



## MFA in FILM & TV

IN ASSOCIATION WITH KILLER FILMS 

### Welcome!

This Spring we are thrilled to announce the beginning of student productions, celebrate an alumni acquisition, and cordially invite you to our upcoming Open House!

#### Open House

Save the date – our virtual open house is set for March 28th at 6pm! Alan Kingsberg and Christine Vachon will conduct a Q&A session to address any and all questions about Stony Brook’s TV Writing and Film programs, student life, unique curriculum, and much more. If you’ve ever been curious to take a deeper dive into what our MFA programs can offer, this is the event for you. Don’t forget to RSVP at [mfamanhattan@stonybrook.edu](mailto:mfamanhattan@stonybrook.edu).

#### Internships

While enrolled in the TV Writing MFA program at Stony Brook, many of our students have worked as interns and assistants in the TV industry to advance their creative skills and opportunities.

These are some of their stories:

##### Talisa Chang

“After interning with showrunner Bash Doran last year, I've been hired as a research coordinator and writer's assistant for a new tv project she's working on. It's a dream job–I'm learning so much about not only writing, but also how the industry works and how projects of different scopes and sizes come together.”

##### Galen Foote

“I was the Writers' Room Intern on CBS's Blue Bloods, where I reported to the Script Coordinator and assisted in proofreading scripts, writing copy for various aspects of the show, and handling administrative duties around the office. A great moment was shadowing one of the writers on set and seeing how her vision on the page was executed in front of the camera.”

##### Emma Gutt

“As a Writer's PA on Season 3 of Showtime's City on a Hill, I have been able to learn from and support writing staff by proofreading scripts, researching historical facts about the era in which the show is set, while also juggling your typical assistant tasks like coffee runs and office organizing. My favorite part of this experience has been the community. In addition to getting to work alongside a team of talented writers, I've been able to meet different generations of Tom Fontana's former assistants -- now professional writers -- who generously share their experiences.”

##### Nelson Downend

“I am currently interning at Talking Wall Pictures for their Head of Development. My responsibilities include writing coverage on feature and TV scripts, scouting existing IP for potential development and doing research for existing and future projects. My experience at TWP has been invaluable as their team is incredibly generous with their time and knowledge, even including interns in weekly company meetings where we have access to the inner workings of the industry.”

### Alumni News

We’re so proud of recent Film MFA graduate Eugina Gelbelman for her feature *The White Goddess*! Born to Jewish refugees from the Soviet Union, Eugina grew up in Brooklyn and comes from a background in stand-up comedy. After writing two other feature films, Eugina made *The White Goddess* on a budget of 10k and saw it premiere at the Fright Nights Festival in Austria in October 2021. Eugina’s fantastic accomplishment is available now to view on Amazon Prime – check it out today!

### Spring Productions

Spring productions are well under way for our film students. This semester, over twenty-five short films will be produced. Each student is responsible for writing, producing, and directing their own short, as well as crewing on other sets throughout the semester. First-year student, Andy Fidoten, has wrapped production on their short film, *Enraptured*, a post-apocalyptic tale about a young, queer couple navigating the end of the world. It was an "all-hands- on-deck" shoot, with the majority of the crew coming from students within their cohort.



While some have already wrapped filming their projects, many students are still in the throes of pre-production as they gear up to shoot in the upcoming weeks. One such first-year student is Liza Renzulli. Her short film, *A Lot of You Are Asking*, follows a young influencer who finds herself slowly cracking beneath the pressure of societal expectations and stigmas. The short is scheduled to begin filming the final week of March.

We are all highly anticipating all of the new projects from the filmmakers within our program and can’t wait to share them with you soon. Please keep your eyes on this space as we will be providing details throughout the year on where you can view some of our students' amazing work!

### Staged Readings

On Sunday, April 24th, the Stony Brook TV Writing program will host a staged reading of pilot scripts from our MFA students and recent graduates! At the Asylum Theater, located on W. 26th Street, writers will have excerpts from their pilots read on stage by professional actors. We will also showcase two produced webisodes written and directed by our TV Writing students. Refreshments will be served at the 150-seat theater and Director of TV Writing, Alan Kingsberg, will MC. Reservations will be required but all are welcome. More details to come. Hope to see you there for an exciting afternoon!

### Connect With Us!

Thank you for tuning into our final newsletter of the 2021 school year! See you in our next edition. Be sure to follow us on our social media pages for any updates:

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

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

Facebook: [@sbufilmtv](https://www.facebook.com/sbufilmtv)



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

