



BANFF

WORLD MEDIA FESTIVAL

June 11-14, 2023

Report

Just a few of the companies at BANFF 2023





4 days of
in-person
content and
connections



53 countries
participated
in BANFF
& the Rockie
Awards



Over 1,200
facilitated
meeting
opportunities



43 panels,
keynotes,
master classes
and buyer
briefings





Topic Tables drop-in networking



Launch of Unscripted / Documentary at the Indigenous Screen Summit Pitch Forum



Post Gala Netflix Video Dance Party

Paramount+ Lodge Party



+ New Meeting Spaces





Pictured (clockwise from top left): Pablo Rodriguez, speaking in former role as Minister of Canadian Heritage, Government of Canada, Kate Adler, Executive Vice President, Comedy Development, CBS Studios, Joanna Griffiths, Founder and President, Knix, Vicky Eatrides, Chairperson and CEO, CRTC, Steven He, Comedian, Actor, Producer and YouTuber and Barbara Williams, EVP of English Services, CBC.

Thank you to our partners

GRAND PATRONS



PLATINUM



GOLD



Thank you to our partners

SILVER

BLINK49
STUDIOS



cpac

DGC & GCR
DIRECTORS GUILD OF CANADA
GUILDE CANADIENNE DES RÉALISATEURS



knix



TELUS originals



BRONZE



Goodmans



NESHAMA
ENTERTAINMENT



Roku



FESTIVAL PARTNERS



Dreamspeakers | Film Festival



hotdocs
OUTSPOKEN. OUTSTANDING.

imagine NATIVE

mipcom
CANNES

NATPE
GLOBAL

ASSOCIATION PARTNERS

ACADEMY • ACADEMIE
OF CANADIAN CINEMA & TELEVISION / CANADIENNE DU CINEMA ET DE LA TELEVISION



SODEC
Québec



WIFT + WOMEN
IN FILM & TV
TORONTO



PRODUCTION PARTNERS



KRISTIAN BOGNER
PHOTOGRAPHY
NIKON AMBASSADOR



MEDIA PARTNERS

C21Media

DEADLINE

kidscreen

Hollywood REPORTER

INK! MEDIA

PLAYBACK

REALSCREEN

VARIETY



A message from our Executive Director

This 44th edition of BANFF brought us together during a period of intensity in our industry, and we were proud to host collaborations and provocative discussions that met the current challenges and opportunities head on. Timely programming focused on the future of the Canadian content ecosystem, international coproductions, the effects of the ongoing strikes in the US, and how AI is shaking things up. Invigorating panels dove in deep on everything from the programming needs of some of the biggest studios and networks in the world to Master Classes on hit shows to how the industry is continuing to give voice and access to creators, producers and entrepreneurs from underrepresented communities.

The Rockie Awards International Program Competition truly represented the best content in the world, and the Rockies Gala once again shone a light of recognition on some of the biggest and most influential individuals in our industry. The second annual Indigenous Screen Summit kicked off the festival in grand style, while we welcomed the return of major programs including the Netflix-BANFF Diversity of Voices Initiative and the BANFF Spark Accelerator for Women in the Business of Media.

So very much went into bringing this festival to life. Thank you to the BANFF team, the BANFF Television Festival Foundation Board of Directors and to all of our partners and sponsors. It is only with your support that any of it happens, year after year. And so I encourage you to peruse this report, outlining the amazing festival that was, and on behalf of myself and our entire team, we can't wait to welcome everyone back to the festival's 45th Anniversary next June!

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jenn Kuzmyk".

