

TRAI CARTWRIGHT, MFA

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www.traicartwright.com

EDUCATION

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY TISCH SCHOOL OF THE ARTS, New York, New York.

A.A. in Liberal Arts, Honors B.A. in Film and Television Production, Fall 1991.

Heavy concentration on independent study screenwriting, five production-related internships, and crewed for no fewer than 25 student films.

UCLA WRITER'S PROGRAM, Los Angeles, California.

Novel IV and V, with award-winning novelist and UCLA professor Tod Goldberg.

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY, Fort Collins, Colorado.

Attended MFA graduate Creating Writing Fiction program Fall 2009 – Spring 2010.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA RIVERSIDE, Palm Desert, California.

MFA, Creative Writing and Writing for Performance Arts, conferred June 2012.

Double major: Fiction, Screenwriting.

Chair: Tod Goldberg.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Western Colorado University, MFA Program, Gunnison, Colorado.

Screen and Television Writing Faculty. 2018 – Present. Top 5 low-residency MFAs (*Movie Maker Magazine*). Classes include, "Writing the TV Pilot," "Writing the Feature," "Writing the TV Spec," "Writing the Adaptation."

University of Denver Professional Creative Writing Graduate Program, Denver, Colorado.

Adjunct Professor, Winter 2018 - Present. Online Course: "Writing the Screenplay;" on campus courses "Adapting Literature to Film," "Arts and Cultural Entrepreneurship," "Capstone Thesis" advisor. Creation of curriculum for "Writing for TV."

University of Colorado - Denver, Denver, Colorado.

Adjunct Professor, Fall 2018 - Present. "Short Scriptwriting," "Writing the Short Film: Non-Fiction," "Production Management," "Diversity of Drama."

Colorado Film School, Denver, Colorado.

Adjunct Professor, Spring 2013 – Spring 2018. Top 25 in the nation (*Hollywood Reporter*)

Courses: "Writing the Short Script," "Short Script Analysis," "English Composition," "Writing for TV," "Writing the Web Series," "Development of Film Expression."

University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, Colorado.

Adjunct Professor, Fall 2012 – Spring 2016. Courses: "Introduction to Film Studies;" "Creative Writing," "Children, Adolescent, and Young Adult Literature."

Craftwrite, Colorado

Founder and Teacher, 2010 – Present. A sampling of courses: "Screenwriting," "Advanced Screenwriting," "Full Script Analysis," "Writing for TV," "Advanced Writing for TV," "Building the Better Book."

AIMS Community College, Greeley, Colorado.

Adjunct Professor, Spring 2013. Course: "Introduction to Film Art."

Front Range Community College, Fort Collins, Colorado.

Adjunct Professor, Spring 2011 – Spring 2013. Courses: "Writing for Film," "Screenwriting II."

Laramie County Community College, Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Adjunct Professor, Spring 2010 – Fall 2012. Courses: "Screenwriting," "Screenwriting II."

Poudre River Libraries, Fort Collins, Colorado.

Creative Writing Teacher in Residence, Spring 2011 – Present. Courses taught: "Screenwriting 101 for ScriptFrenzy," "Creating Literary Worlds," "Writing Scenes that Pop!" "Novel Know-How for NaNoWriMo," "Character Creation," "Voices in Your Head," etc.

Rocky Mountain Fiction Writers, Denver, Colorado.

"Screenwriting," "Advanced Screenwriting," "Writing for TV," 2014. "Build a Better Book," Online, October, 2013. "Top 10 Lessons Movies Can Teach Novelists," Online, December 2013.

Northern Colorado Writers & NCW Writers Conference, Fort Collins, Colorado

Creative Writing Teacher, 2008 – Present. Over a dozen workshops presented including: "Tools of the Screenwriting Trade," "Sceneworks," "Rules for World Building," "What Movies Have to Teach Novelists," "Speed Dating Your Ideas," "Genres, Themes and Your Story."

Writers Conferences

Creative Writing Teacher, 2008 – Present. Over four dozen workshops presented including:

Pikes Peak Writers Conference, 2009, 2014, 2015, 2018-2020.

