

CINDY A. MCCREERY
Professor & Chair
Department of Radio-TV-Film
The University of Texas at Austin
2504 Whitis Avenue Stop A0800
Austin, Texas 78712-1067
cindy.mccreery@austin.utexas.edu

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

The University of Texas at Austin, Department of Radio-Television-Film

- Department Chair, May 2024 - present
- Full Professor, Fall 2023 – present
- Interim Department Chair, Summer 2023 – May 2024
- Associate Department Chair, Fall 2022 – Summer 2023
- Production Area Head, Fall 2022 – August 2023
- Associate Professor, Fall 2017 – Fall 2023
- Screenwriting Area Head, Fall 2017 – Fall 2022
- University of Texas Faculty Council Member, Fall 2020 – Spring 2022
- GSA Chair, The Michener Center for Writing, Fall 2018 – Fall 2021
- UT Los Angeles (UTLA) Chair, Summer 2013
- Assistant Professor, Fall 2011- Fall 2017

University of California, Los Angeles, Professional Program in Screenwriting
Adjunct Instructor, 2010-2012

University of California, Santa Barbara, Department of Media and Film
Lecturer, 2004-2011

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Screenwriter

Writer of over thirty-five films and television projects developed for Walt Disney Pictures, Disney Channel, Warner Brothers, New Line Cinema, National Geographic Films, Radar Films, Branded Entertainment, Televisa USA, Halfire Entertainment, Sundance Productions, Nickelodeon, Tyler Perry, Lionsgate, MGM, NBC Universal, Paramount Pictures, TNT, AMC, Netflix, Hallmark Channel, Down-Home Entertainment, Sony Pictures and Bosque Ranch. 2003-present

Walt Disney Pictures/ABC

Feature Writing Fellow, 2003-2004

Created in 1990 in partnership with the WGAW, the Disney/ABC Writing Program is based in Los Angeles and is widely recognized as one of the entertainment industry's most coveted writing programs. Five fellows were chosen from over 3500 applicants.

EDUCATION

B.A. in Film Studies, 2000. University of California, Santa Barbara

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Writers Guild of America, West since 2003.

Writers Guild of Canada since 2012

Board Member, The Austin Film Festival

CREATIVE WORK

Television Projects:

ROCKY MOUNTAIN CHRONICLES (2024)

Creator and writer of the original hour-long television series based on the Nicholas Evan's novels, *Smokejumper*, *The Divide*, and *The Loop*. Developed with Tim McGraw's Down Home Productions.

SOCCER MOM TV (2024)

Creator and writer of the original television pilot about a middle-aged soccer mom who returns to college to play soccer. The series is based on a feature film I sold to New Line cinema in 2004. Gulfstream Entertainment and Olympic Gold Medalist Alex Morgan will produce for The Hallmark Channel.

AVENGER FIELD (2019-present)

An original television series that I helped develop based on the true story of Jackie Cockran and The Woman's Airforce Service Pilot's program during WWII. The series sold to MGM and NBC's streaming service Peacock starring Rene Zellweger. I will serve as an Associate Producer of the series.

FIFTY (2018)

Writer and co-creator of an original television hour-long drama about the first Black Female President of the United States. The pilot was purchased by NBC Universal Television and is currently in development at the network. Co-created with Scott Shepherd.

THE BLONDES (2017)

Writer and creator of an hour-long drama series based on the book, "The Blondes" by Emily Shulz. Was hired by AMC's Shudder streaming network with Branded Entertainment (*The Kids are Alright*) Producing. Currently, the series is in turnaround because the streaming network no longer will be producing original material.

LIVE & SCARY (2016)

Writer and co-creator of an hour-long drama series about an alien invasion in Los Angeles. The show was developed and created to be shot live and was inspired by the "War of the Worlds" radio broadcast. NBC Universal purchased the pilot. Co-wrote with Scott Shepherd.