Jenn Kuzmyk

Executive Director, BANFF World Media Festival
- VP & Publisher, *Playback*

Board of Directors: Banff Television Festival Foundation



Kevin Beggs

Chair of the Board, BANFF Television Foundation
Chair and Chief Creative Officer, Television Group
Lionsgate



Brenda Gilbert

Vice-Chair of the Board, BANFF Television Foundation
Co-Founder and President
BRON Media Corporation



Colin Bohm

EVP, Content and
Corporate Strategy
Corus Entertainment



Sally Catto

General Manager, Entertainment,
Factual and Sports
CBC



Sean Cohan

Board of Directors, Banff World
Media Festival (former President
@ Nielsen & A+E Networks)



Tom Cox

Executive Producer and
Managing Director
SEVEN24 Films



Valerie Creighton

President and CEO
Canada Media Fund



Sandra Dewey

Most recently President,
Business Operations and Productions
HBO Max, TNT, TBS & truTV



Jeniffer Kim

Most recently Senior Vice President,
International Originals HBO Max
Warner Bros. Discovery



Stephen MacDonald

President, Global Content
Licensing & International
A+E Networks



Lisa Meeches

Founder and Executive Producer
Eagle Vision



Robin Mirsky

Executive Director,
Rogers Group of Funds
Rogers Communications Inc



Justin Stockman

VP Content Development
and Programming
Bell Media

BANFF Content Advisory Board



Rob Aslett
Company Director, Artist Manager
and Executive Producer
Avalon Television



Jason Badal
Head of Canada, Disney+
Walt Disney Company



Bing Chen
Executive Chairman,
CEO and Co-Founder
Gold House



Deniese Davis
Founder and CEO
Reform Media Group



Nua Finau
Co-Founder, Executive Producer
and Showrunner
Tavake Ltd



Chris Fry
Joint Creative Director of Scripted
SISTER



Megan Halpern
Senior Vice President
The Black List



Lisa Hamilton Daly
Executive Vice President,
Programming
Hallmark Media



Jennifer Harkness
SVP, Unscripted Development
and Production
Blue Ant Media



Tom Hastings
Head of Original Programming
in Canada, Paramount+
Paramount



Monika Ille
CEO
APTN



Dany Meloul
General Manager, Television
Radio-Canada



Jay Carolyn Wu
Development Executive,
Writer/Director
Bell Media

Press coverage from **over 45 outlets** at this year's festival

Aol.

AV CLUB

BROADCAST
Dialogue

BROADCAST
INTERNATIONAL

C21Media

CALGARY
HERALD

CINEMA BLEND

DailyHive

DEADLINE

etalk

heavy.

IMDb

MEDIA
GIRLFRIENDS

PLAYBACK

PC
popculture.

REFINERY29

SALTWIRE
NETWORK

TBI Television
Business
International

THE
Hollywood
REPORTER

THE WRAP

The Ankler.

TV Insider

TV, eh?

tvbizz

TV
FANATIC

VARIETY

VIDEOAGE

yahoo!

Stephen Colbert Extends 'Late Show' Tenure at CBS

The network has renewed the host's contract for three more years.

By Rick Porter June 13, 2023 | 1:35 PM

Stephen Colbert on The Late Show With Stephen Colbert.

Stephen Colbert will continue to make CBS his TV home.

The host and executive producer of *The Late Show With Stephen Colbert* has signed a contract extension that will keep him at CBS for three more years. CBS president and CEO George Cheeks announced the extension Tuesday at the Banff World Media Festival.

The extension will keep Colbert at CBS through 2026; his current contract was set to expire at the end of the year.

Paramount+ Sets Canadian Slate With Shows From Elliot Page's Page Boy Productions & 'Letterkenny' Producer New Metric Media

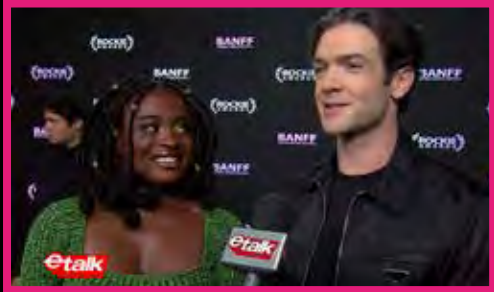
By Jesse Wolk June 12, 2023 3:15pm

Karina Kowalski and Doug Smith

Programs from Elliot Page's production company and the team behind comedy *Letterkenny* are among Paramount+'s latest Canadian slate.

