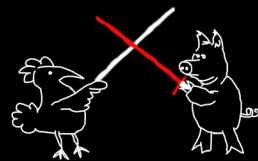


WORD FARM



JANUARY 31 - FEBRUARY 2



Word Farm 20 Students

Kayla Duffey

Komal Surani

Josh Bevan

Natalie Cheyette

Matt Cinnamon

Paul deBruynKops

Daniel Kong

Jose Lopez

Gustavo Melo

Karl-Erik Mills

Emily Schwab

Kaith Shenton

Sydney Sterling

Haowei Sun

Zhichao Tang

Michael Tran

Argun Turkun

Aubrey Valerio

West Weir

Emily Wolcott

Class Schedule

Friday we will meet at noon for lunch. Saturday and Sunday we will start at 9 AM. Please let me know which classes you might not be able to make. Please plan to be on time for classes. There will be no late admissions once a session has started.

Friday, January 31

12:00-1:00	Lunch	SSMS 2303
1:00-3:00	Session A	Brad Silberling
3:00-3:30	Break	
3:30-5:30	Session B	Trae Briers

Saturday, February 1

9:00-9:55	Breakfast	SSMS 2303
10:00-12:00	Session C	Ian Weinreich Elyse Hollander
12:00-1:00	Lunch	SSMS 2303
1:00-3:00	Session D	Mia Resella
3:00-3:30	Break	
3:30-5:30	Session E	Kit Steinkellner
6:00	Dinner	Annenberg Conference Room - 4315 SSMS

Sunday, February 2

9:00-9:55	Breakfast	SSMS 2303
10:00-12:00	Session F	James McNamara
12:00-1:00	Lunch	SSMS 2303
1:00-3:00	Session G	Wendy Eley Jackson

Word Farm Bios

Trae Briers

Writer and Director Trae Briers (Class of 2000) received his B.A in Film Studies from University of California, Santa Barbara and holds an MBA specializing in Finance. He is Chief Operations Officer and is Co-Owner of FFAM GROUP Media, LLC.

While in film school, Trae did an independent research with one of his professors on “How to make a movie for 100,000”. With that newfound knowledge, he took that research and made the film, *In Your Eyes* which was the “first” film shot in its entirety within Ventura County to get national distribution. The movie was a sold-out success at the 2004 Santa Barbara International Film Festival, requiring a second screening. The movie received national distribution with Maverick Entertainment, and was a very popular DVD and On-Demand rental. He has produced numerous short films and infomercials, and uses his Financial Analyst skills to ensure his productions are managed with efficiency.

He believes in “consistent persistence” and is focused on making quality films. The timing of his latest film *Trade*; a dark love story that focuses on self-identity and the main character living their true life a transgender; is in sync to the current climate of today’s society. The story is inspired by Christopher Bryant, sibling of producer, Rubin Bryant, who has lived her life as a transgender woman for over 20 years. The story of self-actualization, along with the journey of being yourself, hits home with many individuals today. This story is based on true events that illustrate bravery and taking risk with living your truth.

Elyse Hollander

Elyse Hollander (Gaucho 2008-2010) wrote *Blonde Ambition*, which was #1 on the 2016 Black List and is set up at Universal with Michael DeLuca producing. Elyse also wrote *Queens of the Stoned Age* for Sony and Escape Artists -- it has Dakota Johnson attached to star and produce and placed on the 2018 Black List. Elyse sold an original K-Pop pitch to Fox in a five-way studio bidding war, with Scooter Braun and Epic Magazine producing, and was recently hired to adapt famed choreographer/director Parris Goebel’s *Murder on the Dance Floor* into a feature film for Sony, with Marc Platt producing and Parris Goebel directing.

Wendy Eley Jackson

Wendy Eley Jackson, Founder and Executive Producer of Auburn Avenue Films, translates creative currency into business strategy! A native of Atlanta, GA, she brings 25-plus years of television broadcasting and film experience to help navigate the intersection of creative minds with film, television, and multimedia content creation.

A graduate of the University of California at Berkeley with a BA in English Literature, and an MFA in screenwriting from the University of Georgia, Eley Jackson’s vast experience in the film & television industry spans from SONY Pictures Television where she developed made-for-television movies; advertising and marketing with Turner Broadcasting, and developing TV pilots for major studios & networks. Most recently, she’s received the prestigious Producers Guild Mark (p.g.a) for her producing work on the critically acclaimed and award winning feature length documentary, *Maynard*, directed by two time Academy Award Nominee and six Primetime Emmy Winner Sam Pollard. Currently, her production company has under development, two other documentaries with Sam Pollard to direct. Other docu-series include; *Dangerous Waters* on TBS, *KidScape* with Discovery Network, *In Line* with Sean Garrett, and most recently, the documentary *The Election of Stacey Abrams*. With over 10 scripted and narrative titles in active development in Hollywood, Eley Jackson plans to deliver feature length films, television series, webisodes, and blogs throughout the world!

