



2014-16 DISNEY | ABC DGA DIRECTING PROGRAM

ABOUT

Launched in 2001, the two-year professional Disney|ABC DGA Directing Program focuses on potential episodic directing opportunities on Disney|ABC series. The Los Angeles-based program affords selected participants shadowing assignments with veteran episodic directors, mentoring by Disney|ABC Television Group network and/or studio executives and exposure to an array of industry professionals through the guest speaker series.

REQUIREMENTS

This professional directing program is open to all individuals who are at least twenty-one (21) years of age and who possess evidence of identity and United States employment eligibility for the duration of the program. Directors with Directors Guild of America (DGA) credits and/or Guild membership are also eligible. Previous professional experience working in television production is strongly preferred, but not required.

To apply, the following items must be submitted in the order listed below. DO NOT staple, bind or use folders for submissions. DO NOT tape or shrink wrap DVD's as they need to be easily accessible.

1. **APPLICATION:** All areas must be completed. Type or print legibly.
2. **RESUME:** A detailed summary of employment history for the past seven (7) years and not a list of directed projects.
3. **RECOMMENDATION** (These letters are encouraged but not required):
 - a. Two letters, signed and dated, from industry professionals who have viewed and can comment on your work.
 - b. Must be included with your application and not sent separately or electronically.
4. **STATEMENT OF INTENT** (Limited to one page): Explaining applicant's journey and strategy in pursuing an episodic television career.
5. **LEGAL RELEASE FORM:** Signed and notarized.
6. **MATERIAL:** Five (5) DVD copies of a single body of work directed by the applicant in the past three (3) calendar years. Examples of appropriate directing samples include: television pilots, episodic television series, short films, and feature films. Must be final sweetened cuts. Rough cuts, directing reels, commercial reels, animation and/or stage productions will not be accepted. Compilation reels are accepted, but not encouraged. We recommend testing each DVD copy to ensure it can be viewed on a computer and/or television. An unviewable DVD will be disqualified. A linear storyline incorporating a beginning, middle and end is encouraged.

SUBMISSION PERIOD

The Disney|ABC DGA Directing Program will start accepting applications on **October 1, 2013 through November 27, 2013**. There is no application fee. Mail applications to:

Disney|ABC DGA Directing Program
500 South Buena Vista Street
Burbank, CA 91521-4016

Applications postmarked BEFORE October 1, 2013 or AFTER November 27, 2013 will be disqualified and destroyed. We will not confirm receipt of submitted applications. If this is of concern, please consider using a shipping method that provides a tracking number and/or delivery confirmation.

NOTIFICATION

Participants will be selected to join the directing talent pool no later than June 2014. No telephone calls or email inquiries please. Due to the high volume of applicants, we are not able to give feedback on submissions or give information on application status. At the conclusion of the evaluation process, all submitted bodies of work will be destroyed. Please visit the Facebook page (www.Facebook.com/DisneyABCTalentDevelopment) for occasional updates.



2014-16 DISNEY | ABC DGA DIRECTING PROGRAM APPLICATION

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Date _____

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Street / Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP Code _____ Country _____

E-mail Address _____

Phone Number (daytime) _____ Cell Phone _____ Cell Phone _____
 Home Phone _____ Secondary Phone Number _____ Home Phone _____

Are you currently employed? NO YES If yes, please complete the information below.

Current Title _____ Current Employer _____ How long with current employer? _____

Were you referred by a showrunner or episodic director? NO YES If yes, who? _____

May we contact the showrunner or director? NO YES Name and phone number: _____

Have you shadowed on a television series? NO YES If yes, which series? _____

Name of director you shadowed: _____

What type of director are you? Single-camera Comedy Multi-camera Comedy Drama

Are you a member of the Directors Guild of America? NO YES If yes, since when? _____

Do you have an agent or manager? NO YES If yes, please complete the information below.

Agent/Manager _____ Agency/Management Company _____

Phone Number _____ Agent/Manager's Email Address _____

MATERIAL INFORMATION

Applicants may only submit a single submission to the Program

Genre: COMEDY DRAMA OTHER
(please specify) _____

Submission Title: _____ Running Time: _____

Project Completion Date: _____

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

For consideration, your application package must include the following:

- Completed application form
- Employment résumé (for the past seven (7) years)
- Two letters of recommendation from industry professionals (optional)
- Statement of intent capturing your journey in pursuing a career as an episodic director (limited to one page)
- Notarized legal release
- Five (5) final cut DVD copies of a single body of work that you have directed within the last three (3) years.