The streamer's strategy in Canada was unveiled today at the Banff World Media Festival, with a line-up of four projects in development and an original documentary from documentary filmmaker Dianne Whelan (*This Land*, *40 Days at Basecamp*).

Actor and producer Page's Page Boy Productions and Canadian producer heavyweight Muse Entertainment are working up *Len & Cub*, a limited



AI Debate Is 'Not Our Biggest Issue — I Would Like Residuals': Writers Strike Takes Spotlight at BANFF

By Manori Ruxindran

The debate around the application of artificial intelligence in the creative sector has been a hot-button issue in the writers strike, but not all scribes believe it warrants the airtime it's so far received.

Speaking on a Variety-moderated writers strike panel at the Banff World Media Festival on Monday, "The Other Black Girl" and "Swarm" writer Kara Brown said AI has been "the stickiest thing and no one's been talking about it a lot, when it really

Canadian broadcasters unite in historic sustainability group

By Sarah Dyer and Amy Johnston June 11, 2023

Canadian Broadcasters for Sustainability was announced on the first day of the Banff World Media Festival.

Cineflix Studios inks first-look co-pro deal with Reginald the Vampire indie

By Jeff Labrecque

Cineflix has first options to co-produce the project developed by Reginald the Vampire.

Cineflix Studios has just inked Reginald the Vampire producer's Cineflix Films for a first-look production deal.

The partnership is adding Cineflix's resources to the indie studio's (Cineflix Studios) and will see Cineflix grant the first-look to co-produce original programming developed by Reginald the Vampire. Cineflix Films will take first-look on Cineflix's distribution to projects produced out of the studio.

Alongside the partnership, Cineflix Studios is also looking to expand its roster by adding more projects to its slate. The studio is currently looking for a variety of projects and is open to all types of content. The studio is also looking for a variety of projects and is open to all types of content.

The studio is also looking for a variety of projects and is open to all types of content.

Blue Ant builds new home for reno expert Mike Holmes, reveals A Secret to Die For

Mike Holmes' Building a Legacy will air on Blue Ant's Cottage Life.

BANFF: Canada's Blue Ant Media is preparing a slate of unscripted programming for its local specialty TV networks and global free ad-supported streaming TV (FAST) channels in 2024, including a home renovation series fronted by Mike Holmes and his family.

Holmes on Home: Building a Legacy (6x60') will be produced by The Holmes Group and is set to air on Blue Ant's Cottage Life network in spring 2024 and will also be made available on FAST channel Homeful worldwide.

The reboot of Canadian builder Mike Holmes' original franchise will see him joined by his son and daughter Michael and Sherry to look at renovations carried out by cohosted on

Breaking news from BANFF

“BANFF is truly an international festival...with some of the world’s leading creatives in the industry. Not only did we make great connections during the festival, we’ve had the opportunity to continue those conversations long after we returned home.”

- Kate Adler, EVP Comedy Development, CBS Studios

“Attending from the UK allowed me to chat in person with talented producers, IP developers and fellow broadcasters that I wouldn’t usually have the opportunity of doing so. Conversations are ongoing months after the summit so the value of BANFF can not be understated.”

- Aubrey Clarke, Commissioning Executive, BBC Children’s 7+

“It’s a tremendous opportunity to make meaningful connections with like minded individuals and, together, forge a path forward in an ever-changing industry. Every time I attend BANFF, I come back with new ideas for partnerships and content strategy...This conference is a must attend for anyone in entertainment, both inside Canada and internationally.”

- Brad Schwartz, President of Entertainment, CW

“Canada is increasingly becoming a go-to hub for production and BANFF is a great connection point. Having shot multiple TV shows and my own movie there, I’ve had a taste of resources/potential that would benefit US-based filmmakers.”

- Adele Lim, Screenwriter, *Crazy Rich Asians*, *Joy Ride*

“Participating in the Indigenous Screen Summit was a privilege – it really was a unique opportunity to delve into our shared history and culture, which will hopefully lead to co-working in the future.”

