

January - March 2026 Hot Sheet

Heliya Alam '17 has partnered with Film Independent on an upcoming project for a fiscal sponsorship.

Judd Apatow is set to produce the upcoming Utopia documentary *The Way I Was Made*.

After finishing as co-editor on *ELIO*, **Steve Bloom ACE '82** is serving as Lead Editor on the sequel to Pixar's *COCO*.

Victoria Bruno '21 co-founded Nitroglycerin Media, a people-first production company that has completed nine short films in the past year, is preparing four more, including *Unidos '26*, and is expanding through Sketchbook Films and Nitroglycerin Media Productions to create safe, sustainable opportunities for filmmakers at every level. The company was co-founded by Bruno and fellow USC alumnus **Jesus Nuñez**.

Ryan Cenicola '19, along with over 15 SCA students, relaunched *Cenima*, the Los Angeles-based creative studio shaping reality through storytelling, design, and emerging media.

Jon M. Chu '03 received the inaugural Judy Garland Award at the 2026 Lumiere Awards and was also honored with the 2026 Cinematic Imagery Award at the Art Directors Guild's 30th Annual Excellence in Production Design Awards.

Ryan Coogler '11 has been named Creative of the Year by the Creative Collective NYC as his *X-Files* reboot has been picked up by Hulu, where he will serve as executive producer, writer, and director alongside fellow executive producer **Sev Ohanian '12**.

Megan Ellison's production company Annapurna debuted its international TV division.

Paul Feig '84 will direct *The Housemaid* sequel, titled *The Housemaid's Secret*, for Lionsgate.

Parker Fenady '23 premiered her short film *I Didn't Like You* with Film Shortage to critical acclaim after its screening at the American Cinematheque's PROOF Festival. The film later served as the Opening Centerpiece at NFFTY 2025, earning a Jury Award nomination and Programmer's Pick, and was produced by fellow SCA alums **Teddy Alvarez-Nissen** and **Cooper Roth '24**.

Alan Fischer '10 won the Sundance Institute | Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Commissioning Grant for his feature *Cyborg Beast*.

Ponyboi Star & writer **River Gallo '18** signed a First-Look Deal with Fox Entertainment Studios.

Matt Harry '01 will publish his sixth novel, *Ash Land*, on May 4, 2026. This dystopian detective story set in Los Angeles is already earning praise from early readers as “terrifying and fast-paced” and “the first great post-pandemic neo-noir.” **Juliane Crump '01** designed the cover.

Pablo Diaz De Leon Hicks '25, **Shagun Kanwar '25**, and **Nathania Djuhar '27** were nominated in the Best Animated Series category at the 45th College Television Awards for *Blooky: The Book Who Wanted to be Read*.

Hikari '11 is set to direct Apple Original Films' holiday movie *Foster the Snowman*.

Chinaka Hodge '17 won in the outstanding Breakthrough Creative (Television) category at the 2026 NAACP Image Awards for her work on *Ironheart*.

Peter Gould '90's upcoming drama *Disinherited* has been ordered at FX.

Mike Ireland '99 has been hired at Warner Bros. as the President of Production.

Her Song, a French comedy-drama produced by **James Ivory '57**, premiered at the opening night of Cinequest 2026.

Daeil Kim '25 was selected to the 2026 Sundance Screenwriters Intensive and the 2026 Sundance/Sloan Fellowship with their feature film, *Stem*.

Austin Kolodney '20's feature *Dead Man's Wire* had its Oscar-Qualifying theatrical run in December 2025.

Michael Kristoff '08 recently directed and served as co-showrunner and co-host of the docuseries pilot *Political Playlist*, adapted from the podcast he co-created with fellow Trojans **Anna Musky-Goldwyn MFA '14** and **Anthony Barkett (Marshall) '12**. The pilot was produced by **Mike Mann '08**.

Shawn Levy '94 is set to produce the upcoming Netflix adaptation of the action-strategy sandbox game *Kingmakers* with his production company 21 Laps.

