

MFA in FILM & TV

 IN ASSOCIATION WITH KILLER FILMS 

Welcome Back!

This fall we are thrilled to welcome our students, new and old, onto our Manhattan campus. We're so excited to have you along for the journey!

First Years

The 2022 fall semester has kicked off, and we couldn't be more excited for the arrival of our first-year film and TV students! We're already loving the energy, creativity, dynamism, and work ethic of this amazing cohort. Whether it's hearing about indie filmmaking through Killer's Christine Vachon, putting pen to paper for a first pilot, or shotlisting a short for the first (but not the last!) time, the journey has begun, and we can't wait to see how it unfolds.

New Faculty

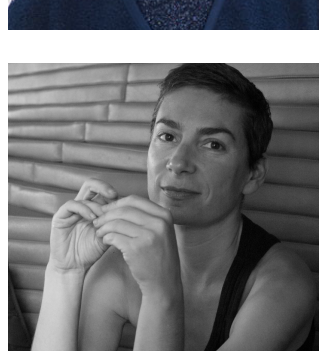
We're thrilled to celebrate new faculty joining us for Fall 2022: Sydney Sidner, Niav Conty, and Shrihari Sathe.



Syd Sidner

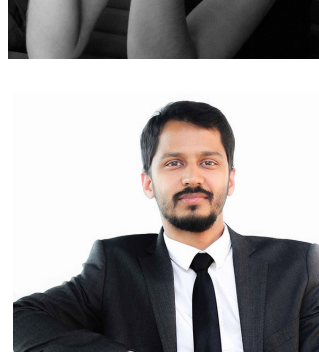
Syd, teaching our TV writing students, is a writer, actor, and director with works including writing the pilot (reboot) of *Charmed*, TV pilots for *Bliss City*, *Tioga Lake*, *Rouge*, and *Meridian Hills*, and features including *Tough Love* and *Getting Buddha Back*.

"I'm incredibly happy with my students. No task appears too big for them to tackle or too small for them to ignore. They are proving to be smart, funny, tolerant, and insightful," Syd said when asked about her time teaching so far.



Niav Conty

Niav, teaching our Film students, is a director, cinematographer, editor, and screenwriter, and is the co-founder of Broken Yolk Productions. Her works include her 2020 feature *Small Time*, and she is currently releasing her newest feature, *Person Woman Camera TV*. "I'm thrilled to join this unique faculty," Niav replied when asked about taking on the new position, "and to have this opportunity to teach such creative and motivated students."



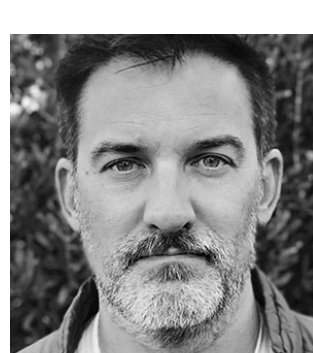
Shrihari Sathe

Shrihari, Film Production Faculty, is a New York-based director and producer. His credits include *Screwdriver*, *The Sweet Requiem*, and *No Man's Land*, amongst many others. His latest co-production, *The Cow Who Sang a Song Into the Future*, had its premiere at the 2022 Sundance Film Festival. "I'm very happy to join the SBU MFA in Film faculty and help the students further their creative pursuits in the cinematic medium," Sathe said about joining the faculty.

Student Screening October 15th

We're gearing up to screen the first, second, and third year films at none other than the famed Cinopolis theater in Chelsea! Happening on October 15, this event is a culmination and celebration of our film students' hard work and artistry, and we couldn't be more pumped! Register for the event of the season at mfamanhattan@stonybrook.edu.

Faculty Accomplishments



Scott Burkhardt

Congratulations to our MFA in TV writing professor Scott Burkhardt for being awarded the 46th annual Humanitas Prizes for his short film *Girls Are Strong Here!* The film, which was created along with Scott's upcoming film *Exuvia*, also won Best Short at the Independent Film Festival Boston and traveled to more than fifteen festivals.

