



MEDIA ACCESS OFFICE NEWS

Disability Resource to the Entertainment Industry



M.A.O. MEMBER APPEARANCES

Codes:

- AL-Leg Amputee B-Blind
- CP-Cerebral Palsy D-Deaf
- DD-Developmental Disability
- Ds-Down syndrome HI-Hearing Impaired
- ID-Invisible Disability LP-Little Person
- MI-Mobility Impaired WU-Wheelchair User

M.A.O. MEMBERS AND OTHER KNOWN PWD'S WHO ARE SERIES REGULARS/RECURRING

Michael J. Anderson (LP) as Samson
"Carnivale" - HBO

Deanne Bray (D) as Sue Thomas
"Sue Thomas F.B. Eye" - PAX

Robert David Hall (AL) as Coroner Dr. Robbins
"CSI: Crime Scene Investigation" - CBS

Mitch Longley (WU) as Barry "Bear" Caldwell
"Joan of Arcadia" - CBS
and as Surveillance Team Member Mitch
"Las Vegas" - NBC

Anita Hollander (AL) as Shelley
"All My Children" - ABC

Daryl Mitchell (WU) as Eli
"Ed" - NBC

Shoshannah Stern (D) as Holly Brodeen
"Threat Matrix" - ABC

TELEVISION APPEARANCES

"Curb Your Enthusiasm"

Where: HBO
Date: Debuts Jan, 4.; additional airings throughout the week; check local listings for times/dates.
Time: 9:30 PM, Pacific

M.A.O. member **Michael D'Amore (WU)** guest stars in the season premiere episode entitled 'Mel's Offer'.

"The L Word"

Where: Showtime cable network
Date: Sun., Jan. 18
Time: 10 PM, Pacific

M.A.O. member **Liza Zion (MI)** has a 'walk-on' role in this new Showtime series about the Los Angeles lesbian community.

"7th Heaven"

Where: WB TV
Date: Mon. Jan. 19.
Time: 8 PM, Pacific

M.A.O. members **Kellie McKuen (DD)**, **Nick Daley (DD)**, **Patrick Cooper (DD)**, **Pam Rawuka (DD)** and **Diana Elizabeth Jordan (MI/CP)** will be featured in this episode as residents moving into a group home.

"Pringles Potato Chips National Commercial"

Where: Premieres during the Super Bowl, CBS-TV.
Date: Sun. Feb 1.
Time: Check local listings

M.A.O. member **Gene Feldman (MI/CP)** plays a gas station attendant in this commercial.

"Capitol One National Bank Commercial"

Where: Premieres during the Super Bowl, CBS-TV.
Date: Sun. Feb. 1.
Time: Check local listings

M.A.O. member **Arkady Wonderlander (ID)** plays a Russian athlete in this commercial.

"The Guardian"

Where: CBS-TV
Date: Tues., Feb. 3.
Time: 9 PM, Pacific

M.A.O. member **Blair Williamson (Ds)** plays Mark Barlow in the episode entitled 'All Is Mended', which has a twist in the storyline that will be important to everyone with Down syndrome and their family and friends.

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THEATRE APPEARANCES

"Weights"

Where: Urban Stages, 259 W. 30th St., NYC

Performances: Jan. 9 – Feb. 1

Info: www.lynnmanning.com or www.tbtb.org.

Reservations/Tix: (212) 868-4444

Lynn Manning (B) will be performing his award-winning autobiographical solo show about the senseless shooting that left him blind, and his subsequent efforts to rebuild his life. A Theatre by the Blind production.