Northern Colorado Writers. 2007 – 2018 -- 2020.

Castle Rock Writers Conference, 2010 – 2017 - 2020.

Denver ComiCon, 2016-2019.

Young Filmmakers Project, 2016.

Arapahoe Library ComiCon, 2015.

Fort Collins ComiCon 2015.

Denver Screenwriters, 2014, 2015.

AnomolyCon, 2014, 2017.

Moondance International Film Festival, 2014.

Colorado Gold Writers Conference, 2008, 2012, 2013.

Imaginantes Youth Arts Festival, 2010.

Manitou Springs Author Fest, 2010.

Society of Children Book Writers and Illustrators, 2009..

Colorado Romance Writers, 2009.

Laramie County Youth Camp, 2009, Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Southern California Writers Conference, 2008, San Diego, California.

Scriptwriter's Network High School Screenwriting Fellowship, 2001-2009, Los Angeles, California.

Screenwriting Mentor to a dozen teens yearly.

RELATED WORK EXPERIENCE

Craftwrite.com, 1998 - Present, Los Angeles, California & Fort Collins, Colorado.

Editor and Development Consultant

- Read and provide one-on-one comprehensive editorial notes writers across multiple formats.
- Assist in brand and platform development, marketing and submission in screenwriting, TV, fiction and nonfiction.
- Have assisted in the publication of over a dozen clients.
- Project and Sales Manager for several companies, performing significant Research & Development and Marketing planning and execution.

Mark Graham Company, 2021 – Present, Denver, CO

- Ghostwriter for *Big Little Giants of Perryville* screenplay adaptation.
- Extensive research and interviews.
- Creation of outline, treatment and screenplay.

Building Seven, 2021 - 2022, Denver, CO.

- Co-Producer of short film, written by Naomi Wantwadi, with Mike Henderson (Plan 9 Sound) and Jacob Smith (*Waking the Sleeping Giant*).
- Development of script.
- Pre-production and production duties including casting, securing locations and crews, on-set problem solving, post-production supervision.
- Devise Marketing and festival campaign.

Sugarcoated, 2020 - 2021, Denver, CO; Philadelphia, PA.

- Extensive development of feature film concept for award-winning producer Z Ali.
- Writer of screenplay treatment.

Sundown Road, 2019, Denver, CO.

- Co-Producer of short film, written by Mark Kjelgaard.
- Extensive development of script.
- Pre-production and productions duties include casting, securing locations and crews, on-set problem solving, post-production supervision.
- Devises Marketing campaign.
- Accepted into 3 national Film Festivals.

We Are WIFMCO, 2019, Denver, CO

- Created production strategy for Women in Film & Media Colorado short documentary.
- Organized and collected over 50 B-roll materials, including clips, pictures, and credits.
- Supervised post-production.

Hidden Tigers, 2017 – Present, Denver, CO.

- Co-Producer of docu-series. Developed content of 8 episode TV show.
- Pre-production and productions duties included securing locations and crews for pilot shoot, supervising contracts, overseeing interview content,
- Post-production duties include helping creating marketing materials, overseeing pilot edit, and outreach for pitches.
- Accepted into 4 Film Festivals.

Screenwriter, Producer, Secret Ellington, 2018, Denver, CO.

- Placed Top10% of Nicholl Fellowship; semifinals of Big Break Contest; Semifinals of ScreenCraft Public Domain and True Story Screenplay Contest.

Ultimate Pitchfest, April 2016 – February 2017, Denver, Colorado.

Co-Founder with Link Miller Productions

- Created digital video chat pitch event, the first ever in Colorado.
- Marketed online and via extensive personal contacts.
- Outreach to agents, securing 20 for the day.
- Helped manage sales of 150 pitches.
- Coordinated pitch communications and pitch sessions the day of.
- 80% read request rate.
- Meet the Hollywood Pros (Sept. 2017) – interviews with 4 Los Angeles manager/producers.

Stadium Anthems, 2015, Denver, Colorado.

Feature Film Associate Producer.