- Gwennllian Gravelle and Llinos Wynne S4C, Wales

**“The festival’s
standout
feature is its
exceptional
access to
global industry
leaders...
the engaging
networking
events added
an extra spark,
fostering
connections
in a fabulous
setting.”**

- Josie Crimi,
Executive Vice President
of Development and
Production for Scott Brothers
Entertainment

**“The festival
provides an
impressive
balance of
being able to
discuss and
address the
needs of our
American
marketplace
through an
international
lens.”**

- Stan Pham, SVP Current
Programming, CBS Studios

**“Anyone
who
produces
Canadian
content
is there!
One stop
shopping!”**

- Brad Holcman,
Senior Director Non-Fiction
+ Alternative Programming,
A+ E

**“The
connections
you make
with industry
colleagues
[at BANFF] is
something you
can’t replicate
over video
calls.”**

- Michela Di Mondo, EVP
Distribution and Sales,
FremantleMedia

**“The highlight last
year, and again
this year was the
Indigenous Screen
Summit. I think it’s
a great way to start
off the conference
as it fosters
connectivity and
sets the bar for
creative pitches.**

**It’s a great
opportunity to
meet people
and foster key
relationships which
are so integral to
one’s growth and
development in the
industry.”**

- Lea Marin, Director of
Development, Drama, CBC

Indigenous Screen Summit

14 Indigenous producers presented their features and scripted series to a panel of expert commentators and an audience of Canadian and international buyers to launch the second edition of BANFF's ISS Pitch Forum. Unscripted/Documentary project pitches were added to the Scripted Drama and Comedy categories.

90.9% of respondents said they would recommend participating in the Pitch Forum to a colleague or friend.

100% of respondents said their objectives for participating in the Pitch Forum were fully or partially met.

100% of respondents said that their key objectives including; introducing projects to the market; finding new buyers/ partners/distributors; and networking for future business, were met.

90.9% of respondents rated the Pitch Forum as 'Extremely Helpful' or 'Helpful' for their careers or projects.

100% of respondents reported that it is 'Highly Likely/Likely' that a deal or relationship that will positively impact their business may result from participation in the Pitch Forum.

Founding partners:



INDIGENOUS SCREEN OFFICE
BUREAU DE L'ÉCRAN AUTOCHTONE



CMF FMC
FONDS DES MÉDIAS DU CANADA

Supporting partners:



CBC Radio-Canada

ISS Pitch Forum
participant
Mary Galloway,
Bright Shadow
Productions





"My participation in the Pitch Forum increased the profile and visibility of our company."

Harold Joe, Producer
- Drama Camp Productions

"I loved the festival!"

Victoria Anderson-Gardner,
Producer | Creator
- Howah Productions Inc.

"I feel like more people know who I am as a person. Not just a creative or a writer, but on a personal level."

Sage Daniels, Writer | Producer - Code Breaker Films

"The pitch session got eyes on our organization and our project. We had great feedback throughout the festival and so many opportunities to connect with all aspects of production."