Congratulations to M.A.O. Members

Jackie DiLorenzo, Ed Jupp, Barbara Sinclair, and Iryn Steinfink (all WU) for their performances in the NBC-TV series **Ed** in the episode entitled 'Therapy', which aired on Nov. 12. **Barbara Sinclair** was also in the NYC Performers Access Studio production of **Paradise Follies** in Sept., along with M.A.O. members **Maria Hansen (B), Margaret Arnold (D) Jennifer DeLora (D), Max Goldberg (HI), and Ed Jupp (WU).** **Jessica Callahan (B)** for her performances at the LA Blind Children's Center on Dec. 7, and Molly Malone's Irish Pub in LA on Dec. 10. Playwright **Kari Ann Owen (MI)** for the benefit performances of three of her plays in Chico, Ca. during Nov. & Dec. **Lucy Hagan (WU)** for her voiceover and singing work in the Disney Channel cartoon **Stanley** in the role of wheelchair user Cousin Max. Her episode, entitled 'Look Who's Helping,' premiered last Jan. and has been frequently rerun throughout the year. **Loree Springsteen (HI)**, on her singing engagement Dec. 8 at Café Roma in Beverly Hills. **Danny Woodburn (LP)** for his appearance on the ABC-TV sitcom **Hope & Faith**, which aired 12/12 and 25. **Katie Rodriguez Banister (WU)** for the release of her children's book about acceptance of others, 'Aunt Katie's Visit'. For more information, or to order a copy, email her at Katie@Access-4-all.com.

Reminder to All M.A.O. Members – We would like to have your appearances in film, television, theatre, etc. mentioned in the newsletter in a **timely** fashion. Please call the office or email DGordy@edd.ca.gov with your info by the *third week of the month prior to the month in which you will appear.*

Superfest XXIV Call for Entries

The CDT's (Corporation on Disabilities & Telecommunication) annual Superfest XXIV International Media Festival on Disabilities, seeks entries of works about disability or by media-makers with a disability. A 1/2 inch VHS-NTSC preview format is required, along with a completed and signed entry and release form. Entry fees range from \$30 to \$90. Winners will be screened in the SF Bay Area. To request entry forms, send a legal size SASE to: Corporation on Disabilities and Telecommunication (CDT), P.O. Box 1107,

Berkeley, CA 94701; Phone: 510-845-5576; Email: Superfest@aol.com. Final entry deadline: January 31, 2004 (post-marked). Early bird discount if mailed by Jan. 15, 2004. NOTE: Works produced since 1/1/99 are eligible. For more info and an entry form visit: <http://www.madknight.com/cdt/superfest>.

Laura Gardner Classes

There are only two more sessions for the class in monologue preparation being offered to LA M.A.O. members in preparation for the CBS Performers with Disabilities Showcase auditions, scheduled for February. Classes will be held on Thurs. January 8th and 15th from 1-3 pm in the M.A.O. office. Classes are taught by Laura Gardner from the Howard Fine Studios. In addition, Laura will also teach a separate auditioning workshop on Thurs., Jan. 22, from 12-4 pm. To sign up for any of these, please call to reserve a spot at 818/752-1196.

Laura will also be teaching a special workshop for our M.A.O. North members in Berkeley on Sun., Jan. 25th from 1-4 pm. Space is limited; call Doug at 925-602-1542 or email him at dgordy@edd.ca.gov for more information and to reserve a spot.

HOLLYWOOD NETWORKING BREAKFAST

Due to various emergencies, December's meeting of the HNB was cancelled. Therefore, that month's scheduled guest speaker, **DAVID GALE**, has been re-scheduled for the January **Changing Images in America** breakfast. Mr. Gale is an Executive Vice President of **MTV Films/MTV Productions**; for more info, and his credits, see last month's newsletter.

Date: Thurs., Jan. 29 **Time:** 8 AM-10:30 AM

Place: Wyndham Bel Age Hotel
1020 N. San Vicente Blvd., Salon Room II
W. Hollywood, CA (1/2 block south of Sunset)

Attire: Business casual. **No Jeans or T-shirts, please!**
Price: \$25 (FULL breakfast, includes tax and tip.
Please note: valet parking charges a \$3 service fee.)
\$30 cash only for "pre-confirmed late reservations" and
\$35 cash only for "unexpected walk-ins".

Information: Contact **Sandra Lord** at (310) 477-0996 ext. 3. For more information, check out their website at: www.changingimagesinamerica.org.

Payment: Paid reservation serves as confirmed reservation. You **MUST** list your contact phone number and the names of all guests who are included on your check.

Third party or out of state checks will not be accepted from first time attendees and valid ID required.

Make checks payable to:

**Changing Images In America
PO Box 2688, Hollywood, CA 90078**

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Accommodations: If you will be requiring the services of an ASL interpreter, please include a note with your check as well as calling the Media Access Office at 818/752-1196. IMPORTANT: Request the interpreter at least three business days before the networking breakfast.