All parts of the completed application must be submitted together and postmarked during the submission period: October 1 through November 27, 2013. Applications postmarked BEFORE October 1 or AFTER November 27, 2013 will be disqualified and destroyed.

Disney | ABC Television Group
500 South Buena Vista Street
Burbank, California 91521-4016

Dear Sir or Madam:

In support of my application to the 2014-2016 Disney| ABC DGA Directing Program (“Program”), I wish to submit to Disney | ABC Television Group (“DATG”) the single project listed below, all the important features of which (including the title, theme, plot and characters) are summarized by me on the attached “Exhibit A.” Such summary and all materials and documents that may be submitted to you with respect thereto, including all ideas and their expression as contained therein, are hereinafter referred to as the “Project.”

I appreciate and understand your concern that an examination of the Project without a full release of liability might expose you to a claim of copyright infringement, idea theft, or claimed existence of an implied in fact contract or other claim or litigation. Therefore, in consideration of your examination of the Project, I hereby acknowledge the following understandings and conditions:

1. I have created and am submitting the Project voluntarily. DATG and/or its parent, subsidiary and affiliated entities (“DATG Entities”) have not hired or otherwise retained me, in any way, to create or submit the Project. I understand that I will not receive any compensation for creating and submitting the Project.
2. I understand and agree that DATG will make all decisions regarding participation in the Program in its sole discretion. I understand that I may not be selected for the Program and that by submitting the Project, I am not guaranteed to be part of the Program or any future programs.
3. I understand that DATG and the DATG Entities engage in extensive activities in creating, acquiring and developing various forms of literary, artistic, musical, animated, and other projects, which include, among other things, the development of stories, ideas, scripts and concepts for attractions, motion pictures and television projects. In addition, I recognize that the material created, acquired and developed by DATG and/or the DATG Entities may contain elements that are similar and/or identical to the Project.
4. I represent and warrant that I have the right to submit the Project.
5. I represent and warrant that the Project is original and the Project does not violate any law or regulation or any right of any third party, including, but not limited to, rights of copyright, publicity and privacy.
6. I waive any right I may have to assert against DATG and/or the DATG Entities any claim based on copyright, trademark, infringement, confidential relationship, implied contract, unfair competition, idea theft or otherwise arising out of any alleged use by DATG and/or the DATG Entities of the Project, or any element thereof.
7. I understand and agree that any copy of the Project that I submit to you will not be returned to me and may be destroyed. I assume full responsibility for any loss, theft, destruction or any other disposition of any such copy while it is in your possession or in transit.
8. I understand that DATG is accepting my application based on and relying on the release set forth above.

9. This release will be governed by the internal laws of the State of California applicable contracts wholly negotiated, executed and performed therein.

Sincerely,

Signature

Date

Name (Printed or Typed)

Street Address

City, State and ZIP Code

EXHIBIT "A"

TITLE OF MATERIAL SUBMITTED:

SUMMARY OF THEME AND PLOT OF MATERIAL SUBMITTED:

PRINCIPAL CHARACTERS:

OTHER IDENTIFYING CHARACTERISTICS:

State of _____

County of _____

On _____ before me, _____, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, personally appeared _____, who proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person(s) whose name(s) is/are subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she/they executed the same in his/her/their authorized capacity(ies), and that by his/her/their signature(s) on the instrument the person(s), or the entity upon behalf of which the person(s) acted, executed the instrument.

I certify under PENALTY OF PERJURY under the laws of the State of _____ that the foregoing paragraph is true and correct.

Witness my hand and official seal.

Signature _____

(Seal)