F. Hudson Miller, MFA '84 has been elected President of the Motion Picture Editors Guild, IATSE Local 700, the national production union of nearly 8000 film and television workers.

Brad Munoa '05, creator of the ten-part premium docu-drama *People of the West*, recently completed the Native-led series *Reframing California History through Indigenous Voices*. The project is in festival submissions and working with the California Department of Education toward statewide classroom access.

Aisha Muharrar won the 2026 NAACP Image Award for her writing on *Hacks* season 4.

Tracy Oliver '10 will write the Netflix adaptation of New York Times bestselling author Jasmine Guillory novel *The Wedding Date*.

JR Rappaport '15 two upcoming features *The Fallow Few* and *Clean Hands* are premiering in the coming months. *The Fallow Few* concluded its festival run and is available for distribution, and *Clean Hands* will be released in late 2026.

Jacob Salerno '23 has been nominated for his second Emmy for Sound Mixing. (Children's and Family Emmys)

Jac Schaeffer '04 has signed a three-year television overall deal with Amazon MGM Studios.

Josh Schwartz and Stephanie Savage are teaming with Prince Harry and Meghan Markle to develop a scripted polo drama for Netflix, expanding on the world introduced in the Sussexes' 2024 docuseries *Polo*.

Stacey Sher '84 is set to produce the upcoming psychosexual drama *The Decorator* at Netflix.

Kuba Soltysiak '18 premiered their project *The Hive*, a narrative thriller, exclusively for Amazon Audible. The project also features SCA alumnus **Tim Schauer '18** and **Taylor Dearden '15 (SDA)**.

Suzanne Todd signed a first-look deal with MGM Television.

Dion Watkins '08 recently completed his sci-fi short film *Afterlight*. The film won Best Sci-Fi Film at the New York Shorts Awards and Best Actor in a Sci-Fi at the Best Actor and Director Awards in New York, and has been selected for the Venice (CA) Shorts Film Festival. The project also features fellow alumni **Paul Seradarian '07** (Sound Design), **Larry Bryant '07** (Assistant Director), and **Tom Sanchez '07** (Editor).

Matthew Weiner '90 is set to direct *Margaret and Stevie*, which is financed by Rohm Feifer Entertainment and produced by Latigo Films.

Amanda Rome West '20 recently released her second EP, *Comin' Back to Me*, now streaming on all platforms, and her R&B single “Would You Believe Me” is featured on NBCUniversal/Peacock’s new series *The 'Burbs*.

Disney has acquired *In Real Life*, a new comedy spec from **Cathy Yuspa '95**, with Cobra Kai creators Jon Hurwitz, Hayden Schlossberg, and Josh Heald producing.

Robert Zemeckis '73 has signed with CAA.

New Films in Release

A Useful Ghost

Annie Yang '19 (Executive Producer)

All That's Left of You

Zain Al-Sabah MFA '05 (Executive Producer)

Negin Salmasi MFA '12 (Executive Producer)

The Bluff

Frank E. Flowers '01 (Executive Producer/Director/Writer)

Dead Man's Wire

Austin Kolodney '15 (Writer)

Lily Blavin '20 (Executive Producer)

Noor Al-Fallah '16 (Producer)

Siena Oberman '18 (Producer)

Disneyland: Handcrafted

Leslie Iwerks '93 (Director/Producer)

Dracula: A Love Tale

Ryan Winterstern '11 (Associate Producer/Executive Producer)

The Gates

John Burr '15 (Director)

GOAT

Teddy Riley '09 (SCA/Marshall) (Writer)

Aaron Buschbaum '08 (SCA/Marshall) (Writer)

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Good Luck, Have Fun, Don't Die

James Whitaker '94 (Director of Photography)

H is for Hawk

Steven P. Wagner '93 (Executive Producer)

Annie Yang '19 (Executive Producer)

How to Make a Killing

Adam Friedlander '11 (Producer)

I Was A Stranger

Nick Chuba '14 (Thornton) (Composer)

