

A DECADE OF INSPIRATION

WGA Showrunner Training Program

10 YEARS OF EDUCATION

AND INSPIRATION

Message From Peter Roth

For 10 years, the Writers Guild Showrunner Training Program — with the support of the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers — has provided an extraordinary opportunity to WGA members, a course that should be required attendance for anyone with any intention of helming a television series.

The innovative six-week program provides prospective showrunners with the most important fundamentals of how to lead and successfully shepherd a series. Writers are counseled on the importance of the subtler elements of the job, including network and studio relationships; the value of fiscal responsibility; and the strength of true leadership — how to inspire, galvanize and utilize the best talents of their teams. Utilizing experienced, thoughtful, veteran showrunners and guest speakers to share insights, anecdotes and workshops, this forum has proven to be critically important for writers to learn, participate, grow and succeed.

And for proof of the program's efficacy, you need look no further than the fact that more than 60 new series have been created or co-created by alumni of the Showrunner Training Program. From my perspective, having spent 41 years working as an executive in television, I am convinced that it's the best, most comprehensive, most important program available to showrunners in the business. The benefits of this program — for writers as well as for those of us on the network and studio side — are immeasurable.

Showrunner Training Program on a highly successful first 10 years and to wish you continued great good luck as you embark on your second decade of training the future showrunners of our industry.

It is therefore my great pleasure to congratulate the Writers Guild of America and everyone involved in the

Peter Roth

President and Chief Content Officer

With gratitude and appreciation,

Warner Bros. Television Group

Message From Jeff Melvoin

When I first approached WGA West President John Wells with the idea of a Show Runner Training Program, I sensed there was a hunger for it, but had no idea the response would be so overwhelming.

Ten years later, the enthusiasm and need have only grown — and they're related. The ongoing upheaval in the television industry has dramatically intensified the demand for show runners, creating a turbulent environment that thrusts an increasing number of writers into show-running responsibilities without benefit of much, if any, on-the-iob apprenticeship.

When the SRTP began, my expectation was that all applicants would have at least some staff experience. That changed when we admitted Matt Nix, the creator of Burn Notice, in our second year. He was a key contributor, and the subsequent success of his series was no surprise. I joked that henceforth we would reserve "the Matt Nix chair" for an outstanding candidate who had never set foot in a writers room before.

Today, that's become "the Matt Nix string section," as more and more candidates apply with a paucity of television experience, but a corresponding wealth of diversity in background, creativity, and potential.

As the business continues to evolve, so will the SRTP. To a point - because the most important things the program has to offer are precisely those qualities and skills that don't change with the times, but remain vital to

successfully running any series in any context.

Balancing the old and the new is a challenge I didn't expect ten years ago, but view today as one of the great benefits of the program personally. It certainly keeps me on my toes.

But my chief pleasure has been the opportunity to get to know the many veteran show runners and other industry professionals who have generously given their time to instruct and, most especially, the 280 remarkable writers who have been our class members thus far.

Our alumni are not only television's future, but after ten years, a growing part of its present. Their professional achievements speak for themselves, but it is the intangibles - their leadership, character, and collegiality - that make me equally proud. Working with them has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life. And the good news is, there's another class coming this year. I can't wait.

Message From Yvette Bowser

For the past decade it has been my extreme honor to collaborate with Jeff Melvoin and Carole Kirschner to establish and refine the WGA Showrunner Training Program. Its strength lies not only in the time and experiences shared by accomplished mentors and guest speakers, but also in the talented and dedicated participants who enroll and contribute to the program each year.

When I was invited to participate in developing the curriculum for the SRTP, I was flattered and concerned. How could we impart, in six weeks time, what took so many writer-producers years to learn? How might we boil everything down to a format we could succinctly and clearly pass on to future show runners? How exactly would we teach the art of managing art? It sounded like an incredible challenge... and a little crazy. But somehow, with effort from a dedicated committee, and lots of healthy debate, we managed to pull things together for the first session and continued polishing from there. Much like the process from story breaking to shooting script, the program has been a work in progress, constantly evolving and improving to suit the times and the needs of the industry and future show runners.