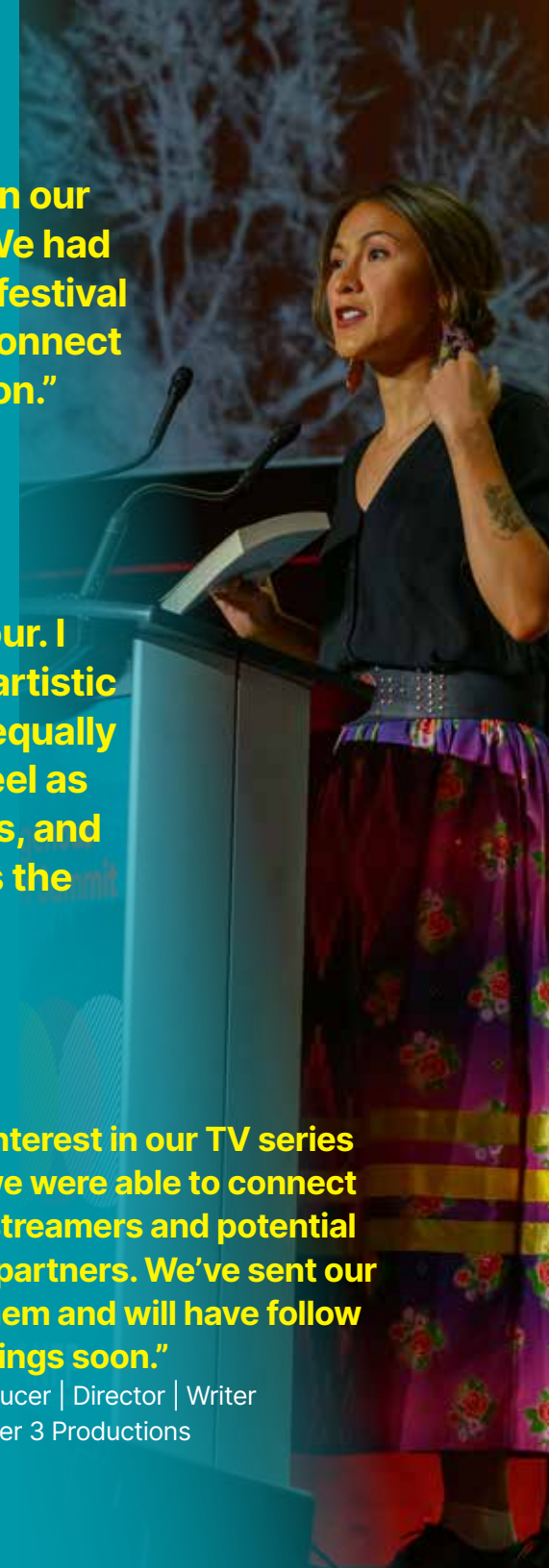
Kahstoserakwathe Paulette Moore,
Writer | Director | Creator
- The Aunties Dandelion

"Honestly, this was a HUGE honour. I really can't believe that this sort of artistic opportunity came to me. I am both equally shocked as well as proud. I truly feel as if something big will come from this, and I have so much gratitude towards the entire experience"

Megan McNeill, Inuit Artist | film maker
- Little Maple Leaf Productions

"There was a lot of interest in our TV series after the pitch and we were able to connect with broadcasters, streamers and potential production company partners. We've sent our pitch deck to all of them and will have follow up meetings soon."