Mel Brooks: The 99-Year-Old Man! (HBO/HBO Max)

Judd Apatow (Director/Executive Producer)

Anna Klein '05 (Senior Producer)

Mercy

Austin Keeling '13 (Editor)

Night Patrol

David S. Goyer '88 (Producer)

Michael Kagan '94 (Co-Producer)

Gracie Wheelan '11 (Executive Producer)

Nirvana the Band the Show the Movie

Matthew Miller '95 (Producer)

Protector

Shaun Sanghani '05 (Producer)

Psycho Killer

Natalie Lehmann '11 (Executive Producer)

Ready or Not 2: Here I Come

James Vanderbilt '99 (Producer)

Carlos Rafael Rivera '04 (Thornton) (Composer)

Scream 7

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James Vanderbilt '99 (Producer)

The Testament of Ann Lee

Megan Ellison (Executive Producer)

We Bury the Dead

Ross Dinerstein '05 (Producer)

They Will Kill You

Alex Litvak '95 (Writer/Executive Producer)

David Ellison (Executive Producer)

The Wrecking Crew

Matt Reeves '88 (Producer)

New TV in Release

32nd Actor Awards (Netflix)

Jason George '96 (Producer)

56 Days (Prime Video)

Janet Lin '05 (Writer/Co-Executive Producer)

68th Annual Grammy Awards (CBS)

Eric Cook '15 (Co-Executive Producer)

David Wild '80 (Producer)

The Beauty (FX/Hulu)

Jason McCormick '01 (Co-Producer/Director of Photography)

Best Medicine (Fox)

Jaffar Mahmood '02 (Director)

Bridgerton, Season 4 (Netflix)

Azia Squire '15 (Writer)

Shonda Rhimes '94 (Executive Producer)

Jaffar Mahmood '02 (Director)

The Burbs (Peacock)

Thembi Banks '14 (Director)

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Yana Gorskaya '02 (Director)
Neil Reynolds '12 (Writer)
Brian Grazer '74 (Executive Producer)

Cross, Season 2 (Prime Video)
David Ellison (Executive Producer)

Daredevil: Born Again, Season 2 (Disney+)
Kevin Feige '95 (Executive Producer)
Brad Winderbaum '05 (Executive Producer)

Dark Winds, Season 4 (AMC/AMC+)
Todd A. Dos Reis '94 (Director of Photography)

DTF St. Louis (HBO/HBO Max)
Joy Sunday '17 (Cast)
Michael Nelson '09 (Executive Producer)
James Whitaker '94 (Director of Photography)

For All Mankind, Season 5 (Apple TV)
Meera Menon '11 (Director)
Sarah Boyd '95 (Director)
David Weddle '78 (Writer)
Jovan Robinson '17 (Writer)
Cort Fey '97 (Director of Photography)

Girl Taken (Paramount+)
David Turpin '10 (Writer)

Glitter & Gold: Ice Dancing (Netflix)
Adam Christian Clark '03 (Executive Producer)

The Gray House (Prime Video)
John Debney '14 (Composer)

The Greatest Average American (ABC)
John Quinn '92 (Executive Producer)

Grey's Anatomy, Season 22 (ABC)
Shonda Rhimes '94 (Executive Producer)

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Sophia Arnao '22 (Writer/Production Staff)

Jess Righthand '17 (Supervising Producer/Producer/Co-Executive Producer)

Byron Shah '98 (Director of Photography)

Madison Margeaux '21 (Senior Researcher/Writers' Assistant)

High Potential, Season 2 (ABC)

Bob Goodman '89 (Writer/Co-Executive Producer)

Dan Etheridge '92 (Executive Producer)

Sam Friedlander '06 (Co-Producer)

His & Hers (Netflix)

Ante Cheng '17 (Director of Photography)

History's Deadliest With Ving Rhames (History)

Scott Hartford '95 (Executive Producer)

Anuj Majumdar '02 (Co-Executive Producer)

House of Villains, Season 3 (Peacock)