- Consulted in development of screenplay.
- Assisted in pre-production of feature film, including casting, location scouting, hiring of department heads, etc.
- Distribution on Amazon Prime.

Colorado Script Exchange, 2014 – 2018, Denver, Colorado

Founder, Director of database connecting Colorado writers and media-makers, 2015 - Present.
www.coloradoscriptexchange.com

- Development, production of service.
- Oversaw web design; wrote all text for site.
- Coordinated all PR materials and outreach.
- Successfully orchestrated an IndieGoGo campaign to fund the site.

Colorado Smart Film Investment Coalition, 2015 – 2017, Denver, Colorado

Co-Founder with Art Thomas, Producer and Advisor for film education organization.

- Media incubator, in partnership with 12 local filmmakers.
- Development and creator of organization, including class scheduling.
- Taught classes to both producers and investors.
- Coordinated all PR materials and outreach.

Explorati Teens, 2009-2018, Fort Collins, Denver, Colorado.

Executive Director, Marketer, Project Manager and Fundraiser for non-profit teen literacy and arts program.

www.exploratiteens.com

- Explorati Teen Writers Boot Camp, 2009 – Creation and presentation of one- to two-week programs including Fiction, Screenwriting for middle schoolers and high schoolers.
- Explorati Teens Film & Theater Camp, 2011, one week program.
- Camps have served over 225 Northern Colorado teens, and provided 75 scholarships to underserved and at risk teens.
- Top Budget: \$45,000, 2011.
- Total raised in-kind donations, grants and discounts: over \$73,000.
- Leads two year-around teen writers critique groups.

LOS ANGELES

Screenplay Competition Judge, Los Angeles, California.

Scriptapalooza, 2001-2004; 2011; 2013.

Bluecat Screenwriting Competition, 2007.

Scriptwriter's Network Carl Sauter Competition, 1997-1998.

Offshore, 2007, Detroit, Michigan, Los Angeles, California.

Feature Film Producer (uncredited).

- Consulted in development of screenplay and editing of feature film.
- Supervised the creation and coordination of all press materials, including EPKs, DVD content, Website and Filmmakers Interview; wrote all marketing materials.
- Responsible for domestic and international marketing strategy and outreach.
- Secured distribution with Entertainment 7.

20th Century Fox, Manager, Fox Mobile Studios, 2005-2007, Los Angeles, California

- Developed mobile content campaigns to be sold on www.jamster.com, ranging from applications to community-building and one-off concepts.
- Created PowerPoint and Excel presentations for research and campaign purposes.
- Spearheaded recruitment for Graphic Design Intern Lab, including out-reach to schools, evaluation of candidates and matriculation of interns.
- Managed interns, including scheduling, payroll and assisted in project management.

HBO Films, Original Programming, HIP, 1998-2005, Script Consultant, Los Angeles, California.

Read and provide coverage for thousands of submissions of all formats and mediums.

Trap, 2002-2007, Detroit, Michigan, Los Angeles, California.

Feature Film Associate Producer

- Consulted in development of screenplay and editing of feature film.
- Supervised the creation and coordination of all press materials, including EPKs, DVD content, Website and Filmmakers Interview; wrote all marketing materials.
- Responsible for marketing strategy, which resulted in placement in ten film festivals and the retention of producer's rep Ronna Wallace.
- Domestic Home Video Release: Early 2008.

explorati, inc., 2001, Los Angeles, California.

Assistant Project Manager for massively multi-player role-playing game company.

- Acted as liaison between Hollywood studios, writers and company.
- Developed and wrote game writer's protocol document.
- Assisted in creation of VC funding presentations.
- Assisted in all aspects of creative and business development for a start-up, including coordinating the work of a staff of 12, located in 7 different locations.

Leonardo DiCaprio International Short Online Film Festival, 1999-2000, Los Angeles, California.

Assistant Director

- Created roadmap for Program, Website and Festival Expansion.
- Spearheaded acquisitions for Competition and Out of Competition.
- Project manager for website creation, including writing and editing text.
- Developed and implemented all operational systems.

Dinner Rush, 1998, Chicago, Illinois, Los Angeles, California.