Alan Kingsberg



Our Director of the MFA in Television Writing just won the Alex Trebek Fellowship from the TV Academy. They will be flying him to LA to connect with industry showrunners, writers, and other TV Writing educators. The mission: to keep educators on the cutting edge of the entertainment business so they can provide their students, the next generation of television leaders, with a state-of-the-art education.



Perry Blackshear

Our MFA in Film professor Perry Blackshear's feature *When I Consume You* has launched and is streaming on online platforms like Prime Video, Google Play, and Vudu. This comes after an exciting nomination for the Octopus D'or at the Strasbourg European Fantastic Film Festival. Variety called this film "a suspenseful twist on revenge and courage in the face of helplessness." Spooky! Go see it for yourself!

Student Work Highlights

Doug Forrester

After many Covid stalls, SBU Film thesis student Doug Forrester wrapped production on his first feature film, *Carry the Darkness*. A complex look at generational tension, we follow a group of misunderstood teenagers as they grapple with the labels forced upon them by their dogmatic town. Doug both penned and directed the piece that sprouted from an exercise in his Directing 2 class.

Mallory Bysek

Big things are happening for 3rd year TVW student Mallory Baysek, who was recently selected for a one-on-one internship with showrunner Bash Doren (*Boardwalk Empire*, *Looming Tower*, *Masters of Sex*) and to write for a Snapchat original sketch series. Mallory also won a coveted Television Academy Writing Fellowship with her awesome spec on *The Good Fight*.



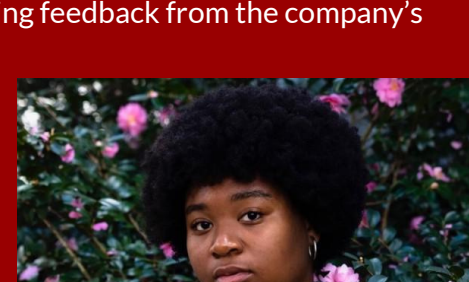
Mallory Bysek

Jamie Bokman

3rd year TVW student Jamie Bookman won a prestigious Television Academy fellowship and served as the scripted series development intern for the Wolper Organization. It was there she covered scripts, conducted research, & pitched her takes on existing IP. Her efforts culminated in pitching and receiving feedback from the company's President and Head of Television.

Micah Demby

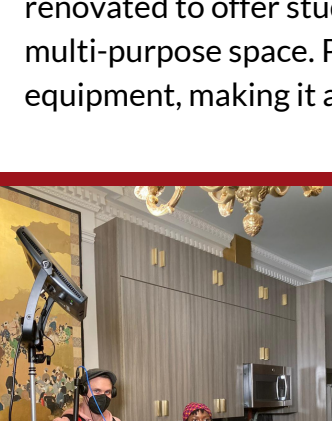
3rd year Film student, Micah Demby, has received the NYWIFT 2022 Next Wave Scholarship. This phenomenal fund supports the next generation of women filmmakers, editors, cinematographers, animators, and other content producers as they emerge as players in the entertainment industry. Congratulations, Micah!



Micah Demby

Fourth Floor Renovations

We're thrilled to announce The Manhattan Center for Creative Writing, Film, and TV, where new film and TV ideas are hatched each day, will be expanding at its current location! The 4th floor of the building is being renovated to offer students two more conference rooms, two offices, a gender-neutral bathroom, and a multi-purpose space. Perhaps most importantly, it will contain ceiling grids that can safely support lighting equipment, making it an incredible sound stage/film studio for students!



Connect With Us!

Thank you for tuning into our first newsletter of the school year! See you in our next edition. Be sure to follow us on our social media pages for any summer updates:

Instagram: [@sbufilmstv](https://www.instagram.com/sbufilmstv)

Twitter: [@sbufilmstv](https://twitter.com/sbufilmstv)

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To apply to our Film or TV Writing MFA programs or for more information, please visit <http://stonybrook.edu/film-tv-writing>