

SARA BARGER

Senior Video Producer/Director/Scriptwriter
(202) 669.6970 - SaraBarger@gmail.com
www.SaraBarger.com

Summary: Academy Award-recognized filmmaker with 20+ years of experience creating impactful video content for government, corporations, NGOs, and non-profit clients. Currently holds a Public Trust clearance.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior Video Production Lead

Defense Health Agency (DHA), Qinetiq

December 2021 – Present

- Creative Director of video products for the Military Health System, which provides services for 9.6 million service members, retirees and family members.
- Project manage all aspects of video productions from inception through final delivery, including organizing the production, delegating tasks, scheduling & directing on-camera talent, creating project timelines, and creating scripts and storyboards.
- In charge of all production planning and logistics management for in-studio productions, remote video shoots and live events for both internal and external audiences.
- Produce, script, film and edit DHA branded programming for delivery to general audiences via multiple electronic platforms including Health.mil and social media accounts.
- Manage a full-time editor, videographer and graphic designer through to production and post-production process.
- Conduct video interviews with subject matter experts and high-profile interviewees, such as the Director of the Defense Health Agency and the Assistant Secretary for Health Affairs.
- Set goals and objectives, manage budgets and schedules, coordinate and supervise performance of all team members, and assist staff as needed.
- Maintain progress of projects and inspects quality of production.
- Provide video support for all major conferences a year, including creating content shown at events, producing event coverage, and editing videos post-conference.
- Maintain cohesive brands across all video products and collaborate with senior management on video mediums.
- Expert in the Adobe Creative Suite, specifically Premiere Pro, After Effects and Photoshop.
- Expert videographer filming on various cameras in both HD & 4K formats.

Freelance Senior Production Consultant

May 2004 – Dec. 2022

Producer, Writer, Editor, Scriptwriter, Director of Photography

- Manage a wide range of productions from conception to completion, which includes shooting, writing, editing and producing high quality videos for various platforms.
- Create budgets that work within each client's needs while tracking cash flow and production schedules throughout the entire production process.
- Hire and manage freelance writers, cameramen, editors and graphic designers that fit each project.
- Live-stream events for clients using various social media platforms.

Film Professor

December 2017- 2021

American University, George Washington, George Mason & Old Dominion University

- Taught hands-on video production courses including Intro to Filmmaking, Advanced Editing, Film for Marketing, Documentary Filmmaking, and Career Development.
- Mentored students on their film projects, portfolios, career development, internships, studying abroad, and various other topics/issues.
- Collaborated with other faculty on professional film projects funded by the department.

Video Editor, Videographer & Photographer**Nov. 2014 – Dec. 2017**

Creative Associates International

- Film interviews, set-up lighting and edit short documentaries for an international development company specializing in executing contracts throughout the developing world.
- Videographer for USAID project shoots in Honduras, El Salvador, China and Tibet.
- Worked with the communications team to create high quality videos that tell compelling stories which highlight project success stories and supplement bids.

Senior Video Producer/ Multimedia Specialist**April – June 2013**

State Department, The Borlaug Institute – Democratic Republic of Congo

- Created a series of compelling documentaries by identifying human-interest stories that highlighted the successes of the FARDC Agricultural Development Program based in Kisangani, DRC.
- Acted as the sole videographer, writer, producer and graphic designer for all videos produced in both English and Lingala.
- Conducted media training for the Chief of Party.

Senior Video Producer/Editor/Cameraman**August – Dec. 2012**

USAID, Louis Berger Group – Iraq

- Produced, wrote, shot and edited documentaries in both English and Arabic for the USAID-*Inma* Agricultural Program based in Baghdad, Iraq.
- Filmed footage and interviewed Arabic, Kurdish and English speakers throughout the country, including local farmers, government officials, and private sector employees.
- Worked with local staff and State Department employees to identify compelling stories that helped explain the broader mission of USAID-*Inma*'s overall impact on the region.
- Trained local Iraqis how to shoot and edit basic videos, use Photoshop, and write scripts using good story-telling techniques.

Video Producer/Editor**July 2009 – 2010**

Discovery Communications, Digital Media Department

- Created captivating new media content to publicize shows for TLC, Investigation Discovery, Animal Planet, Military Channel, and Science Channel.
- Worked with a digital publicist to create compelling viral content that created earned publicity from blogs, online news sources, and other online platforms.

Producer/Editor**Dec. 2004 – May 2009**

U.S. Department of Veterans' Affairs, Maslow Media

- Produced, wrote and supervised editing of a 15-part news-magazine style series promoting various medical research programs at VA hospitals across the country.
- Produced video news releases that were distributed nationally for VA's Research Week.
- Produced and edited over 20 videos for the news-magazine show *The American Veteran* on a variety of topics relevant to veterans' and service-members.

EDUCATION**MFA**, Documentary FilmThe Vermont College of Fine Arts, *Montpelier, VT***MA**, Journalism and Public AffairsAmerican University, *Washington, D.C.***BA**, Visual Media and Public Affairs

American University, Washington, DC

Graduated *cum laude*, 3.67 GPA

FILMMAKING AWARDS & RECOGNITION

President, Women in Film & Video

2019-2021

President of the board for Washington, DC's largest nonprofit serving over 900 media professionals in the Mid-Atlantic Region.

DC Arts & Humanities Fellow

2020

- Awarded a DC Arts & Humanities Fellowship Grant for outstanding work as a local DC filmmaker.

Little but Fierce, 30 min. documentary (2020)

www.littlebutfiercefilm.com

- 2020 Student Academy Awards Finalist
- Best Student Short Documentary, 2020 Breckenridge Film Festival
- Nominee for Best Short Documentary, Richmond International Film Festival 2021
- Spotlight Documentary Film Awards Gold Winner
- Independent Shorts Awards Finalist
- New York International Film Awards Finalist
- Flickers' Rhode Island International Film Festival Semi-Finalist
- Presented at the University Film & Video Association 2019 Conference

Brothers, 9 min. experimental documentary (2019)

- Official Selection of the Magikal Charm Experimental Video & Film Fest

The Southern Ladies, 12 min. documentary (2018)

- Premiered at the 2019 Pittsburgh Underground [Queer] Film Festival
- Screened at the "I Have a Dream" Indie Film Showcase in Arlington, VA
- Official Selection of the 2020 Women in Film Pittsburgh film festival

Welcome to San Pedro, 3 min. documentary short (2014)

- Best Interview Video, *PR Daily*

Alternative to Foreclosure, documentary series (2012)

- Communicator's Award, International Academy of Visual Arts