Our main goal has always been to demystify the TV series management process and help better define the nebulous role of show runner. As a team, we've succeeded in providing clearer focus on demands, expectations and skills required of such an all-encompassing, and creative, leadership position. Many of the program's

graduates now thrive as chief architects and decision-makers of highly regarded series. SRTP participants are now sought after by studios and networks, as their talents have been further augmented by the credentials of this esteemed program.

From the beginning the networks and studios have collectively agreed to financially support this specific curriculum, designed to remove some of the guesswork from the process and replace it with the best tutelage and methodologies our industry has to offer. The net gain is found in increased management, monetary efficiencies and expanded career growth.

As we eagerly anticipate the 11th year of the program, I look forward to new faces, new ideas, new horror stories, and helping my peers reach their goals. Here's to many more years of engaged show runner training and entertaining, skillfully-executed television.

Message From Carole Kirschner

In 2005 WGA West Executive Director John McLean approached me to assist Jeff Melvoin as Jeff was initially developing the curriculum for the Show Runner Training Program. I was intrigued. There had never been such a Program and we were starting from scratch. But we knew that if we got it right we would be providing invaluable and timely assistance; not just to writer-producers but to the companies as well.

From the success of our alumni over the first decade, as well as the continuing enthusiastic response from the community, it feels like we're getting it right so far.

It has been my honor to be the Director of the Showrunner Training Program from its inception and to work with so many generous and talented television professionals. From Jeff and Yvette to MC Foley for the past 7 years and Sharline Liu before that, to all the guest speakers and every alumni, it has been a pleasure to help manage and shepherd the Show Runner Training Program.

Here's to the next ten years!

Carole Kirschner

10 YEARS OF GUEST SPEAKERS

We thank every television professional who gave their time to contribute to the SRTP

Courtney Kemp Agboh	Kenya Barris	Shane Brennan	llene Chaiken
Mara Brock Akil	Janine Sherman Barrois	Bob Broder	Adam Chase
JoAnn Alfano	Kevin Bassinson	Sterling Brown	Joey Chavez
Josh Appelbaum	Sam Baum	Casey Brown	Jon Chibnal
Meredith Averill	Carter Bays	Andy Cadiff	Leo Chu
Neal Baer	Ben Benedetti	Steve Callaghan	Aron Coleite
Tim Bagley	Greg Berlanti	Stephen J. Cannell	Ryan Condal
Alan Ball	Maggie Blanc	Chris Cantwell	Matt Corman
Carol Barbee	Steven Bochco	Jill Cargerman	Carter Covington
Paris Barclay	Rob Bowman	Robert Carlock	Liz Craft
Lynn Barrie	Yvette Lee Bowser	Jennifer Cecil	Carlton Cuse

Collin Daniel	Sam Ernst	Eric Friedman	Neil Goldman
Greg Daniels	Steve Faber	Josh Friedman	Jessica Goldstein
Steve Dayan	Sarah Fain	Eric Garcia	Howard Gordon
Liz Dean	Stephen Falk	Greg Garcia	Maria Grasso
Russell Denove	Kevin Falls	Joe Gayton	Brett Greenstein
Kevin Dowling	Ann Farriday	Tony Gayton	Jonathan Groff
James Duff	Felicia Fasano	Glenn Geller	Stephanie Groves
Ed Duffy	Michele Fazekas	R. Scott Gemmill	Barbara Hall
Jim Dunn	Kenneth Fink	Vince Gilligan	Emily Halpern
David Eick	Caitlin Foito	Gary Glasberg	Doug Hannah
Diane English	Duke Foster	Lesli Linka Glatter	Hart Hanson
Jason Ensler	Michael Fresco	Michael Gleason	Chris Harris

Dave Hemingson	Laura Innes	Justin Kirk	Bill Lawrence
Abraham Higginbotham	Lauren lungerich	Alan Kirschenbaum	Janet Leahy
Andy Hill	Jennifer Johnson	Jay Kleckner	Andrew Leeds
Timothy Hillman	Dan Kaplow	Aaron Klemanski	Paul Leiberstein
Alicia Hirsch	Emily Kapnek	Alexis Koczara	Carol Leifer
Michael Hoggan	Jason Katims	Jenji Kohan	Gregory Lemkin
David Holden	Gloria Calderon Kellett	Aaron Korsh	Steve Levitan
Adam Horowitz	Brad Kern	Ted Kotcheff	Adele Lim
Ellen Huang	Todd Kessler	Lindsey Kraft	Warren Littlefield

