

## 2024 ROUNDTABLE INDUSTRY LEADERS



# MICHAELANGELO MASANGKAY General Manager, Raven Banner Entertainment <a href="https://ravenbannerentertainment.com/">https://ravenbannerentertainment.com/</a>

**TOPIC:** Distribution, genre films, producing indie films

BIO: Having repped over 200 films, produced 8 films, and provided production services to AMC Networks, TUBI, and Santa Rita films, Michaelangelo knows how to navigate minefields awaiting filmmakers. He is the General Manager for Raven Banner Entertainment, owner of Top Drone Inc., President & Founder of Siné Institute, and Director of Production at Toronto Film School. Recently he produced the feature TOPAKK, directed by Richard V. Somes, that premiered at the 76th Locarno Film Festival and was selected by FrightFest UK, Fantastic Fest, Sitges Film Festival, Mumbai Film Festival, Thessaloniki Film Festival, Mayhem Film Festival, and Night Visions Finland.



## **MADELEINE DONOHUE**

Writer-Series Creator https://www.imdb.com/name/nm1505364/

**TOPIC:** Create and sell your series, development to production for broadcast, children's programming

BIO: Madeleine is a writer on the kids' science series SECRETS OF THE FOREST (Fifth Ground Entertainment /TVO Kids), and preschool series 3-2-1 PROTO! (Gazelle Automations/CBC Kids). She is the creator of TINY & TALL, a preschool series on TVO Kids (produced by Little Engine Moving Pictures) the creator of GRIFFIN & TURNER, a preschool series in development with Big Jump Entertainment and TVO Kids, and FUNNY LITTLE SPARROWS, a comedy series in development with Quiet Revolution Pictures. Other writing includes AGENT BINKY: PETS OF THE UNIVERSE (Nelvana /Treehouse), TINKERBEN and MOTOR (Metaxilasis /Channel One), and BACKYARD BEATS (Bristow Global Media/TVO Kids).



## CARROLL CHIRAMEL

Producer-Director-Editor, Orange Spot Productions <a href="https://www.orangespotproductions.com/">https://www.orangespotproductions.com/</a>

**TOPIC:** Post-production budgeting, planning, and workflow. The director-editor relationship and the editor as collaborator.

BIO: Carroll Chiramel is an Indo-Canadian editor, producer, and director, and is an alumnus of the Canadian Film Centre (CFC) 2022. With more than 20 years experience in Indian and Canadian cinema, his work includes the award-winning short FORBIDDEN TIKKA MASALA (Edmonton International Film Festival and TIFF Film Circuit) the feature UNDER THE SUN (audience choice award at the 2015 Mill Valley Film Festival), and his films have appeared on Amazon Prime and Super Channel. The series POTLUCK LADIES will air on Yes TV and Hollywood Suites. His post-production studio provides editing, visual effects, and color grading services.



## STEPHANIE HERRERA

Writer-Performer-Producer https://stephanieherrera.com/

**TOPIC:** How creatives can leverage connections and skills. Making a pilot to pitch your show.

BIO: Stephanie Herrera leverages her Musical Theatre and Improv background to her acting and writing career. A Writers' Guild of Canada member, she won "Script of The Month" for her original TV comedy "Hispanic-ish". She has written on the animated shows: "CAMP SNOOPY" (AppleTV), "OPEN SEASON: CALL OF NATURE" (Sony), and "TINY & TALL" (TVO) and recently co-produced, co-directed, and co-wrote a comedy pilot, now in post. Her latest acting credits include Ari Aster's "BEAU IS AFRAID", season 4 of "THE BOYS", and several MOWs including "LOVE WITH A TWIST" now on Hallmark.



