

KATHRYN O'KANE

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I am a director and producer with twenty years of diverse experience in television, advertising, and web media. My strength is telling character-driven stories featuring wide-ranging subject matter including science, tech, business, entertainment, sports, and fashion. I am honored to have served two terms on the New York Women in Film and Television Board of Directors, which supports the careers of women in the entertainment industry. For documentary television and film, I am represented by CAA.

WORK EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS:

DIRECTOR: COMMERCIAL WORK

- **Harvest Season** Client: Partanna Brand film 2025
- **Destination Kitchen** Client: Firestone Agency: Leo Burnett web series pilot 2024
- **Meta Connect 2022 Keynote** Client: Meta Keynote presentation 2022
- **Today at Apple series "Pet Portraits"** Client: Apple web content 2021
- **"Chef Daniel Boulud" series** Client: Celebrity Cruises promos & commercials 2019
- **"Deadly Stings"** Client: Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution documentary short 2019
- **The Walking Dead & Fear the Walking Dead** Client: AMC, Talking Dead TV promos & vignettes 2013 - 2018
- **SAP Run Live Series: "NBA" & "Under Armour"** Client: SAP Agency: BBDO commercials 2016
- **United's 10th Year with the March of Dimes** Client: United Airlines Agency: mcgarrybowen In-Flight Film 2015
- **"Give a Great Start"** Client: Kellogg's Agency: Krispr Olympic commercial 2014
- **"LeBron - Authentic"** Client: LeBron James Agency: Sapient Nitro web content 2013
- **"Tribeca Film Festival"** Clients: Cadillac, Expedia, AMC TV promos 2013
- **"Take the Ball" and "Celebrate"** Client: Carolinas Healthcare Agency: C-E commercials 2012
- **"War Heroes Weekend: Tom Brokaw"** Client: AMC TV promos & vignettes 2012
- **"AMC Storymakers: Martin Scorsese"** Client: AMC, Paramount Pictures movie promos 2011
- **"Mission Juno: Journey to Jupiter"** Client: NASA web content 2011
- **"IBM Watson"** Client: IBM commercials 2011
- **"Imagination Playground"** Client: Rockwell Group Short film, TED Conference 2010
- **"Frida in NY"** Client: Gucci web content 2009

DIRECTOR: LONG FORM NARRATIVE

- **"The World According to Jeff Goldblum" Nuptopia** * **Disney+ Series 2021 - 2022**
 - Directed episodes of Season 2 of the Emmy-nominated documentary series hosted and executive produced by Jeff Goldblum. Filmed on-location around the United States.
- **"Death Row Stories"** **Jigsaw Productions** **CNN series 2019 - 2020**
 - Directed and Produced episodes of the true crime series exploring the fallibility of capital punishment. Told by current & former death row inmates, the series poses tough questions about the U.S. criminal justice system. Season 4 episode features Larry Swearingen in Houston, TX, and Season 5 episode features Corey Williams in Shreveport, LA.

SHOWRUNNER/SERIES PRODUCER

- **"Salt, Fat, Acid, Heat"** **Jigsaw Productions** * **Netflix series 2018**
 - Based on the book of the same name, this award-winning four-part series followed author and chef Samin Nosrat around the world as she highlighted the four elements of good cooking. Filmed on location in Italy, Japan, Mexico and the United States.
- **"Iconoclasts"** **Radical Media** * **Sundance Channel Series 2008**
 - Each episode of season 4 brought together two visionaries to discuss their lives and influences featuring high-level celebrity talent including: Cameron Diaz, Venus Williams, Tony Hawk, Bill Maher, Jon Favreau, Desmond Tutu, Richard Branson, Stella McCartney, Ed Ruscha & Wyclef Jean.