Chris Keyser

Cleo King

Michael Patrick King

Andrew Kreisberg

Elizabeth Kruger

John Landgraf

David Hudgins

Jamila Hunter

Albert Ibbotson

Arthur Harris

Sarah Haskins

Eileen Heisler

Stacy Littlejohn	Rob McElhenney	Rina Mimoun	Chris Ord
Kari Lizer	Tawnia McKiernan	Vahan Moosekian	Ed Ornelas
Rob Long	Laverne McKinnon	Charles Murray	James Parriott
Claudia Lonow	Brian McNamara	DJ Nash	lain Paterson
Rob Lotterstein	Julie McNamara	Jan Nash	David Paymer
Heather MacGillvray	Jeff Melvoin	Andre Nemec	Brian Peterson
Steve Maeda	Carol Mendelsohn	Matt Nix	Quan Phung
Greg Malins	Liz Meriwether	Ross Novie	Chrissy Pietrosh
Joe Manganiello	Erica Messer	Marti Noxon	Nancy Pimental
Linda Mathious	Adam Milch	Lynda Obst	Rose Catherine Pinkney
lan Maxtone-Graham	David Miller	Peter O'Fallon	CCH Pounder
Glen Mazzara	Nancy Miller	Ken Olin	Scott Powell

Dawn Prestwich	Joe Russo	Jed Seidel	Kenny Smith
Ben Queen	Anthony Russo	Dave Semel	Kelly Souders
Tal Rabinowitz	Shawn Ryan	Deran Serafian	Tom Spezialy
Mark Reisman	Ajay Sahgal	Naren Shankar	David Stapf
Shonda Rhimes	Danielle Sanchez-Witzel	Craig Shapiro	Jon Steinberg
Chris Rogers	Ken Sanzel	Richard Shepard	Hank Steinberg
John Rogers	Stephanie Savage	Greer Shephard	Reed Steiner
Phil Rosenthal	Robin Schiff	Chris Sheridan	Veena Sud
Peter Roth	Thomas Schlamme	Christine Shevchenko	Craig Sweeny
Elisa Roth	Mike Schur	David Shore	Janet Tamaro
Russell Rothberg	Mike Scully	Sidney Sidell	Geoff Tarson
Mike Royce	Bryan Seabury	Craig Siebels	Nina Tassler

Tim Tommasino

Ben Watkins

Kriss Turner

Lizzy Weiss

Blair Underwood

Brett Weitz

Nadine Velazquez

John Wells

Tom Verica

Clancy Collins White

Patric M. Verrone

John Wirth

Veronique Vowell

Danny Woodburn

Greg Walker

Rick Wallace

Linda Wallem

Morgan Wandell

Matt Warburton

Jamie Wooten

Tom Wright

Rob Wright

Nicole Yorkin

Constance Zimmer

Christian Taylor

John Terlesky

Craig Thomas

Peter Tolan

Sarah Timberman

2005 SHOWRUNNER TRAINING PROGRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Jeff Melvoin John Wirth Marc Sandman (ABC/Touchstone)

John Wells Nicole Yorkin Harry Issacs (CBS)

Yvette Lee Bowser Dawn Prestwich

SHOWRUNNER TRAINING PROGRAM COMMITTEE AND STAFF

Jeff Melvoin, Chair Lise Anderson, WGAW Assistant Executive Director

Yvette Lee Bowser, Vice Chair MC Foley, WGAW Showrunner Training Program

& TV Digital Media Coordinator

Carole Kirschner, Director

Sharline Liu, WGAW Events Specialist

Ann Widdifield, WGAW Consultant



Photos by Leroy Hamilto

Greg Ball	Nick Holly	Eddy Kitsis	Michael Reisz
Steve Blackman	Adam Horowitz	Sheila Lawrence	Bragi Schut
Patricia Breen	Ted Humphrey	Glen Mazzara	John Stephens
Jordan Budde	Darlene Hunt	Bryan Moore	Veena Sud
Brian Burns	Lori Lakin Hutcherson	Charles Murray	Craig Sweeny
Sarah Goldfinger	Susan Nirah Jaffee	Chris Peterson	Carla Waddles