Attention MAO Writers and Filmmakers

MAO is accepting applications for the 2005 ABC Talent Development Program. Submissions to MAO must be received by **Friday, February 27, 2004**. This program provides a \$20,000 grant and a mentor to assist you in the development of a new idea or for the completion of a work in progress. To request an application please contact Gloria at the MAO at 818-752-1196 or via her email: gcastane@edd.ca.gov.

Important Breakdown Services and Submission Announcement

Actors Access provides actors with Breakdowns authorized by casting to actors through Breakdown Services. Actors Access now also offers direct electronic submissions to casting. If you're not already familiar with the new Actors Access electronic, check it out at <http://www.actorsaccess.com>.

Streetlights: Opportunity for PAs

STREETLIGHTS is a nonprofit job training, job placement and mentoring program which provides opportunities for employment in the entertainment industry for economically or socially disadvantaged young minority men and women. They run a training program for aspiring Production Assistants. A Production Assistant is an entry-level job behind the scenes in the motion picture, commercial and television industry. It is an excellent and accepted way to get your foot in the door and learn the ropes. Following six weeks of classroom and paid on-site training, Streetlights provides ongoing mentoring, job placement and career counseling to ensure your long-term success. Applications for the next 6-week training, which begins Feb. 9, are available Jan. 12. There is also an open house at Streetlights on Jan. 26 to find out more about the program. For more info, check out their website at: <http://www.streetlights.org/index2.html>.

M.A.O. Members – The office is compiling statistics and tracking results of auditions and work that Performers with Disabilities have done. It is VERY important that you please be sure to call the Reporting Line when you have an audition or work.

REPORTING LINE
818/753-3425 (N. Hollywood)
925/602-1542 (M.A.O. North)

Looking for information about us?

Get more info about the work of the *Friends of the California Governor's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities, Inc.* and the Media Access Office at:
www.disabilityemployment.org



STATE OF CALIFORNIA

LABOR and WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

*Do you have information for the Newsletter?
Write, phone or fax us at:*

The Media Access Office
4640 Lankershim Blvd., Suite 305,
N. Hollywood, CA 91602
818/752-1196 (voice) 818/753-3426 (fax)
818/753-3427 (TTY)

Media Access Office – North
363 Civic Drive
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523
925/602-1542 (voice) 925-602-1540 (fax)
711 (CA Relay Service)

REACH US VIA E-MAIL:

Gloria M. Castañeda – GCastane@edd.ca.gov
(Send Gloria an email if you would like to receive last minute M.A.O. information or announcements via email.)

Gail Williamson – GWilliam@edd.ca.gov

Dr. Douglas Gordy (M.A.O. North) –
DGordy@edd.ca.gov

The Media Access Office is staffed by the Employment Development Department and the California Governor's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities. Volunteers and in-kind donations through the Friends of the CGCEPD, Inc. support the office. ❖

**UPDATE FROM THE GOVERNOR'S COMMITTEE'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
CATHERINE KELLY BAIRD**

As we're starting a New Year together, we want to take a moment to share an update with all of our Media Access Office (MAO) friends. But first, we want to thank each of you—whether you're a member, a volunteer, or a financial supporter—for your assistance in keeping the Media Access Office dream alive.

The year 2004 may be one of the most challenging years for all of us since we first started the MAO more than twenty years ago. For the past several years, we have received unprecedented support in our partnership with the State Employment Development Department (EDD). But the current MAJOR State budget deficit, staffing issues, and economic difficulties nationally are making it necessary to evaluate which MAO services are the most important.

We listened to your input at our November 18 MAO members' town hall forum, and will definitely be guided by your excellent suggestions. During the next several months, until additional funding can be identified (ideas are welcome!), we will not be able to start any new programs, and are concerned about our ability to continue some current activities. Please be reassured that this is a time of *transition* which we are committed to getting through—stronger than ever. In the interim, we will be sure to keep you updated, as new information is available. And we will be calling on those of you who offered to assist with some of the office activities.

As I reaffirmed from the stage during our recent Media Access Awards program on November 2, the California Governor's Committee recognizes the power and significance of the work of the Media Access Office—to increase employment opportunities for all people with disabilities and to work within the media industry to truly make our world a better place for all. We remain committed to working with all of you to make sure we keep this dream alive.