THE SEVENTH DAY (2016)

Co-writer of nine hour-long drama episodes based on the novel, "The Seventh Day" written by Scott Shepherd, who I also co-wrote the scripts with. Televisa USA Studios hired us to write the scripts. Currently, the series is being shopped around internationally by Televisa.

PARKER (2015)

Co-writer and co-creator of the first three hour-long episodes of the series based on the Richard Stark novel, "Nobody Runs Forever". TNT Network purchased the pilot and commissioned the next two episodes. At the time of the purchase, Oscar nominated director Stephen Frears (*High Fidelity*, *The Queen*) was attached to direct the show.

L.A. NOCTURNE (2015)

Co-writer and co-creator of the hour-long pilot which chronicles three generations of LA Detectives all impacted by the same crime in the 1940's. The pilot was sold to Halfire Studios (*Alias Grace*, *Aftermath*).

HAVEN (2014)

Hired by The Syfy Channel to write two freelance episodes in the fifth season of the series based on the Stephen King short story, “The Colorado Kid”. “The Old Switcheroo” & “The Old Switcheroo Too” (episodes 505 & 506) Aired in October 2014.

Feature Film projects:

HARDCORE (2024)

Co-Writer of the original comedy feature set in the world of Pickleball. Co-written with Celeste Barber.

QUEENS OF SUMMER (2024)

Co-writer of the original feature screenplay comedy about a group of Southern women who enter a bass fishing tournament. Taylor Sheraton’s Bosque Ranch Productions is attached to Produce.

I’LL BE THERE (2023)

Writer and Producer of the original feature film. Premiered at The Austin Film Festival in 2023 and will be distributed by Buffalo8 on various streaming platforms November 15, 2024.

MERRY MISSION (2021-22)

Writer of the animated film based on the Build a Bear Characters. Was hired by Foundation Media and Build a Bear to rewrite the screenplay in December of 2021 and the film was greenlit for production in the summer of 2022.

THE HONEY GIRLS (2020-21)

Writer of the feature film based on the Build a Bear characters. I was hired in July of 2020 to rewrite the original screenplay, which consisted of a page one rewrite. After completion of my rewrite, Sony Pictures greenlit the film for production for February of 2021. The film was released digitally on October 19, 2021 and is currently available on Netflix.

UGLY! (2015-2017)

Writer of an original feature screenplay based on the Hans Christian Anderson story, “The Ugly Duckling”. I was hired by Branded Entertainment (*The Kids Are Alright*) in 2015 along with director Alex Zamm (*Woody Woodpecker*) who was attached to direct.

FANTASTIC VOYAGE (2013)

Writer of an original feature film outline about a group of best friends who go on the Tom Joyner Fantastic Voyage Cruise. Was hired by Tyler Perry’s 34th Street Productions, Will Packer Entertainment (*Girls Trip*) and Lionsgate Pictures.

UNPLUGGED (2012)

Writer of the original feature screenplay musical about a group of teenagers trying to navigate the city after a massive power outage. Was hired to write the film for The Disney Channel.

HOW TO DATE A PRINCE (2010)

Writer of the original feature screenplay about a teen who is an exchange student at an exclusive European boarding school. The screenplay was optioned by Radar Pictures (*Jumanji, The Last Samurai*).

RISING STAR (2009)

Writer of the feature screenplay musical based on the book, “Rising Star” about a teenager who manages bands. Was hired to adapt the book into a screenplay for The Disney Channel.

BABY BOOM (2008)

Hired by MGM Pictures to remake the original film starring Diane Keaton. Writer of the feature screenplay. This division of MGM was dismantled in 2009.

FREE WILLY: ESCAPE FROM PIRATES COVE (2007)

Hired by National Geographic Films & Warner Brothers Entertainment to write a new take on the Free Willy series. I wrote the feature screenplay which was produced in 2009 and released in March of 2010.