Photos by Leroy Hamilto

Jordana Arkin	Elizabeth Craft	Erin Maher	Danielle Sanchez-Witzel
Janae Bakken	Sarah Fain	Matt Nix	Ken Sanzel
Janine Sherman Barrois	Adam E. Fierro	Laurie Parres	Todd Slavkin
Sam Baum	llana Bar-Din Giannini	Brian Peterson	Kelly Souders
Debora Cahn	Jennifer Glickman	Kay Reindl	Darren Swimmer
Steve Callaghan	Chris Harris	Scott Rosenbaum	Kriss Turner
Jerry Collins	Jennifer Johnson	Ajay Sahgal	Wendy West



















Photos by Leroy Hamilto

Alfredo Barrios	Denitria Harris-Lawrence	Don McGill	Jon Steinberg
Zoanne Clack	Julie Hebert	Henry Alonso Myers	Janet Tamaro
Paul Corrigan	Cheryl Heuton	DJ Nash	Sharon Lee Watson
Jim Dunn	Abraham Higginbotham	Jan Oxenberg	David Wilcox
Sam Ernst	John Hoberg	Michael Oates Palmer	Brad Walsh
Nick Falacci	Gloria Calderon Kellett	Stacy Rukeyser	Alice Wu
Mark Goffman	Kat Likkel	Joe Sachs	















Photos by Michael Jone

Dave Andron	Liz Friedman	John Hlavin	Joshua Safran
Amy Berg	John Frink	David Hudgins	Al Septien
Steven Binder	Karin Gist	Luisa Leschin	James Stoteraux
Alexander Cary	Sara Goodman	Adele Lim	Christy Stratton
Andy Dettmann	Sylvia Green	Turi Meyer	Virgil Williams
Dan Fesman	Joy Gregory	Ally Musika	Bird York
Chad Fiveash	Taylor Hamra	Angela Russo	

















Photos by Leroy Hamilto

Jonathan Abrahams	Jessica Goldstein	David Lampson	Rob Rosell
Sally Bradford	Peter Gould	Andrew Leeds	Ron Rappaport
Jill Cargerman	Holly Henderson	Amanda Lasher	Far Shariat
Chris Collins	Don Whitehead	Scott Marder	Ben Watkins
Matt Corman	Davey Holmes	George Mastras	Sarah Watson
Chris Ord	Andre Jacquemetton	Bryan Oh	Alexander Woo
Adam Giaudrone	Maria Jacquemetton	Chrissy Pietrosh	















Jane Anderson	Sarah Cunningham	Steven Kane	Craig Shapiro
Veronica Becker	Fred Einesman	Aaron Korsh	Elizabeth Kruger
Adam Belanoff	Stephen Falk	Sarah Kucserka	Salvatore Stabile
April Blair	Suzie V Freeman	Gary Lennon	Michael Sussman
Max Burnett	Eric Garcia	Kam Miller	Melinda Hsu Taylor
Leo Chu	Joe Gayton	Erik Oleson	Raelle Tucker
Cindy Caponera	Tony Gayton	Joe Pokaski	Stephnie Weir
Jennifer Cecil	Kyle Harimoto	Michael Perry	Gren Wells
Maisha Closson	Darin Henry	Bert Royal	Rob Wright



















Courtney Kemp Agboh	Karl Gajdusek	Dean Lopata	Reed Steiner
Michael Alaimo	Scott Gimple	Ashley Miller	Zack Stentz
Semi Chellas	David Holden	Margaret Nagle	Dahvi Waller
Cheo Hodari Coker	Chris Hollier	John Norris	Matt Ward
Carter Covington	Michael Horowitz	Kamran Pasha	Alan Yang
David Digilio	Scott King	Nancy M. Pimental	
Brent Fletcher	Steve Lightfoot	Sean Reycraft	
Eric Friedman	Jonathan Lisco	Sanjay Shah	





