2012-14 DISNEY | ABC DGA DIRECTING PROGRAM

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- 1. If I don't work or live in the United States, am I eligible to apply to the Directing Program?**
Yes. However, due to the nature of the program, we are unable to sponsor individuals for United States work visas. To be eligible, an applicant must possess and present evidence of identity and United States employment eligibility (valid for the duration of the program) as required by the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986, as amended.
- 2. How old do you have to be to apply?**
You have to be 21 years or older to be considered for the program.
- 3. If I work for Disney | ABC Television Group (DATG) or any subsidiary of The Walt Disney Company, am I eligible to apply?**
Yes. The Directing Program is open to employees of The Walt Disney Company and its subsidiaries.
- 4. Do you need to have professional directing experience to apply to the program?**
Professional directing experience is preferred, but not required.
- 5. Do I have to be a member of the Directors Guild of America (DGA) to apply?**
No, DGA membership is not required. Both DGA members and non-members may apply.
- 6. What is the duration of the Directing Program?**
Directors remain in the talent pool for two consecutive television seasons. Episodic shadowing assignments may last three (3) or more weeks. The length of time for an individual's participation is contingent upon executive producers' and/or directing producers' interest in the individual.
- 7. Is the Directing Program a full-time employment opportunity?**
No. Compensation occurs only if a director is offered a shadowing assignment. The majority of the directors in the program have full-time positions elsewhere while simultaneously participating in the program.
- 8. Will I be compensated for my time in the Directing Program?**
Yes. Those participants who secure shadowing assignments, which encompass pre-production, shooting and/or post-production, will be compensated in the amount of \$950.00 per week when actively shadowing on any aspect of a production.
- 9. What type of television programs do participants shadow?**
If selected, participants will potentially shadow veteran directors working in various genres within DATG.
- 10. Are directors guaranteed shadowing assignments?**
No.
- 11. Will directors be able to choose which shows they shadow on?**
No. Assignments are determined by producers and/or Disney|ABC executives.

12. Can directors use their existing relationships to reach out to Disney | ABC shows for shadowing assignments?

Yes, but **only** if strategy is discussed with Talent Development & Diversity executives **prior** to communication taking place.

13. Will participation in the Directing Program guarantee me a job as an episodic director?

No.

14. What would be appropriate directing samples?

Applicants are encouraged to submit a single body of work that has a linear storyline incorporating a beginning, middle and end. Acceptable bodies of work include, but are not limited to: television pilots, episodic series, feature films and short films. All submissions must be final, sweetened cuts. Compilation reels are accepted, but not encouraged.

15. May I submit the same body of work that I used in a previous year's application?

Yes, but submitting a new body of work will better reflect an applicant's directing progress.

16. May I submit more than one sample?

No. We will only accept the required five (5) DVD copies of a single body of work.

17. Must my directing sample be in a particular format?

Yes. We only accept final cut DVD copies.

18. Who owns the rights to the work that I submit for consideration?

Whoever owns the rights to the submitted material retains ownership.

19. Who will review my submission?

DATG executives and executive producers from series airing on ABC, ABC Family, and/or Disney Channel will review submissions. The extensive criteria for judging material includes: execution of storytelling; shot selections; performances; and overall production value.

20. Will I be able to receive feedback on my submission?

No. Due to the high volume of submissions to the program, we are unable to provide you with feedback. Periodic updates will be posted on Facebook (www.Facebook.com/DisneyABCTalentDevelopment).

21. Will I be informed if I am not selected?

No. Due to the high volume of submissions we are unable to notify each applicant upon completion of the judging process. We will not be able to respond to telephone calls and/or emails due to the high volume and nature of the notification process. Directors accepted to the program will be notified and subsequently posted on the website and Facebook page.

22. Will my submission be returned to me? What happens to my submission after it's reviewed?

No. Your submission will not be returned. All submitted material from applicants not admitted to the program will be securely destroyed.

23. Must I submit a résumé and statement of intent if I have not worked as a professional director?

Yes. As part of the review process, all applicants must submit a chronological work résumé and a statement of intent summary. Applications that do not include both these materials will not be considered.

24. Must I submit a letter of recommendation from a television or feature film professional?

A letter of recommendation from an established television or feature film professional (producer, writer, director, executive) is preferred, but not required. However, the television or feature film professional writing your letter of recommendation must be familiar with your work.

25. Will you confirm receipt of my application submission?

No. We will not confirm receipt of submitted applications. If this is of concern, please consider using a shipping method that provides a tracking number and/or delivery confirmation.

26. Does my application need to be postmarked or received by the deadline date?

Your application must be postmarked no later than midnight of the deadline date. Applications postmarked prior to the application start date or later than the application deadline date will be returned and not considered for the program.

27. What if I send you my application and I realize that I have left out one or more of the required elements?

Regrettably, we are not able to update your application once it is received. We require that all elements be submitted together. If you discover, however, that you have left out a required element, you may re-submit a full and complete application as long as it is received by us before the deadline for submissions.

28. Who can legally notarize my application?

Only a commissioned notary public. A signature and a notary stamp or seal are required on the Directing Program Letter Agreement. Your application will not be considered if your documents are not properly notarized.