William Yelton '16 (Story Producer)

The Hunting Party, Season 2 (NBC)

Paula Sabbaga '14 (Writer/Producer/Supervising Producer)

Invincible, Season 4 (Prime Video)

Amber Dupre '13 (Writer)

Jury Duty Presents: Company Retreat (Prime Video)

Nicholas Hatton '09 (Executive Producer)

The Last Thing He Told Me, Season 2 (Apple TV)

Adam Stein '05 (Writer)

The Lincoln Lawyer, Season 4 (Netflix)

Jake Bernstein '13 (Writer)

Audrey Lipsmire '17 (SCA/SDA) (Writer)

Ciaran Michael Vejby '10 (Editor)

Sasha Alexander '97 (Cast)

Love Story: John F. Kennedy Jr. and Carolyn Bessette (FX/Hulu)

Max Winkler '06 (Director/Executive Producer)

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Jordan Bracewell (Editor)

Jason McCormick '01 (Co-Producer/Director of Photography)

The Madison (Paramount+)

Chad Galster (Editor)

Marshals (CBS)

Greg Yaitanes (Director/Executive Producer)

Spencer Hudnut '08 (Writer/Executive Producer/Showrunner)

Dana Greenblatt '02 (Writer/Co-Executive Producer)

M.I.A. (Peacock)

Christina Pina '13 (Producer)

Karen Campbell '99 (Producer)

Monarch: Legacy of Monsters, Season 2 (Apple TV)

Amanda Overton '12 (Co-Executive Producer)

Bob Ducsay (Consulting Producer)

The Night Agent, Season 3 (Netflix)

Guy Ferland '88 (Director)

James Vanderbilt '99 (Executive Producer)

One Piece, Season 2 (Netflix)

Steven Maeda '92 (Executive Producer/Showrunner)

The Pitt, Season 2 (HBO Max)

John Wells '82 (Director/Executive Producer)

Valerie Chu '13 (Writer)

Ponies (Peacock)

Amalia Mathewson '22 (Staff Writer)

Elizabeth Cirillo '16 (Editor)

Queer Eye, Season 10 (Netflix)

David Collins '82 (Writer)

Reality Check: Inside America's Next Top Model

Austin Flack '04 (Editor)

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Rise of the 49ers (AMC/AMC+)

Ken Rodgers '98 (Director/Executive Producer)

Jason Reed '95 (Executive Producer)

Rooster (HBO)

David Stassen '04 (Co-Executive Producer/Executive Producer)

Scarpetta (Prime Video)

Matthew Zucker '03, '09 (Writer)

Scrubs (ABC)

Michael Hobert '05 (Writer/Co-Executive Producer)

Sarah Lucky '01 (Editor)

Shrinking, Season 3 (Apple TV)

Sarah Lucky '01 (Editor)

Soul Power: The Legend of the American Basketball Association (Prime Video)

Todd Lieberman '02 (Executive Producer)

Star Trek: Starfleet Academy (Paramount+)

Jon Dudkowski '00 (Co-producer/Editor)

Stillwater (Amazon MGM)

Madison Margeaux '21 (Writer)

Strip Law (Netflix)

Miles Woods '18 (SCA/Dornsife) (Writer/Supervising Producer)

Tracker, Season 3 (CBS)

Amanda Mortlock '09 (SCA/Marshall) (Writer)

Neda Davarpanah '18 (SCA/Dornsife) (Writer)

Trivial Pursuit (The CW)

LeVar Burton (SDA) (Executive Producer)

Unlocked: A Jail Experiment (Netflix)

Allison Hynes '04 (Senior Field Story Producer)

The Upshaws, Season 7 (Netflix)

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Chuck Ozeas '91 (Director of Photography)

Adam Ruben '11 (Writer)

Watson, Season 2 (CBS)

Aaron Kaplan '90 (Marshall) (Executive Producer)

Wonder Man (Disney+)

Kevin Feige '95 (Executive Producer)

Brad Winderbaum '05 (Executive Producer)

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