

Dru Zipkin

Creative Producer

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San Diego, CA

As a highly organized and confident expert in organized chaos, I bring client visions to life. With a talent for planning, my attention to detail fosters a safe and enjoyable environment while relying on teamwork to deliver high-quality content.

Work Experience

Creative Producer

Mar 2023 - Present

[Freelance](#) | San Diego, CA

Ideas become content when intuitive, agile visionaries oversee creative projects. As an advocate for "yes and" thinking, my resourceful, out-of-the-box problem-solving mindset and extensive experience across various production types provide creative ways to meet deadlines and financial goals.

- Won a Bronze award at the 2024 San Diego Addy Awards for a broadcast commercial presentation featuring an animated tooth, produced in partnership with a local production company.
- Helped produce local gaming content that has exceeded 1.5 million YouTube views in 4 months.

Manager, Safety and Compliance

Sep 2020 - Feb 2023

All3 Media America

As a strategic thinker, I pursued technical knowledge to preserve and ensure the safety of our cast and crew. Leading meetings to reinforce our expertise and dependability, I regularly advised multiple teams nationwide on immediate health risks needing timely resolution.

- Remotely located vendors in over 25 cities and 6 international destinations, fostering relationships and spearheading contract negotiations for fast and convenient COVID-19 testing with local labs. Oversaw these location-specific services and triaged issues as the main point of contact.
- Created Standard Operating Procedures and testing regimens for 110 television seasons and development projects by researching evolving regulations and technologies to ensure compliance and efficiency while highlighting the need for adaptability.

Senior Agency Producer/Integrated Producer

Jun 2015 - Jul 2020

[Rescue Agency](#) | San Diego, CA

Lead multiple projects simultaneously, requiring the assembled teams of solicited vendors and internal personnel. Provided creative input and tactical leadership when developing concepts, confirming viability. Controlled budgets, created timelines, tracked expenses, and ensured successful delivery during project management.

- Received a leadership award for supervising their first multimillion-dollar, VFX-heavy broadcast production. Effectively worked under tight deadlines, managing multiple vendors and pivoting under client requests, seamlessly guiding internal and external stakeholders towards alignment when potential risk threatened the project.
- Integrated stand-alone photography requests into pre-planned video shoots, streamlining production support for asset creation. These efficiencies led to my producing over 20 photo shoots with 15+ photographers.
- Implemented better workflow processes and program management, resulting in more cost-effective productions. Improved and executed contract expiration and renewal cost tracking, keeping the company compliant, creative, and ready. These operational efficiencies simplified project execution and enhanced business.
- Streamlined business development by successfully managing all client onboarding, bidding, budgeting, contract negotiations, and licensing agreements for external third-party projects.

DGA Stage Manager/Assistant Director

Jan 2005 - May 2015

[Freelance](#) | Los Angeles, CA

Focused on coordinating schedules and day-to-day management, I employed written and verbal communication skills to ensure time management was present, fluid, and adhered to while gracefully handling change and providing mentorship.

- Routinely supervised between 4-10 employees, delegating responsibilities while assisting and advising multiple departments.
- Besides running film and video sets, I spent 10 seasons on America's Next Top Model, working alongside world-renowned photographers and their teams to help run high-fashion photo shoots.
- Series examples: America's Next Top Model (10 Seasons), Hell's Kitchen (7 Seasons), RuPaul's Drag Race (2 Seasons)

Core Skills

Breaking down scripts, Financial Efficiency, Financial Accountability, Budgeting Software, Showbiz Budgeting, POs, Budget Actualization, SAG, DGA, IATSI, Cost Analysis, Payroll, Supervising Staff, Task Tracking, Scope and Budget Management, Overseeing concurrent projects, Maximizing Project Profitability, Resource Forecasting, Integrated Production, Video Post-Production, Casting Sessions, Production Insurance, Photo Production, Working Under Pressure, Strong Communication Skills, Advocating for clients, Financial Tracking, Leading multi-disciplinary teams, Keeping Project Schedules, Problem Solver, VFX, Budget Reconciliation, Content Production, Zoom, Managing Project Budgets, Production Processes, Production Management, Photography, Negotiating Skills, Digital Production, Budgeting, Organizational Skills, Account Management, Prioritization, Client Satisfaction, Commercial Production, Deadline-Driven, Financial Services, Wrapbook.com, Operational Execution, Plan Production, Detail Oriented, Collaborative, Digital Media, Adobe Creative Suite, PowerPoint, Google Suite, Google Drive, MS Office Suite, Project Estimates, Managing Creative Teams, Slack, Project Management Tools, High Technical Acumen, Understands Technical Specifications

Education

Indiana University

Bachelor of Arts Telecommunications

Certificates

Current Member

Jan 2010

Directors Guild of America