

PRESS RELEASE

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CONTACT: Michelle Long-Coffee, Dir. PR & Advertising
(310) 287-4597 | longcofm@wlaac.edu
9000 Overland Ave. - Culver City, CA 90230



Notable Screenwriters & Producers Join WLAC Faculty

Public Invited to WLAC Cinema Showcase Aug 13-15

West Los Angeles College, whose campus was once part of the Culver City MGM Backlot, has been injecting new energy and resources into its Cinema program recently. Last spring, the community college celebrated the receipt of grants totaling \$2.5 million to help fund the expansion of training programs for behind the scenes entertainment industry jobs. This semester, West has added four new instructors with writing and producing credits that include UPN's "Buffy the Vampire Slayer," Sony Pictures film "Lords of Dogtown," Lifetime Cable movies, and a Disney/ABC Television animated pilot.



Chad Freehan, Eric Nelson, Evan Charnov, Peter Sullivan

The new instructors are Evan Charnov, Executive Producer/Screenwriter; Eric Nelson, Screenwriter; Peter Sullivan, Screenwriter/Producer; and Chad Freehan, Producer.

Charnov's numerous credits include being the youngest production executive for the highly successful television series "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" and "Angel." As an executive producer/creator under Jerry Bruckheimer, he worked on several one-hour drama pilots. In 2005, Sony Pictures appointed him producer of skateboard-hipster film "Lord of Dogtown."

Nelson was a 2003 finalist in the AFI Final Project of the Year. This earned him a writing assistant position for Stephen Mazur ("Liar, Liar" and "Heartbreakers"). In 2005, Nelson collaborated with Charnov to produce and write memorable commercials for Unilever's Axe Body Wash campaign.

Sullivan has written numerous films including one of the highest rated Christmas movies in the Lifetime cable channel's history, "Eve's Christmas," starring Elisa Donovan and Cheryl Ladd. Other writing credits include "Blind Injustice," "Cave In," "Faultline," and the upcoming New Line Cinema release "Poison Ivy 4: The Secret Society."

Freehan, founder of The Fort Films, a production company based at Sunset / Gower Studios, premiered his first project at the Midnight Madness Program of the 2006 Toronto International Film Festival. The film "All the Boys Love Mandy Lane," was acquired by the Weinstein Company immediately thereafter for \$3.5 million, on of the festival's all-time most profitable sales.

The Cinema program and new and veteran instructors will be showcased Wednesday, August 12 through Friday, August 15. The community is invited to meet the faculty, get information about the program and enjoy free film screenings. The event will be held in the WLAC Fine Arts Auditorium. Free parking is available in Lot 7. For the full event schedule and course listings, visit <http://www.wlaac.edu/cema/instructors.html>