



MEDIA ACCESS OFFICE NEWS

Disability Resource to the Entertainment Industry

M.A.O. MEMBER APPEARANCES



Codes:

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

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

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

Mitch Longley (WU) as Barry "Bear" Caldwell "Joan of Arcadia" - CBS

and as Surveillance Team Member Mitch "Las Vegas" - NBC

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

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

TELEVISION APPEARANCES

"The Guardian"

Where: CBS-TV
Date: Tues., Feb. 10.
Time: 9 PM, Pacific

M.A.O. member **Blair Williamson (Ds)** is featured as Mark Barlow in the episode entitled 'All Is Mended'. In addition, M.A.O. members **Kevin Ewing**, **Casey Powell** and **Andrew Warren (all Ds)** appear as extras in a theatre audition scene in the same episode.

"Reasonable Doubt"

Where: Discovery Channel
Dates/Times: Tues., 2/3. at 2 pm & 12 am; Sun., 2/8 at 6 pm; Sat., 2/21 at 10 pm and 1 am - all times Pacific.

M.A.O. member **Kellie McKuen (DD)** is featured as a juror in the premiere episode entitled 'People of the State of Calif. vs. Kenneth Carroll Fitzhugh, Jr.'

"Life with Bonnie"

Where: ABC-TV
Date: Fri., Feb. 6.
Time: 9:30 PM, Pacific

M.A.O. member **June Jordan (LP)** will be appearing in the 'Nightshift' episode, playing a telethon pledge call volunteer. She is also a regular 'stand in' for the characters of Tony & Charlie on the show!

"Kingdom Hospital"

Where: ABC-TV
Date: Premieres Weds. Mar. 3 at 9 pm; thereafter at 10 pm.

M.A.O. members **Jennifer Cunningham (Ds)** and **Brandon Bauer (Ds)** play series regulars Crista and Abel, who are kitchen workers, in this Stephen King adaptation of a Danish miniseries about a haunted hospital. A 13 week series that may be picked up for additional episodes.

THEATRE APPEARANCE

Where: Eagle Rock LA Public Library
Date/Time: Sat. Feb. 28 from 3-4:30 pm
Info: 323/660-4607

M.A.O. acting teacher **Christina Kokubo's** Changing Perceptions Theatre by the Blind and Physically Challenged troupe will be performing their theatre piece. The troupe is also looking for volunteers to help out with the show and also future productions; call the number above if interested.

February 2004

Congratulations to M.A.O. Members

Arturo Gil (LP) for his appearance in an entertainment short that appeared 12/22 just prior to the Monday Night Football Game. He played an elf foreman in the one time only spot. **Ricardo Gil (LP)** for his appearance in the LA production of **Baz Luhrmann's La Boheme**. **Allison Cameron Gray (WU/CP)** and **Cassie Marriner (CP/MI)** for their appearances in the documentary **Given a Chance: A Little Girl's Journey**, which screened at Panavision in Woodland Hills on 1/24. **Lisa Zion (MI)** for her work as Make-up Artist and Wardrobe Mistress on the indie film **Mr. Dixon**, and her being cast in the currently filming student film **Iraq Star** (...and apologies for misspelling her name in last month's newsletter entry regarding her appearance on **The L Word**). **James Bryant (WU)** for his singing engagement at the Festival of Human Abilities event in Long Beach on 1/24-25. **Fred Beam (D)** for his ongoing performances nationwide with his group the Wild Zappers during Feb. & Mar. **Guy Christmas (VI)** for his appearances on the **Joe Franklin Show** in New York on 1/22 and 2/2. **Jody Lee Olhava (MI)** for the impending completion of her film **Mamochka, A Russian Folktale Retold**. **Jay Jacobus (MI/MI)** for filming roles in the upcoming pictures **The Assassination of Richard Nixon**, **Don't Blink** and **The Elder**. **Michael Richard (VI)** for the inclusion of his photos during the Feb. month-long show entitled 'The View From Here' at the LA Artcore Gallery.

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.*

Comedy Competition Auditions!

