



Trojan Vision Newsletter (2/14)

1 message

USC Trojan Vision <afurse@trojanvision.com>
Reply-To: afurse@trojanvision.com

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Hey Visionaries!

Happy Valentine's Day! We are certainly feeling the love here at Trojan Vision, as our spectacular team of students and faculty continues working hard at creating great content to share! We're enjoying a very special Valentine's Day gift....the completed and redesigned Studio B, which is officially lit up with the activity and bustle of our 409 courses, as they prepare to start broadcasting their shows!



The completion of Studio B has Trojan Vision students and faculty more eager to create than ever - we can't wait to see what shows are in store for the remainder of the semester!



Comedy Live's first in-person sketch comedy show is happening **this** Friday, **February 18th**! Join us in the Robert Zemeckis Center for Digital Arts to see the work of Trojan Vision, SCA, and SDA students come together on stage for a night full of laughs.

Tickets for in-person attendance to Comedy Live can be reserved **HERE**! All guests must present a completed Trojan Check at the door in order to be eligible for admission.

VOLUNTEER AT COMEDY LIVE!

Want to have a hand in the live production of sketch comedy? Volunteer at our February 18th show! Volunteers will have the chance to work behind the scenes, assist actors backstage, handle cue cards, or help to run the studio floor! No previous experience is required. Volunteers must be able to pass Trojan Check in order to participate.



Interested volunteers should email simrankh@usc.edu to express their availability!

As in-person attendance is being held at limited capacity, tickets will be available in a limited supply. To make sure everyone is able to view this special show, Comedy Live will also be streaming live on Facebook at the link below!

[Stream Comedy Live!](#)

TROJAN VISION PODCAST PRODUCTION COURSE GETS A REVAMP

Trojan Vision's CTPR 404 is quickly becoming a favorite course among students. This semester, the course is undergoing some exciting new changes, including a new professor and a new production space modeled after the most current industry standards!



A NEW SPACE...

CTPR 404 courses were recently moved from our Trojan Vision television studios to a new dedicated space in the Zemeckis Center, designed to emulate industry-standard video podcast studios. State-of-the-art equipment, including three new cameras, table microphones and switcher improve students' ability to learn practical recording skills. The finishing touches - set furnishings and lights - are coming soon!

...AND A NEW PROFESSOR!

Trojan Vision welcomes **Jackson Kroopf** to our team this semester as the new professor of CTPR 404! An award-winning filmmaker and podcast producer, Jackson is excited to share his expertise with eager students interested in the podcast industry!

"It's been fantastic," said Jackson. "The whole Trojan Vision staff has been both creative and collaborative in creating a highly professional studio environment for students to learn the technical art of podcasting."



With the aide of these new developments, our 404 students at Trojan Vision are ready to embark on their exciting semester project, entitled **Behind the SCenes at SC**, a video podcast that takes an in-depth look at current student movements, support services, and recent events at the University. As the main focus of the course is to document meaningful conversations between respectfully opposing opinions, this podcast sets out to do just that!

New Trojan Vision volunteer opportunities!

VOLUNTEER AT TROJAN VISION!

Trojan Vision is looking for enthusiastic students to join our team of volunteers! Volunteers play an integral part in the production and promotion of Trojan Vision television shows and podcasts, Campus Vision, and campus and alumni events throughout the year. Take a look below at our most current volunteer opportunities!

BEHIND THE SCENES VIDEOGRAPHER

Want a close-up look at Trojan Vision behind the scenes? We're looking for a student volunteer to serve as our behind the scenes videographer, to capture our studio in action for use in promotional content!

[I'm interested!](#)



GRAPHICS DESIGNER (PAID)

Want to flaunt your skills in graphic design? Trojan Vision is seeking a student to create new and exciting graphics for all of our student shows and promotional content! This is a paid opportunity. Interested candidates should email their resumes to info@trojanvision.com with the subject line GRAPHIC DESIGN POSITION.

TROJAN VISION WEBMASTER (PAID)

Trojan Vision is looking for a student to maintain our website, keeping the site current with content updates! Ideal candidates have a background in WordPress/HTML/CSS, and have an eye for design. This is a paid opportunity. For more information, interested students should email info@trojanvision.com with the subject line TROJAN VISION WEBMASTER.



Any questions regarding volunteer or employment opportunities can be directed to info@trojanvision.com!



Campus Vision's latest episode with Trojans 360 is posted and ready for viewing on the [Campus Vision Facebook page](#)! Our host sits down with the managing editors of [Trojans 360](#), USC's official student-run blog. Watch to learn more about the student blogging experience, and how you can get involved to share your stories as a Trojan!

NEW EPISODE COMING SOON!



This week on Campus Vision, host Andrea Chen interviews [SPEC Magazine](#)! SPEC provides students with a variety of creative opportunities such as design, writing, and photography. Watch to learn more about the magazine's editorial process and how you can join their team! The episode will be available on Friday, February 18th.