ELEPHANT WILD (2006)

Hired by National Geographic Films and Clint Eastwood’s production company, Malpaso Entertainment to re-write the feature screenplay about a young girl who risks her life to save a baby elephant from poachers in Thailand.

UNTITLED MARIA PEPE PROJECT (2005)

Writer of the feature screenplay based on the true story of Maria Pepe who sued The Little League for discrimination in the 1970’s. I developed the pitch with Tollin Robbins Productions (*Coach Carter*) & Barry Josephson Entertainment (*Enchanted*) and sold the pitch to Paramount/Nickelodeon Pictures.

SOCCER MOM (2004)

<http://variety.com/2004/film/markets-festivals/new-line-will-get-kick-out-of-soccer-1117904599/>

Writer of the original feature screenplay about a soccer mom who returns to college to play soccer. The screenplay was purchased by New Line Cinema.

POWDER PUFF (2004)

<http://variety.com/2004/film/news/mouse-catches-girls-pitch-1117902736/>

Writer of the original feature screenplay about an NFL Football Coach who coaches an all-girl football team. Walt Disney Pictures purchased the screenplay with Alfred Gough & Miles Milar (*Smallville*) producing.

FORGET THAT (2003)

Writer of the original feature screenplay about a man who gets amnesia after an accident which causes him to re-connect with his kids. Was commissioned by Walt Disney Pictures and Storyline Entertainment (*Chicago*) to write the screenplay during my fellowship with Disney.

Podcast Projects:

QUARANTEEN’D (2020)

During the shutdown in April of 2020, I teamed up with director Brandon Camp (*Benji, Love Happens*) and we created an original fictional podcast series about a group of teens who set out to save the world from a man-made virus. We put together a small virtual writers’ room, cast actors and produced ten original episodes all virtually with cast and crew from all over the world. I oversaw production, writing and even directed a couple of episodes. The series is available on iTunes and Spotify.

ACADEMIC WORK

CLASSES TAUGHT

Undergraduate:

- RTF 333: Introduction to Screenwriting.

- RTF 369: Advanced TV Writing: Specs.
- RTF 369: Advanced TV Writing: Pilots.
- RTF 369: Advanced Feature Screenwriting.
- RTF 348: Undergraduate Business of Screenwriting.
- RTF 347C: Entertainment Careers and Contexts.
- RTF 368: Undergraduate Screenwriting Thesis.
- UTLA: Business of Screenwriting.
- UCSB: Advanced Feature Screenwriting.

Graduate:

- RTF 380J: First Year Graduate Screenwriting.
- RTF 380J: First Year Graduate Rewriting.
- RTF 380M: Advanced Graduate Writing Workshop.
- RTF 380N: Advanced Graduate TV Writing, Specs.
- RTF 380N: Advanced Graduate TV Writing, Pilots.
- RTF 380N: Graduate TV Writers' Room Workshop.

Professional:

- UCLA Professional Program: Feature Screenwriting.
- UCLA Professional Program: TV Writing Workshop.

PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Juror

- The UT Longhorn Screenwriting Competition, 2013 -present
- The UT Longhorn Showcase Competition, 2015-present.
- The Austin Film Festival Young Filmmakers Short Film Competition, 2014-present
- The Austin Film Festival Young Filmmakers pitch competition, 2017-present
- The Austin Film Festival Pitch competition, 2017-present
- Arkansas Arts Council Artist Fellowship Grant, 2020
- The Writers' Guild of America Television Animation Awards judge. 2018 – present

AWARDS/FELLOWSHIPS

- Moody College Creative Achievement Award 2024 for "I'll Be There"
- The 2023 Austin Film Festival Audience Award for Best Feature for "I'll Be There"
- The University of Texas System, Regents Award in Teaching Excellence Nomination 2016 and 2017
- Moody College of Communication, Dean's Fellowship, Fall 2014 and Fall 2021
- Walt Disney Pictures Feature Writing Fellowship, 2002-2003