Meredith Averill	Etan Frankel	Alison McDonald	Paul Ruehl
Julia Cho	Drew Z. Greenberg	Adam Milch	Peter Saji
Aron Coleite	Emily Halpern	Daniel Petrie Jr.	Teri Schaffer
Duppy Demetrius	Sarah Haskins	Scott Prendergast	Jon Sherman
Evan Dunsky	Joe Henderson	Rashad Raisani	Esta Spalding
Owen Ellickson	Jason Horwitch	Corey Reed	Raynelle Swilling
Ayanna Floyd	Jenny Lee	Pamela Ribon	

















Mark A. Altman	Ben Epstein	Colleen McGuinness	Jessica Sharzer
Kenya Barris	Jim "Danger" Gray	Jacqueline McKinley	Josh Silverstein
Bradley Bell	Aaron Helbing	Christopher Murphey	Christian Taylor
Duncan Birmingham	Todd Helbing	Michael Narducci	Bridget Tyler
Sheila Callaghan	Felicia Henderson	Robert Port	Roger Wolfson
Christopher Cantwell	Tod Himmel	Ben Queen	Sam Wolfson
Andrew Chambliss	Dave Kalstein	Marco Ramirez	
Pat Charles	Steve Kriozere	Christopher Rogers	
Ryan Condal	Antonia March	Tad Safran	





















Tina Albanese	May Chan	Rick Muirragui	Deb Schoeneman
Nick Antosca	Adrian A. Cruz	Jessica O'Toole	David Schulner
Peter Blake	Karen DiConcetto	Ryan Oxford	Emily Silver
Christine Boylan	Craig Engler	Amy Rardin	Malcolm Spellman

Scott Reynolds

Kathleen Robertson

Dailyn Rodriguez

Seth Zvi Rosenfeld

Nick Stanton

Joe Wilson

Jason Gann

Gabriel Garza

Mauricio Katz

Patrick Labyorteaux

Alison Brown

Devin Bunje

Jonathan Butler

Nkechi Okoro Carroll









The Show Runner's Mantra Quality Scripts On Time







SHOWRUNNER TRAINING PROGRAM ALUMNI

Jonathan Abrahams	Alfredo Barrios	Peter Blake	Steve Callaghan
Courtney Kemp Agboh	Kenya Barris	Christine Boylan	Christopher Cantwell
Michael Alaimo	Janine Sherman Barrois	Sally Bradford	Cindy Caponera
Tina Albanese	Sam Baum	Patricia Breen	Jill Cargerman
Mark A. Altman	Veronica Becker	Alison Brown	Nkechi Okoro Carroll
Jane Anderson	Adam Belanoff	Jordan Budde	Alexander Cary
Dave Andron	Bradley Bell	Devin Bunje	Jennifer Cecil
Nick Antosca	Amy Berg	Max Burnett	Andrew Chambliss
Jordana Arkin	Steven Binder	Brian Burns	May Chan
Meredith Averill	Duncan Birmingham	Jonathan Butler	Pat Charles
Janae Bakken	Steve Blackman	Debora Cahn	Semi Chellas
Greg Ball	April Blair	Sheila Callaghan	Julia Cho

Leo Chu	Sarah Cunningham	Sarah Fain	John Frink
Zoanne Clack	Duppy Demetrius	Nick Falacci	Karl Gajdusek
Maisha Closson	Andy Dettmann	Stephen Falk	Jason Gann
Aron Coleite	Karen DiConcetto	Dan Fesman	Eric Garcia
Chris Collins	David DiGilio	Adam E. Fierro	Gabriel Garza
Jerry Collins	Jim Dunn	Chad Fiveash	Joe Gayton
Ryan Condal	Evan Dunsky	Brent Fletcher	Tony Gayton
Matt Corman	Fred Einesman	Ayanna Floyd	Ilana Bar-Din Giannini
Paul Corrigan	Owen Ellickson	Etan Frankel	Adam Giaudrone
Carter Covington	Craig Engler	Suzie V. Freeman	Scott Gimple
Elizabeth Craft	Ben Epstein	Eric Friedman	Karin Gist
Adrian A. Cruz	Sam Ernst	Liz Friedman	Jennifer Glickman