[Watch Campus Vision](#)

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT:

MICHELLE ASKEW



Graduation Year: 2021

Major: Screenwriting

Hometown: Staten Island, NY

[LinkedIn](#)

[Website](#)

What roles/positions did you hold at Trojan Vision? Any favorite memories?

During my time at Trojan Vision, I started as a “409er” my freshman year on the comedy news show, the Breakdown, and eventually worked my way up to a senior producer and host. I absolutely loved my time at The Breakdown - I made my closest friends who are some of the most hilarious people I’ve ever met. There’s too many memories to name and some are incriminating. (#LongLiveBreakdown #RIP)

How was the process of transitioning out of USC and into the workplace?

I think one of the most challenging aspects of post graduate life is managing your time. Especially in creative careers like screenwriting, it’s sometimes overwhelming to not have the structure and deadlines of classes to keep you motivated. Making a writers group with my friends was extremely helpful with giving notes and reminding each other to go outside.

Can you give us a brief summary of your experience in the industry before graduating? What led you to where you are today?

My time at SCA was crucial in leading me to where I am today. In my junior year screenwriting class, I wrote a comedy feature called HOT GIRL SUMMER. In spring of my senior year, it won the LaunchPad

Feature competition and I was able to sign with my managers at Fourth Wall Management right before graduation. So many of my relationships with professors have led to incredible opportunities. My professor Paul Foley introduced me to the now director of HOT GIRL SUMMER, and joined on as a producer. The same goes for the incredible Michelle Denise Jackson, who taught my drama pilot class, and recommended me for my position on The Morning Show. Since my junior and senior year were remote, it was very difficult to find internships. I wound up cold calling a small production house, Happy Little Guillotine Studios, and it was by far the most valuable internship I've had! I got to help produce an indie feature from the ground up, and actor/producer/writer Angela Gulner has become such a valuable mentor to me. We stayed in touch after graduation, and she agreed to produce a short film I'm making in the spring!

Can you tell us about your job as a Writer's Production Assistant, and any other work you're excited about?

My job as a Writer's Production Assistant at Apple TV+'s The Morning Show has taught me so much about working in a writers room. Every day I am so excited to come in and discuss such incredible characters and story for Season Three. My job mostly consists of preparing the room and keeping writers organized and on task throughout the day, and obviously the most crucial part of screenwriting: getting lunch! It's been really valuable getting to listen and learn how professional writers work, and share my ideas along the way in an incredibly welcoming and safe space. My old professor Michelle Denise Jackson is currently staffed in the room, and it has been so much fun getting to work with her every day!

In the meantime, I'm still writing, taking general meetings, and developing a few new features and pilots. I recently signed with a team of agents at UTA, and I am so excited for all the work we are doing to make my dreams reality. My feature comedy, HOT GIRL SUMMER, made the Blacklist and is currently attached to Davis Entertainment and director Alexis Ostrander, and producer (and everybody's favorite professor!) Paul Foley. We are currently in the process of attaching talent and it has been a thrilling experience so far! I'm also directing my first short film this spring, and can't wait to start on the path to becoming a writer/director.

Any advice to current students who aspire to find themselves where you are, especially so early out of college?

It is not as impossible as you think! SCA has prepared you for the many realities and struggles of the industry post-graduation, but SCA has also prepared you to succeed. My greatest advice is to stay passionate and keep writing/creating! During my time at USC, I took my classes seriously and put 110% into everything I wrote. I would never have believed you if you told me the script I was writing my junior year would make the 2021 Blacklist. So much of this industry is timing, and the only thing in your control is to be ready when the timing is right. You can't possibly predict what will "sell" or be "hot" so just write from the heart. My script is about my awkward 13 year old self and trust me, I was not hot. Take care of yourself first, and remember your friends are your number one support system and going through it with you. Now drink some water and open FinalDraft...

Please reach out to our Industry Relations Manager, Phoebe Lai (pelai@usc.edu) to get in touch with our Notable Alumni or be featured in our next newsletter!

More to come!

Lots of exciting things coming soon! Continue reading our newsletters for all updates on Trojan Vision classes, events, and other news!

Questions? Have something you'd like to learn more about? Let us know how we're doing, and how we can improve! Feedback can be emailed to info@trojanvision.com or filled out on our [contact page](#).



Look out for our next newsletter on February 28, 2022!

We're growing! Please help us share our [newsletter](#) with Trojan Vision friends, and join our [Facebook](#) community, open to all alumni and students.

Volunteer with Trojan Vision! Our volunteers work in areas of management, production, outreach, marketing, and alumni relations. For more information please contact info@trojanvision.com.

Connect with us on social media or our [website](#) to stay up to date.



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