

CHERYL SLEAN

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Creative multimedia communication...for a more sustainable world

EDUCATION

2015 (projected) Certificate Program in Global Sustainability, UCLA – in progress

2014 Certification in Mindfulness Facilitation, UCLA Mindful Awareness Research Center (MARC)

2000 Master of Arts, Creative Writing/English, University of Washington, teaching fellowship.

1982 Bachelor of Science, Astrophysics, UCLA, cum laude.

SELECTED EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

2005 - present: Writer, Director, Producer, Editor: Skymind Productions llc

Founder and principal of this independent film and video production co. We create videos, multimedia content and communication strategies for educational and corporate clients; we've also created short narrative and documentary films that have screened and won awards at dozens of film festivals worldwide, screened on broadcast tv and secured distribution. Twelve years of "soup-to-nuts" production experience includes: creative narrative and documentary story content and production approach both from scratch and from client specs; fundraising (grantwriting and private fundraising); script and storyboard writing, budgeting, cast & crew hiring and all aspects pre-production; location scouting and relations; line producing: equipment and media coordinator; travel and transpo coord; directing: visual design, directing actors and crew, running sets of up to 50 cast & crew; post-production coordinator, video editing (Final Cut Pro, Avid, Premiere); PR, marketing, etc.

2006 – present: Freelance content developer: instructional design, technical writer, multimedia writer/director/producer
Primary clients: University of WA Medicine, Free & Clear Inc., Puget Sound Health Alliance, Talaria Inc., Facebook

Develop content for multimedia web-based training modules in the healthcare communications field. Experience includes research, interfacing with clients and content experts; educational module design; writing and editing text content, writing video and multimedia scripts and storyboards, producing and directing video and audio media. Content covers a range of healthcare topics including provider training in tobacco and substance addiction intervention, end-of-life ethics and caregiving; alternative pain therapies, cultural ethics in healthcare, patient-centered communication, patient safety and infection control, etc.

2006 – present: Mindfulness Meditation Teacher, Mindful Schools and other venues

A longtime Vipassana (Buddhist) meditation practitioner, Cheryl was authorized to teach by her teacher and has since taught many class series and daylong retreats and assisted at residential retreats. She currently teaches in the Buddhist context at Insight Community of the Desert (Palm Springs) and Against the Stream (L.A.). She also facilitates secular mindfulness classes for educators (Mindful Schools), in addiction recovery (Michael's House, Refuge Recovery) at hospitals and other health & wellness settings (y #0 o =), and in business settings (Google LAX).

1999 - 2012: College Writing Instructor

Taught creative and expository writing at college, adult, and high school levels, as an adjunct instructor, guest instructor, writer-in-the-schools, writer-in-residence, etc. Designed syllabi and taught dozens of classes at the University of Washington (English Dept.), Seattle University (Fine Arts Dept.), University of Washington Extension, Hugo House Inquiry Through Writing (community literary program for adults), and a Writers-in-the-Schools program at Coachella Valley, CA public high schools. Taught: fiction writing, playwriting, screenwriting, expository writing, creative nonfiction and filmmaking.

1993 - 1998: Technical Writer, Web Developer, Educator, Rhythm & Hues, Inc., Los Angeles

Responsible for founding the education program at this prominent visual effects studio. Designed and implemented in-house training for proprietary visual effects software, including web-based educational curriculum and instruction. Managed the department; hired and oversaw staff of four trainers; set goals and strategies for the department; interfaced with other department heads to determine direction for the company as a whole.

1990 - 1994: Managing Director, Padua Hills Playwrights Workshop/Festival, Los Angeles

Responsible for all administrative aspects of this non-profit theater company (\$500,000 annual budget). Produced annual Festival of New Plays-- oversaw production of 8 concurrent plays by nationally recognized playwrights, including artist relations, venue relations, travel, public relations, live event production, staff hiring and management, budgeting and accounting, etc.

- Fundraising: wrote and received grants from the NEA, CA Community Foundation, LA Cultural Affairs, Skirball Foundation, etc. Also oversaw all aspects of large fundraising events.
- Co-founded Padua Hills Press: co-edited, designed and produced two books of original plays; directed international book distribution

Prior to 1993: 3D Visual Effects and Animation Software Design and Research

Wrote software for emerging 2D and 3D computer visualization and animation applications. Worked for the groundbreaking visual effects companies: Robert Abel, Rhythm & Hues, Wavefront. Helped design and implement one of the first 3D computer animation packages later marketed by Wavefront and absorbed into the currently popular Maya system. Co-author of two research papers on innovative software techniques in the computer visualization field. Wrote the first code to interface multi-camera Motion Capture systems with 3D animation software. Wrote code in C and C++ on Unix-based platforms.

SELECTED SOFTWARE EXPERTISE

Office & database apps: MS Office Suite, Filemaker Pro, Quickbooks, email & browsers galore

Desktop publishing & graphics: Adobe Creative Suite (Acrobat, Photoshop, Illustrator etc), FrameMaker, PageMaker

Multimedia & authoring: Final Cut Pro Suite, Avid, Premiere, HTML, CSS.

My background as a software developer means I can quickly come up to working knowledge on unfamiliar software.

FILMOGRAPHY, PUBLICATIONS, STREAMING VIDEO

A variety of work samples can be accessed at www.cherylslean.com

- [Film & video work samples](#)
- [Publications](#)
- [Filmography](#)
- [Theater](#)
- [Press](#)

GRANTS, AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

Note: Cheryl wrote all of the successful grant applications

2008 & 2010 Seattle (CityArtists) and King County (4Culture) grants to produce theater festivals

2008-09 awards for short film *Diggers*: Silver Medal for Excellence, Park City Film Music Festival; Honorable Mention, Accolade Competition; Best Short finalist: Moondance, Int'l film festival England, USA Film Fest/Dallas

2006 IFP/Seattle Spotlight award to produce short film *Diggers*

2004 3rd place, Washington State Film Office screenplay competition for *Atomic Town*

2003 Artist Trust GAP grant to write a feature screenplay *Atomic Town*

2003 Washington State Arts Commission fellowship in theater

2001 Northwest New Play award for *Split Brain*

2001 Best Short Film, Malta International Film Festival for *The Art of Waiting*

1998-2000 Teaching fellowship, University of Washington

1997 Flintridge Foundation grant to write and produce a play

1994 California Community Foundation grant to publish a book of plays

1992 NEA and L.A. Cultural Affairs grants to produce a theater festival

1992 Best Play, *Swap Nite*, Los Angeles *Weekly* theater awards