Auditions for the upcoming 5th annual Norman G. Brooks Comedy Competition will be held at the LA Office on April 17. Applicants must register with the office via phone or email. Performers are limited to 3 minutes of original material. The top 10 comedians judged to be the best by a celebrity panel will move on to the actual competition, which will take place in June at a local comedy club (specific date and venue has not been finalized yet). All competitors will not only get showcase exposure in front of industry insiders, but the winner is also awarded a scholarship of \$1,500! Contact the office for more info.

Call for Media Access Award Nominations

The office is seeking nominations of short subjects and independent films for Media Access Awards. Rather than giving out product awards at the annual fall ceremony as in the past, product awards will now be distributed throughout the year, whenever a product of significance is deemed award-worthy. A blue ribbon panel of industry and disability experts will consider each nomination and decide on final approval of awards. Although studio films and television shows will also be considered, as these are more high profile, the office is particularly interested in nominations of those little-known independent films and short subjects currently on the festival circuit, which may have escaped more widespread notice. (Note: There is no need to nominate films such as 'The Station Agent,' which has received lots of attention – we already know about those!). For further info, to make nominations, or to obtain judging criteria, please contact the office.

M.A.O. Classes Starting

M.A.O. is starting several classes for our members - enrollment is limited. To sign up, or for more information, call or email the office.

- 1. Acting Technique**
Instructor: Laura Gardner
of classes: 6 sessions
Dates: Starts Thurs. February 19th
Time: 1-3 PM
- 2. Acting Workshop**
Instructor: David Zimmerman
of classes: 12 sessions
Dates: Starts Thurs. February 26th
Time: 7-9 PM
- 3. Writing Workshop:
Feature Film Script – Completing the 1st Draft**
Instructor: Evan Sommers
of classes: 12 sessions
Dates: Starts Tues. March 16th
Time: 6:30-9 PM

HOLLYWOOD NETWORKING BREAKFAST

Due to the delay of the Jan. Hollywood Networking Breakfast till the end of the month, info on the Feb. session was not available at press time. For information on such, contact **Sandra Lord** at (310) 477-0996 ext. 3 or check out their website at: www.changingimagesinamerica.org.

Entertainment Jobs Websites

Here is a random listing of some industry websites that may prove helpful in getting jobs (unfortunately, most of them require a fee!). [Entertainmentcareers.net](http://entertainmentcareers.net) is an informational website with a great list of "job lines" or employment hotlines for various major networks and studios, as well as other resources such as scam warnings, tips on how to become an extra, and free entertainment job listings and internships. The first month's membership costs only \$4.95 and members receive listings 24 hours before the general public does. [Showbizjobs.com](http://showbizjobs.com) allows actors to browse by company or job category and offers some free listings, but the premium service, which allows actors to post their resumes, costs \$35 for six months. [Entertainmentjobs.com](http://entertainmentjobs.com) has jobs and internships, a directory listing more than 3,800 entertainment companies, career articles, a Q-and-A section, and a calendar of upcoming industry seminars and events; membership costs \$39 for three months. [Actionjobs.com](http://actionjobs.com) offers listings of entertainment jobs and offbeat jobs, involving dude ranches, snowboarding, and resorts; it costs \$39.95 for a three-month "unlimited" membership (extended for another three months if you don't get a job). [Reeldirt.com](http://reeldirt.com) is a free site that posts job listings, resources, scripts, and industry gossip.

Attention MAO Writers/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>.

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



Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger
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. ❖

Coogan Law Changes for Young Performers

Parents of M.A.O. Members, please take note!

Starting Jan. 1, 2004 the rules governing California's mandatory Coogan Accounts for young performers changed. Basically, parents whose children are already established and who are members of the unions will be little affected and need only attach their Coogan Account info to their Dept. of Labor Work Permit within ten days of issuance. New work permits will be issued without Coogan Account info, but expire within ten days if that info is ***not*** attached. Parents are advised to begin the process of obtaining work permits for their performing children early to accommodate these changes.

***Contact the AFTRA-SAG Young Performers Committee
at 323/549-6419 for additional info.***