 years of professional PR and media relations experience and previously held positions as Marketing & PR Manager for Georgia Shakespeare, Operations Manager for AtlantaPlanIt.com (a service of Public Broadcasting Atlanta), and Public Relations Coordinator at the Alliance Theatre. Marci was a member of the Arts Leaders of Metro Atlanta (ALMA) Class of 2011 and has served on the Board of Directors and marketing committee of the Young Nonprofit Professionals Network of Atlanta. She is an Atlanta native and holds a Bachelor’s degree in Public Relations from the Grady College of Journalism at The University of Georgia.

### Entertainment Law

**Alan S. Clarke (89L)** is an entertainment attorney and litigator representing recording artists, writers, performers, athletes, record labels, producers, managers, authors and others in the entertainment industry. A former Assistant District Attorney, he is a Cum Laude graduate of Duke University and holds a law degree from Emory University. In 2014, Alan received the Attorney of the Year Award from Georgia Lawyers for the Arts (GLA); he also received the GLA Ben White Distinguished Service Award for his “outstanding commitment and dedication to the arts community in Georgia” in 2008. He has served as Chair of the Entertainment Law Institute which GLA sponsors with Emory University School of Law. Alan is a member of The Recording Academy (the Grammy organization) and NATAS (the Television Academy), and is a Fellow of the Lawyers Foundation of Georgia, an organization of attorneys selected from 3% of the Georgia State Bar membership “whose public and private careers demonstrate outstanding legal abilities and a devotion to their communities.” He lectures frequently on entertainment industry and intellectual property issues before groups such as the Dramatists Guild of America and the Gospel Music Association, to name just a few, and he has served on the boards of several local arts organizations.

**Michelle Imoukhuede** serves as Patent Director for Georgia Lawyers for the Arts (GLA) and coordinates with the USPTO to facilitate the Georgia PATENTS program for pro bono patent prosecution. She has a strong background in visual and performing arts and enjoys serving the community through nonprofit work. She is also skilled in copyright and trademark law. Michelle is a member of the Intellectual Property and the Sports and Entertainment Law sections of the State Bar of Georgia, and she is admitted to practice law in the State of Georgia. Previously, Michelle worked with intellectual property government legislators and music management companies. As an undergraduate at The University of Georgia, she studied public relations and fashion merchandising. From there, she graduated from Mercer Law School and went on to obtain an LL.M. in Intellectual Property Law from The George Washington University Law School.

**Anda Lopazan (12C)** is a Legal Fellow with Georgia Lawyers for the Arts, a nonprofit serving the legal needs of artists by finding them pro bono legal representation and by holding educational seminars. During her sophomore year at Emory, Anda became interested in art crimes and how they affect the art world. Through independent research, she discovered the fascinating field of art law and decided that attending law school would help her gain the necessary knowledge and skills to protect the art she loves. In 2015, she graduated from Boston University School of Law and was later sworn in as an attorney in Massachusetts before returning to Atlanta in her current role. Anda graduated Emory with a degree in Art History and a minor in French.
Julie Roach (13L) is an Entertainment Attorney and is Director of Volunteer Services at Georgia Lawyers for the Arts, where she helps to provide pro bono legal services and educational programming to low-income artists and arts non-profits. Julie also currently administers Artist Agreements, music licensing, and publishing contracts for Live Nation Entertainment and has worked with ASCAP, The Coca-Cola Company, as well as with Evita G. Kaigler and Ashley Hollan Couch of The Hollan Entertainment Law Group, LLC. She is an active board member of the National Association of Record Industry Professionals and is helping to plan the Atlanta Bar’s annual LawJam; she is also a member of the State Bar of Georgia Entertainment and Sports Law section. Julie enjoys playing alto sax for the Georgia Theatre in Athens. Julie has a JD from Emory and graduated magna cum laude from UGA with a B.A. in Political Science, minoring in Music and Philosophy.