Mark Goffman	Chris Harris	Tod Himmel	Ted Humphrey
Sarah Goldfinger	Denitria Harris-Lawrence	John Hlavin	Darlene Hunt
Jessica Goldstein	Sarah Haskins	John Hoberg	Andre Jacquemetton
Sara Goodman	Julie Hebert	Cheo Hodark Coker	Maria Jacquemetton
Peter Gould	Aaron Helbing	David Holden	Susan Nirah Jaffee
Jim "Danger" Gray	Todd Helbing	Chris Hollier	Jennifer Johnson
Sylvia Green	Felicia Henderson	Nick Holly	Dave Kalstein
Drew Z. Greenberg	Joe Henderson	Davey Holmes	Steven Kane
Joy Gregory	Holly Henderson	Michael Horowitz	Mauricio Katz
Emily Halpern	Darin Henry	Adam Horowitz	Gloria Calderon Kellett
Taylor Hamra	Cheryl Heuton	Jason Horwitch	Scott King
Kyle Harimoto	Abraham Higginbotham	David Hudgins	Eddy Kitsis

Aaron Korsh	Luisa Leschin	Don McGill	Henry Alonso Myers
Steve Kriozere	Steve Lightfood	Colleen McGuinness	Margaret Nagle
Elizabeth Kruger	Kat Likkel	Jacqueline McKinley	Michael Narducci
Sarah Kucserka	Adele Lim	Turi Meyer	DJ Nash
Patrick Labyorteaux	Jonathan Lisco	Adam Milch	Matt Nix
Lori Lakin Hutcherson	Dean Lopata	Kam Miller	John Norris
David Lampson	Erin Maher	Ashley Miller	Bryan Oh
Amanda Lasher	Antonia March	Bryan Moore	Erik Oleson
Sheila Lawrence	Scott Marder	Rick Muirragui	Chris Ord
Jenny Lee	George Mastras	Christopher Murphey	Jessica O'Toole
Andrew Leeds	Glen Mazzara	Charles Murray	Jan Oxenberg
Gary Lennon	Alison McDonald	Ally Musika	Ryan Oxford

Michael Oates Palmer	Ben Queen	Dailyn Rodriguez	Ajay Sahgal
Laurie Parres	Rashad Raisani	Christopher Rogers	Peter Saji
Kamran Pasha	Marco Ramirez	Rob Rosell	Danielle Sanchez-Witzel
Michael Perry	Ron Rappaport	Scott Rosenbaum	Ken Sanzel
Brian Peterson	Amy Rardin	Seth Zvi Rosenfeld	Teri Schaffer
Chris Peterson	Corey Reed	Bert Royal	Deb Schoeneman
Daniel Petrie Jr.	Kay Reindl	Paul Ruehl	David Schulner
Chrissy Pietrosh	Michael Reisz	Stacy Rukeyser	Bragi Schut
Nancy M. Pimental	Sean Reycraft	Angela Russo	Al Septien
Joe Pokaski	Scott Reynolds	Joe Sachs	Sanjay Shah
Robert Port	Pamela Ribon	Tad Safran	Craig Shapiro
Scott Prendergast	Kathleen Robertson	Joshua Safran	Far Shariat

Jon Sherman	John Stephens	Kriss Turner	Don Whitehead
Emily Silver	James Stoteraux	Bridget Tyler	David Wilcox
Josh Silverstein	Christy Stratton	Carla Waddles	Virgil Williams
Todd Slavkin	Veena Sud	Dahvi Waller	Joe Wilson
Kelly Souders	Michael Sussman	Brad Walsh	Sam Wolfson
Esta Spalding	Craig Sweeny	Matt Ward	Roger Wolfson
Malcolm Spellman	Raynelle Swilling	Ben Watkins	Alexander Woo
Salvatore Stabile	Darren Swimmer	Sarah Watson	Rob Wright
Nick Stanton	Janet Tamaro	Sharon Lee Watson	Alice Wu

Raelle Tucker

Stephnie Weir

Gren Wells

Wendy West

Alan Yang

Bird York

Zack Stentz

Christian Taylor

Melinda Hsu Taylor

Jessica Sharzer

Jon Steinberg

Reed Steiner