Her current deals are being represented by agency William Morris Endeavor. Currently, Wendy is a Professor at the University of California Santa Barbara where she’s a part of the faculty in the Film & Media Studies and the College of Creative Studies.

Word Farm Bios

James McNamara

James McNamara is a writer / creator for television and a Lecturer in Film and Media Studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara. Recent industry work includes developing and writing original television dramas for Sony Pictures/Playmaker and Goalpost Pictures, and writers' rooms for the Academy Award-winning See Saw Films, Matchbox Pictures/NBC Universal, Foxtel, ABC, and Endemol Shine. McNamara has also consulted on feature films for Porchlight Films, Icon Film Distribution, and Fox Searchlight Pictures. For the theater, McNamara co-wrote *Radio With Pictures*, which played at the Sydney Opera House, and he trained with the Bell Shakespeare Company, the Upright Citizens Brigade, and the Second City. He was recently named a BAFTA LA Newcomer.

Mia Resella

Mia Resella currently has two shows in development and is a staff writer on Disney's *Chicken Squad*. She was previously staffed on the Emmy-award winning children's show *Vampirina* and has freelanced for shows such as: Cartoon Network's *Craig of the Creek*, Disney Jr's *Muppet Babies*, Nick Jr's *Nella the Princess Knight*, Nickelodeon's *Middle School Moguls*, and two unannounced Netflix animated series. She also worked with Nickelodeon Original Movies in adapting a property for screenplay and series format. Before discovering her passion for animation, Mia wrote and produced a live action short with Bad Robot where she received mentorship from some of the best minds in the biz. She is also an artist with an animation background from the UCLA Animation MFA program, but enjoys writing for all mediums. Mia is an alum of the Nick Writing Program. She graduated from UCSB in the class of '09 with a degree in Film and Media Studies.

Brad Silberling

Director/Producer/Writer Brad Silberling's work has traversed features and television throughout his career. His most recent film is the suspense drama *An Ordinary Man* starring Ben Kingsley. His prior features include *City of Angels* starring Meg Ryan and Nicholas Cage, *Moonlight Mile*, starring Jake Gyllenhaal, Dustin Hoffman and Susan Sarandon; *Lemony Snickett's A Series of Unfortunate Events*, starring Jim Carrey and Meryl Streep; *10 Items or Less* starring Morgan Freeman, *Land of the Lost* starring Will Ferrell, as well as his debut film, the family classic *Casper*, produced by Steven Spielberg. In television, his growing stable of hit series include the critically acclaimed comedy *Jane the Virgin* as well as the period drama *Reign*, contemporary reboots *Dynasty* and *Charles*, and the new Disney Plus series *Diary of a Future President*. He is a graduate of the UCLA School of Theater Film and Television where he earned his masters degree in production, following his bachelor's degree in English from UC Santa Barbara.

Kit Steinkellner

Kit Steinkellner is a film and television writer best known as creator/showrunner of the Facebook Watch half-hour series *Sorry for Your Loss*. *SFYL* premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival and was named one of the "10 Best New Shows of 2018" by the New York Times, and was similarly heralded on "Best of the Year" lists published by New York Magazine, The Atlantic, The Hollywood Reporter, Time, Forbes, Vox, Thrillist, The Verge, and Adweek. As a television writer, she has also written/developed for Amazon, Showtime, and FX, and as a screenwriter for Lionsgate, Netflix, and Sony. As a playwright, her work has been produced Off-Broadway at Playwright's Horizons Peter Jay Sharp Theater, at the San Diego Old Globe, and at the Kennedy Center. Steinkellner is also the author of the graphic novel *Quince* which won the 2018 Independent Publisher Book Awards Award for Best Graphic Novel and was nominated for a 2018 Eisner Award for Best Digital Comic.

Ian Weinreich

Ian Weinreich is a graduate of UC Santa Barbara's film studies program, where he was awarded the Paul N. and Elinor T. Lazarus scholarship in screenwriting and helped organize the very first annual Word Farm. Following graduation, Ian attended NYU's Tisch School of the Arts for his MFA in dramatic writing. After returning to LA, he spent several years as a staff-writer on Disney XD's *Mighty Med* and later as executive-producer and showrunner of the Netflix series, *Skylanders Academy*. He was a contributing writer on the hit web-series, *Honest Trailers* and is currently a writer and co-producer on the upcoming HBO Max thriller series *The Flight Attendant*.

Special Thanks

All of our Guests

The Film and Media Studies Department

Bhaskar Sarkar

The Writers' Room

Writers Guild of America

Carsey Wolf Center

Charles Wolfe

Scott & Jennifer Frank

Lisa Bruce

Joe Palladino

Kathy Murray

Dana Welch

Keith Boynton

Sam's to Go

SuperCucas

Via Maestra 42

Fresco

Isla Vista Screen Printing

