



Western State Colorado University
Media Professionals Career Connection
Wednesday April 27th, 2016
228 Taylor Hall
600 North Adams St Gunnison, CO 81230

Presentation and Q&A

3:30 – 5:30 PM

3:30

Courtney Potts, Program Manager of Colorado Office of Film, Television and Media

3:45

Mariel Rodriguez-McGill, Producer at Rocky Mountain PBS

4:00

Mike Shum, Documentary Filmmaker of Fox Tale Films

4:15

Britta Erickson, Festival Director of Denver Film Society

4:30

Vincent Gonzales, Assistant Director

Speakers

Courtney Potts is the program manager for the Colorado Office of Film, Television & Media. She received her B.A. from DePaul University in Chicago and majored in film studies and Italian. After careers in legal administration and accounting, Courtney began film editing and other post production freelancing in the Denver independent film community. In October 2012, Courtney joined the Office of Film which is based in Denver. The Office of Film wants to work with as many communities as possible to prepare for the challenges and opportunities that arise during production.

Mariel Rodriguez-McGill is an Emmy Award-Winning creative producer, director and editor focused on documentary filmmaking with a passion for telling inspirational and compelling stories. Currently at Rocky Mountain PBS in Denver, Colorado, Mariel helped develop the food-themed web-series **GREAT INGREDIENTS**, and the historical documentary series **COLORADO EXPERIENCE**, which will launch its fourth season fall 2016. Mariel received a BA from Boston College and holds a Masters Degree from University of Denver in Media, Film & Journalism Studies.

Mike Shum is a Fox Tale Films Partner, cinematographer, editor, producer and director. A world traveler, Mike maintains a presence both in Denver, Colo., and Nairobi, Kenya, allowing him access into some of the world's most difficult places, including Congo, Somalia and Sierra Leone, among many others. Mike previously worked as a contract video journalist for the New York Times and conducted freelance work as a war reporter. His work spanned from cutting-edge journalism to corporate videos to docu-commercials for clients like FedEx. Mike is the director of photography and producer for **HONDROS** and director of a documentary in production titled **THE DOGS WILL EAT THEM LATER**, which follows a former rebel from eastern Congo.

Britta Erickson is the Festival Director for the Denver Film Society with oversight of the Denver Film Festival, Film on the Rocks (outdoor summer music & film series) and the Filmmaker Focus program. Britta has served on numerous film festival juries around the country including SXSW and serves on the advisory boards for SeriesFest and Mile High MFA at Regis University. Prior to joining DFS, Britta was the founding executive director of the Acoma Center, a non-profit performing arts venue in downtown Denver where she co-founded the nationally recognized Curious Theatre Company and produced many award-winning productions. She holds a B.A. in Communications (Broadcast Journalism) with a minor in Art History from Southern Methodist University where she also did graduate work in Art History. Britta has consulted on hundreds of film projects and has produced the narrative feature **ACTOR MARTINEZ** (Directed by Mike Ott and Nathan Silver, 2016) which just premiered at TriBeCa Film Festival to rave reviews, the documentary **ROLLING PAPERS** (Directed by Mitch Dickman, 2015), which was acquired by Alchemy straight from its SXSW premiere as well as the documentary, **CONVENTION** (Directed by AJ Schnack, 2009), which sold to IFC Films and Sundance Channel.

Vincent Gonzales is a 4th generation Colorado native and attended the University of Colorado at Boulder. Upon graduation, he began working his way up the film industry ladder from office PA to DGA Assistant Director. His work on features and TV, have taken him around the world to Beijing, China and around the country to small towns like Senoia, Georgia. Some of his credits include: **THE WALKING DEAD, BOSTON LEGAL, CHARMED, THE SANDLOT, THE LIMEY**, and **ENCINO MAN**; second units for **TRANSFORMERS 4, NEIGHBORS, THE TOOTH FAIRY, FAST AND FURIOUS 6** and **TRAFFIC AND SPEED**.