PRODUCER

- **“Friday Night Tykes”** **441 Productions** * **USA Network & Esquire Series 2014 - 2017**
 - . For 6 seasons, this controversial, award-winning documentary series followed youth football teams from pre-season to the championship in Texas and Western Pennsylvania, totaling 60 one-hour episodes.
 - . Since its inception, developed & produced vérité storylines + character arcs with 9 editors & 6 producers.
- **“Oprah Presents Master Class”** **Radical Media** * **OWN Series 2011 - 2012**
 - . Created 10 one-hour “autobiographical” episodes about modern masters who share their greatest life lessons, featuring Diane Sawyer, Jay-Z, Maya Angelou, Simon Cowell, Sidney Poitier, and Oprah Winfrey.
 - . Developed the initial look & structure of the show; supervised celebrity interviews & recreations; approved final cuts.
- **“San Quentin Film School”** **Radical Media** **Discovery Channel Series 2009**
 - . Nine inmates learn filmmaking as a rehabilitative force, providing an unprecedented view of prison life
 - . Crafted narrative for 6 one-hour vérité episodes featuring 9 characters with a three-editor team.
- **“Ford Bold Moves”** **Radical Media** * **Ford Branded Content Docuseries 2006-2007**
 - . Worked closely with client/agency to develop and produce 31 web episodes, showing the inner workings of the automaker as it rebuilt its business in North America; Conducted interviews & coordinated all activities on location.

Awards:

- 2023 * Winner: Realscreen, Best in Lifestyle: “The World According to Jeff Goldblum,” NatGeo, Disney+
- 2022 * Nominated: Emmy, Hosted nonfiction series: “The World According to Jeff Goldblum” NatGeo, Disney+
- 2019 * Winner: James Beard Award for Best Television Program on Location: “Salt Fat Acid Heat,” Netflix
- 2017 * Nominated: Emmy, Outstanding Serialized Sports Documentary: “Friday Night Tykes,” Esquire
- 2012 * Winner: 43rd NAACP Award, Outstanding Variety Series/Special: “Oprah Presents: Master Class,” OWN
- 2008 * Nominated: 40th NAACP Award, TV talk show: Iconoclasts “Venus Williams + Wyclef Jean,” Sundance
- 2006 * Clio Gold Award for Content & Contact: “Ford Bold Moves,” JWT/Ford, web-based documentary

Events:

- 2024 • Panelist, FinanceHer “Meet the Showrunners” panel co-hosted by The New School and NYWIFT
- 2023 • Media Consultant, Women’s Filmmaking Lab Royal Film Commission & the US Embassy, Amman Jordan
- 2022 • Presenter, “Representation Matters: Climate Justice” co-hosted by National Democratic Institute & NYWIFT, 65th Session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women
- 2021 • Emcee & producer of the “2021 NYWIFT Creative Workforce Summit;” Ford Foundation, WarnerMedia
- 2021 • Presenter, “Representation Matters: Ensuring Inclusive Leadership in Politics and the Media;” co-hosted by National Democratic Institute & NYWIFT, 64th Session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women
- 2020 • Emcee & producer of the “2020 NYWIFT Creative Workforce Summit;” Ford Foundation
- 2020 • NYWIFT Talks Series with Cynthia Lopez, re: COVID-19 & the Entertainment Industry
- 2019 • Emcee & producer of the “2019 NYWIFT Summit: Inclusion, Equality and Safety;” Ford Foundation
- 2019 • Panelist for “Women in Television” hosted by the Australian International Screen Forum; Lincoln Center
- 2019 • Industry Participant “PitchNY” New York Governor’s Office of Motion Picture & TV Dev & NBC
- 2018 • Panelist for “The Art of Directing and Running a Show” hosted by NYWIFT; Infor NYC

Press:

- 2021 • “New York Women in Film & Television Sets Dates for Third Annual Summit” Variety; 6/16/21
- 2020 • “Jessica Alba to lead Disney+ Docuseries ‘Parenting without Borders’” Hollywood Reporter; 3/4/20
- 2019 • “Doing Justice to True Crime” Honeysuckle Magazine; 6/18/19
- 2017 • “True Crime: Relationships and Responsibilities” Huffington Post, with Bari Pearlman; 10/24/17
- 2017 • “Representation Matters: NYWIFT at the Women’s Media Summit” Huffington Post; 4/27/17
- 2006 • “Ford on the Web, Warts and All” Business Week; David Kiley; 10/30/06

Organizations:

- New York Women in Film and Television, Board of Directors, VP Advocacy 2016-2022
- Women’s Weekend Film Challenge, Advisory Board
- Director’s Guild of America, West Coast
- Television Academy