Dayna W. Thomas, Esq. (15L) is an Atlanta-based entertainment and entrepreneurship attorney who founded her own practice specializing in copyright law, trademark law, media law, and business law, inclusive of both transactional and litigation matters. Dana has been involved with deals and litigation for television shows on major networks such as MTV, VH1, and BET including My Super Sweet 16 and Love and Hip Hop: Atlanta. Her practice involves drafting and negotiating deals for projects in music, film, fashion, and book publishing industries. During her time at Emory Law, Dayna served as the Vice President of Entertainment for the Sports and Entertainment Law Society and currently serves on the Board of Directors for Future Music Attorneys. In her free time, Dayna enjoys traveling, eating at exotic restaurants, and going to her favorite artists’ concerts. Prior to law school, Dayna graduated magna cum laude from Georgia State University with a bachelor’s degree in Marketing.

Arts Education, Advocacy & Community Building

Allen Bell is Arts Education Manager at Georgia Council for the Arts, where he is developing new arts education initiatives for the state arts agency. He produced the research report Arts Education in Georgia and managed the work of the Governor’s Arts Learning Task Force. He previously served as Program Director for Arts Education & Research at South Arts. In that position he authored the reports Creative Industries in the South, Creative Industries in Alabama, and Arts Education in the South. He also served as the South Arts Program Director for Contemporary Arts & New Initiatives, where he managed the Southern Circuit Tour of Independent Filmmakers and Operation Homecoming in partnership with National Endowment for the Arts. He also previously worked as Executive Director of Rome Area Council for the Arts in Rome, GA. He has served on the boards of Georgia Arts Network and Georgia Citizens for the Arts. Allen has published articles for magazines, newspapers, and the Americans for the Arts blog. He holds a B.A. from Berry College and an M.A. from Binghamton University.

Gregory Burbidge is a Senior Program Specialist at the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC), where he is currently working to build a program around the ARC board’s vision of a regional focus on arts and culture planning. He manages the Emerging Arts Leaders of Atlanta program, the Atlanta Regional Public Art Program, the Atlanta Tessitura Software Consortium and the Arts Leaders of Metro Atlanta program. Prior to joining ARC, Burbidge served as the Research & Operations Manager for the Metro Atlanta Arts & Culture Coalition (MAACC), an organization dedicated to awareness and advocacy for arts and culture issues in metro Atlanta. Born in the wilds of northern Canada, Burbidge spent his early professional life as a gold miner before making his way to metro Atlanta. In his spare time, he enjoys playing board games, spending time with his wife, Christina, and creating art with textiles, a hobby that intertwines his interests in mathematics, sheepherding and wearable art.

Floyd Hall is the Business & Communications Manager for WonderRoot, which strives to affect social change in Atlanta through recognizing the arts as a powerful vehicle for attracting attention, creating dialogue and changing perceptions. The organization’s creative initiatives and community partnerships, as well as a full-service Arts Center, provide support to local artists and bring diverse voices together to envision and activate a stronger Atlanta. In his role, Floyd helps guide communications and business strategies in support of this mission, and he is passionate about art and technology as platforms to bring cultures together and make the world a more fulfilling place. Beyond strategy and research, Floyd’s capabilities also include production – he produces weekly podcasts that highlight local artists and foster dialogue about Atlanta’s arts and culture community. Floyd has B.S. degrees in Mathematics from Morehouse College and in Mechanical Engineering from Georgia Tech; he holds an MBA from Columbia Business School, having concentrated in Media/Strategy. An Atlanta native, Floyd takes Atlanta in his heart wherever he goes.

“Coach Mark” Todd isn’t an athletic coach although he can help you win the biggest race of your life. He isn’t a life coach, but he can help you live the best life you could ever possibly imagine. Coach Mark is a believability coach. He helps others to increase what they believe is possible for themselves. He is a successful 15-year entrepreneur and founder of MarkStarr Multimedia, part of a multi-million dollar enterprise and one of the leading graphic design firms in Atlanta. Now retired from day to day operations, “Coach Mark” is known for his desire to acquire and share knowledge and to spend his life serving others, sharing his philosophy of continual self-improvement: life gets better when you get better!
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