## ISIORO TOKUNBO JABORO

President & CEO, Producer-Director
True Sail Production and Motion Pictures

https://www.truesailproduction.com/

**TOPIC:** Indie producing and directing, working with festivals, Black filmmaker initiatives

BIO: Filmmaker Isioro T. Jaboro's film BELIEVE IN YOU was a finalist at the Flicker's Rhode Island International Film Festival and selected for the American Black Film Festival, African International Film Festival, Abuja International Film Festival, Reel World Film Festival, and the African Movie Academy Awards. Isioro has judged at Canadian and international festivals. He coproduced a series for Afroglobal TV and mentored Black youths in producing 21 documentaries for BEING BLACK IN CANADA, a Netflix-sponsored program that screens at the Toronto, Montreal, and Halifax Black Film Festivals, and CBC Gem. He founded several Canadian non-profits that foster diversity and inclusion through the creative arts: the Toronto International Nollywood Film Festival (TINFF), a Telefilm Canada and Academy of Canadian Cinema & Television (Canadian Screen Award)-qualifying festival, the International Black and Diversity Film Festival, Brampton International Nollywood Film Festival (BINFF), and Black Actors and Film Guild Canada, which inspired the Canadian Black Screen Awards.



TAISA DEKKER

Manager, Industry Initiatives, ACTRA https://www.actra.ca/

**TOPIC:** Working with ACTRA talent, low budget initiatives

**BIO:** As ACTRA Toronto's Manager - Industry Initiatives & Outreach, Taisa Dekker promotes the hiring of highly-skilled union performers for feature films, commercials, video games, web series, and audiobooks. For nearly twenty years across various production jurisdictions in Canada, she has been delivering exceptional results for producers at every budget level. Taisa is passionate about the screen-based industry and the development of Canadian artists and content creators.



## **ROLLA TAHIR**

Filmmaker, Director of Photography
Smoking Apples <a href="http://www.smokingapples.ca/">http://www.smokingapples.ca/</a>

**TOPIC:** From shorts to features, film funds, navigating career paths

BIO: Rolla Tahir is an independent filmmaker and director of photography who has lensed short, narrative, and experimental films that screened across Canada and internationally. Obsessed with the durability, longevity and spontaneity of the analog film medium, Rolla has worked with Super 8, 16mm and 35mm to explore the analog process and its possibilities. Rolla's short experimental film Sira was selected to screen at the 43rd Toronto International Film Festival. Rolla is currently in pre-production of her feature film - Jude and the Jinn, funded by Telefilm's Talent to Watch & New Dawn. She is also the cofounder and the artistic director of the Toronto Arab Film Festival.



#### **GREG RUBIDGE**

President, Syndicado https://syndicado.com/

**TOPIC:** VOD, working with a distributor, sales agencies, markets for content

**BIO:** After getting his start at the Canadian Film Centre and starting an online games and interactive agency, Greg Rubidge began in the then nascent world of VOD as Director of New Platforms at Corus Entertainment, launching Treehouse, YTV Anime and The Documentary Channel on Demand. In 2009 he founded Syndicado, building it into a top digital distributor of independent docs, arthouse features, and factual TV series, releasing over 5000 hours of programming across all major VOD platforms. In 2016 he co-founded the boutique world sales agency, Syndicado Film Sales, which now boasts a slate of award-winning feature docs that have screened at Sundance, TIFF, Tribeca, Locarno, HotDocs and Karlovy Vary. Today Rubidge overseas distribution and sales for feature films and factual TV series in the major English language markets across all rights.



ARIKA JIANG, Coordinator **Communications, Marketing, and Membership** Canadian Media Producer's Association (CMPA) https://cmpa.ca/

**TOPIC:** CMPA's role for producers, industry agreements, resources, Prime Time and events and initiatives

**BIO:** Arika handles strategic communications, media relations, branding, event production and oversees the CMPA's digital properties, including the Daily News Flash for members, digital analytics, tracking media relations, and providing communications and marketing support for all internal CMPA departments. She assists with producing and distributing CMPA's Indiescreen Magazine, and supports activities related to Prime Time, the Indiescreen Awards and other initiatives.



https://www.knollstudios.com/

**TOPIC:** Working with a studio

**BIO:** Jason has been in the film industry for over 25 years. He has built and run independent Movie Theatres and Studios in the GTA, working with all distributors and production companies. Currently in charge of Knoll Studios, a 32000 square foot Standing Set Studio in Oakville, Jason loves to help Independent Filmmakers achieve their vision. When not doing his actual job, he can usually be found building sets and watching movies.

