SARA BARGER

VIDEO PRODUCER | CREATIVE DIRECTOR | VIDEOGRAPHER | EDITOR

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Senior multimedia producer and communications leader with 20+ years of experience leading strategic video production for public affairs organizations, nonprofits, educational institutions, government agencies, and mission-driven organizations. Skilled at developing digital video strategies, translating complex policy and public-interest topics into compelling narratives, and leading productions from concept through final delivery. Advanced proficiency in Adobe Creative Cloud and end-to-end video production workflows.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

CREATIVE PRODUCER

AL Media Strategy | Washington, DC / *May 2025 – November 2026*

- Led video and multimedia productions for political clients, overseeing projects from creative development through final delivery across television, radio, paid digital, social, and other platforms.
- Partnered with account and creative teams to develop concepts and strategic content designed to reach and engage target audiences.
- Oversaw production logistics, including crew hiring, scheduling, budgets, interviews, locations, and on-set direction.
- Reviewed and guided scripts, creative concepts, edits, motion graphics, and final deliverables to ensure editorial and creative quality.
- Directed interviews and production shoots; provided creative direction throughout production and post-production.
- Supervised editors and motion graphics artists; manage licensing and coordinated vendors, talent, music, and other production resources.
- Maintained and reconciled production and post-production budgets.
- Recent clients: Sen. Abdul El-Sayed, Gov. Abigail Spanberger, Gov. Janet Mills, DC Councilmember Kenyan McDuffie, Comptroller Sean Scanlon, Attorney General Keith Ellison, & Sen. Ed Markey.

SENIOR VIDEO PRODUCTION LEAD

Defense Health Agency (DHA) | Washington, DC / *December 2021 – May 2025*

- Served as Creative Director and Senior Producer for video communications supporting the Military Health System, which provides healthcare services to approximately 9.6 million individuals.
- Led end-to-end strategic video production, from concept development and pre-production through scripting, storyboarding, production, editing, and final delivery.
- Developed video concepts and editorial approaches aligned with organizational priorities, strategic communications objectives, and audience needs.
- Collaborated with communications, social media, editorial, program, and leadership stakeholders to develop effective multimedia content.
- Managed a multidisciplinary team of a full-time editor, videographer, and graphic designer; established goals, schedules, workflows, and priorities while managing budgets and competing deadlines.
- Conducted interviews with senior government leaders, subject-matter experts, and high-profile stakeholders, including the Director of the Defense Health Agency.
- Reviewed scripts, creative concepts, edits, graphics, sound, color, and final deliverables for editorial accuracy and production quality.
- Provided hands-on post-production expertise using Adobe Premiere Pro, After Effects, and Photoshop, including editing, motion graphics, color grading, sound design, and finishing.
- Developed, filmed, and edited content addressing complex healthcare, technology, and government programs, translating technical information into accessible stories for broad audiences.

FILM PROFESSOR

American University | George Washington University | George Mason | Old Dominion / *December 2017 – 2021*

- Taught hands-on courses in filmmaking, advanced editing, documentary production, and marketing.
- Mentored emerging filmmakers in production practices, storytelling, editing, portfolio development, and career preparation.
- Guided students through complete production workflows, from concept and pre-production through post-production and final delivery.

SENIOR MULTIMEDIA SPECIALIST

Creative Associates International | *November 2014 – December 2017*

- Produced, filmed, and edited video and documentary content supporting international development programs and organizational communications.
- Collaborated with communications teams to identify human-interest stories and translate complex development work into accessible visual narratives.
- Served as videographer on USAID project productions in Honduras, El Salvador, China, and Tibet.
- Worked in challenging international production environments requiring flexibility, strong field production skills, and independent problem-solving.

VIDEO PRODUCER / EDITOR / VIDEOGRAPHER

U.S. Department of State – Democratic Republic of Congo | *April – June 2013*

- Created documentary-style videos highlighting outcomes of the FARDC Agricultural Development Program.
- Identified compelling human-interest stories and developed them into engaging multimedia narratives; conducted field production in an international government-program environment.

VIDEO PRODUCER / EDITOR / VIDEOGRAPHER

USAID – Iraq | *August – December 2012*

- Produced, wrote, shot, and edited documentary content for the USAID-Inma Agricultural Program.
- Developed stories highlighting program impact and local participants; produced content in English and Arabic in an international field environment.

SENIOR VIDEO PRODUCER / EDITOR

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs | *December 2004 – May 2009*

- Produced, wrote, and supervised editing for a 15-part news-magazine-style video series promoting VA medical research programs.
- Managed production from story development and scripting through field production and post-production, translating complex medical and research topics into accessible stories for broad public audiences.

EDUCATION

MFA, Documentary Film | Vermont College of Fine Arts | Montpelier, VT
MA, Broadcast Journalism | American University | Washington, DC
BA, Film and Public Affairs, cum laude | American University | Washington, DC

AWARDS & PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP

- **President, Women in Film & Video** — 2019–2021 — Led the board of Washington, DC's largest nonprofit serving more than 900 media professionals.
- **Academy Awards Finalist, Student Documentary category** — Little but Fierce (2020).
- **Best Short Documentary, Breckenridge Film Festival** — Little but Fierce.
- **Telly Award, Bronze** — Little but Fierce.
- **Viddy Award, Gold** — Nurses of Vietnam (2025).
- **DC Arts & Humanities Fellowship** — 2020.
- **Communicator's Award, International Academy of Visual Arts** — Alternatives to Foreclosure, documentary series.
- **Dad Genes** — Feature documentary currently playing at Oscar-qualifying film festivals.