

Arts & Entertainment Festival 2013

Panel Descriptions*

A Conversation with Glenn Close

Nearly four decades after leaving the College, Glenn Close returns to discuss the lessons she's learned as an actor, writer, and producer. In this moderated question and answer session, the Tony Award-winner and six-time Academy Award nominee will discuss the importance of mentoring to a young actor, the dangers of fast celebrity, actors' responsibilities to the characters they portray, and the experience offered by diversity of role, genre, and medium. An audience question and answer period will follow.

Funding Films in the Future

For the first eight decades of the film industry, a handful of studios financed all the motion pictures that appeared on the big screen. Today, there are dozens of alternatives to funding a film. A group of producers and film makers discuss the current options available for film makers when attempting to finance their movies, from Kickstarter campaigns to independent film funds to film maker incubators.

Comedy: A Serious Business

Funny doesn't come cheap. Comics and comedy writers need to eat while comedy clubs and television networks have expenses to pay and shareholders to answer to. And beyond simply making ends meet, comedy is one of the few forms of content that doesn't require huge ensembles and resources. Louis C.K. was able to produce and sell videos of his recent comedy special all by himself. This panel of stand-up comedians, writers, and producers discusses how to make a living by being funny and how sometimes technology let's them do it all by themselves.

The Business of Spectacle

Cirque du Soleil, the Macy's Fireworks Spectacular and Red Bull's Space Jump are just a few of the one-off events seen by millions of Americans each year, whether live, on television, or the internet. As the attention span of audiences shrinks, "Big Events" are claiming an increasingly large share of the entertainment market. Producers, directors, and executives from the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, Cirque du Soleil, and a leading brand strategy company discuss the business of spectacle.

Paint to Pixels: The Future of Art Direction for the Stage & Screen

We rely on art directors and scenic designers to create the worlds in which our favorite characters from film, television, and theater live. Increasingly that's a digitally crafted world comprised on pixels rather than paint and wood. A group of award-winning industry experts gather to discuss how this segment of the industry has changed in the last 10 years and where they see it going in the next ten.

Dress for Success: Costume Design Panel

With the exception of Hair, Equus, and a handful of other works, actors need to be dressed appropriately on stage and screen. But the wardrobe serves not only to prevent nudity; the costumes enhance the characters, the time and place, and the entire feel of the piece. Speakers will gather to discuss the changing craft of costume design.

Creative Counsel: Why Lawyers Matter for Artists & Entertainers

Many artists and writers look for legal counsel when someone has copied their work or filed a lawsuit claiming the same. Far fewer artists and writers call on attorneys during the creative process when the opportunity to protect their ideas arises. This panel of entertainment and media counsel discusses ways in which lawyers help creators protect themselves and even monetize their creativity.

The Digital Divide: Monetizing Content on the Web

TBD

Broken Records: New Ways to Finance and Sell Music

We've been hearing for over a decade that the music industry is in disarray. Record labels are losing revenue, piracy is killing artist profits, and iTunes reigns supreme. For talented young musicians, the prospects seem bleak. We've gathered a group of industry insiders to discuss how musicians, distributors, and venues will profit from making music in the next decade and beyond.

Who's the Boss: The Balance of Power Among TV Producers, Networks, or Distributors.

TBD

Alumni Career Mentoring Roundtables

Getting a job is tough today. Getting a job in an industry as popular as media and entertainment is sometimes damn near impossible. Alumni and guests sit down with students in small groups to discuss how to break into the entertainment industry, what skills they'll need to succeed, and what it takes to make a living while creating.

*panel descriptions subject to change