Feature Film Producer (uncredited).

- Consulted in development of screenplay.
- Packaged director and cast.
- Raised funds and secured International Distribution.
- Film was screened at six film festivals, winning two awards.
- International Release and Domestic Home Video Release: 2002.

Prelude Pictures, 1996-1998, Los Angeles, California.

Director of Development.

- Participated in the development of multiple film and television projects by writing story notes, participating in writer's meetings and actively seeking out new material.
- Cultivated relationships with writers, directors, representation and production companies.
- Assisted Producer Peter Saphier (*Scarface*, *Deer Hunter*) during production of *Lost In Space* (co-produced with New Line Cinemas) and *Black Dog* (co-produced with Universal Pictures and Raffaella de Laurentiis).
- Oversaw Script Readers and Internship Program.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE & PUBLICATIONS

Denver Screenwriters Meetup, 2020 – Present

<https://www.meetup.com/Denver-ScreenWriters>

- President / Organizer. Offers three monthly classes to its 450 members, including Table Reads, Story Breaking, and a rotating craft or business class.

Women in Film & Media Colorado, Founding Board Member, 2016 - 2020

www.wifmco.org

- President, 2018-2020. Extensive support service for all committees; oversee development and administration of organization.
- Development, programming, hiring, and execution of the main fundraiser, the Industry Fair.
- Development Chair, 2016 - 2017. Responsible for program development and fund raising to support scholarships, grants, finishing funds, contest prizes.
- Organized and Executes Screenplay Contest, November 2016 - 2018.

“How to Impress the Development Executive.” PERFORM: Succeeding as a Creative Professional: *Writing for the Screen*. Edited by Anna Weinstein, Focal Press, 2016.

“Think like a Script Agent or Producer: Get Your Script Read.” *Guide to Literary Agents*. Edited by Chuck Sambuchino, Writer's Digest Books, 2011.

Screenwriter's & Playwright's Market, Writer's Digest Books.

Edited by Chuck Sambuchino.

- “Best in Show: Advice From Judges on Winning Screenwriting Contests;” “Taking Away the No's: Think Like a Producer and Sell Your Script,” 2010.
- “A Judge's Perspective,” 2009.

Future Workplace, 2009-2010, Fort Collins, CO.

Researcher, Corporate Education Writer for Executive-Level Professional Development Consultants.

- “Developing the Defense Intelligence Agency Workplace of the Future.” Ghostwrote white pages, Edited by Rick Von Feldt, 2010.

- “Accelerating Time-to-Value Performance: Bridging the Gap Between Expertise and T2V,” presentation paper, Future Workplace’s Professional Development Conference for Fortune 500 company Chief Learning Officers, 2009.
- “Leadership in the 2020 Workplace,” Ghostwrote articles for *Leadership Excellence* magazine and CareerBuilder.com, 2009.

Screenwriter, *Balsawood*, 2008, Los Angeles, California.

- Semifinalist of Nicholls Screenwriting Fellowship, Scriptapalooza, ScriptShark Competition.
- Quarterfinalist of the Screenwriters Expo.
- Represented by Preferred Artists.

Screenwriter, *Burning Sky*, 2004, Los Angeles, California.

- Screenplay optioned by producers Peter Saphier & Olivier Sarda.
- Semi-Finalist of Nicholls Screenwriting Fellowship.
- Represented by CAA.

Screenwriter, *Girlfriend*, 2000, Los Angeles, California.

- Screenplay optioned by Producer / Manager Agatha Dominik.
- Screenplay optioned by producers Peter Saphier & Olivier Sarda.
- Represented by CAA.

Screenwriter, *Little Man Travels*, 1998, Los Angeles, California.

- Screenplay optioned by Prelude Pictures.
- Represented by CAA.

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REFERENCES

- Stephanie Smith-Train, PhD
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720-879-2398
- Justin Jones
Adjunct Professor, Production, Colorado Film School
justinjonesinc@gmail.com
815-751-5727
- William Rabkin
Author & Professor of Screenwriting, University of Riverside, California
WRabkin@aol.com