Lisa Jackson, Producer | Director | Writer
- Door Number 3 Productions



Pitch Forum #1: Unscripted/ Documentary



Rachel Goldstein-Couto
Director of Development,
Original Programming,
BellMedia



Alanis Obomsawin
Award Winning
Filmmaker
Formerly with the NFB



Jessica Schmiedchen
Director of Development,
Unscripted,
CBC



Lauren Whitelaw
Head of
Programming
OUTtv



Llinos Wynne
Head of Documentaries
and Specialist Factual,
S4C

Pitch Forum #2: Drama Series



Halaifonua Finau
Co-Founder,
Executive Producer
and Showrunner,
Tavake



Tom Hastings
Head of Original
Programming in Canada,
Paramount+



Lisa Meeches
Founder and
Executive Producer,
Eagle Vision



Jean la Rose
General Manager,
Animiki See Distribution



Mal Stares
SVP, Global Scripted,
Blink49

Pitch Forum #3: Comedy Series



Marina Di Pancrazio
Chief Content
Revenue Officer
Just For Laughs Group



Greig Dymond
Director of
Development, Comedy,
CBC



Gwenllian Gravelle
Head of Scripted,
S4C



Nick Lee
Head of Acquisitions,
Channel 4



Tara Woodbury
Director, Canada Series,
Netflix

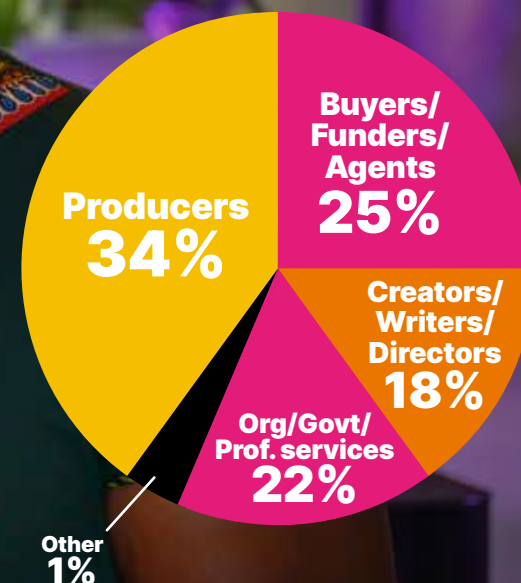
Expert Panelists



BANFF

WORLD MEDIA FESTIVAL

Attendees by sector



2023 Delegate Survey

99.2%

of respondents said their Festival experience was good, very good, or excellent

98.7%

of respondents felt the Festival met their objectives

98.4%

of respondents met with new contacts that they will maintain connections with post-event

96.1%

of respondents said they connected with an individual or project that they will be following up on post-event

88.2%


of respondents said that a deal discussed or advanced at BANFF was likely to be completed

88.1%

of respondents said that BANFF is important or extremely important to their annual business development efforts

96.9%

of respondents were satisfied or strongly satisfied with the Festival speakers and session topics



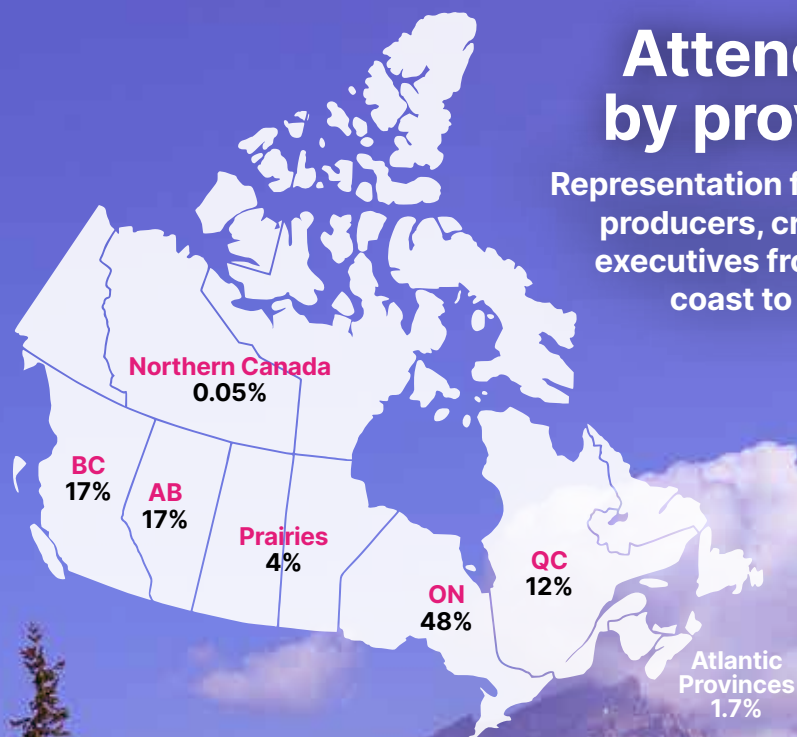
Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium,
Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Czech
Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland,
France, Germany, Greece, Iceland,
India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy,
Japan, Kenya, Lebanon, Lithuania,
Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Monaco,
Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands,
New Zealand, Nigeria, Northern Ireland,
Norway, Oman, Poland, Portugal, Qatar,
Scotland, Singapore, South Africa,
South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Taiwan,
The Netherlands, United Kingdom,
Ukraine, United Arab Emirates,
USA, Wales

**53 countries
participated
at the
conference
and
Rockie Awards**

Canada at BANFF

Attendees by province

Representation from Canadian producers, creators and executives from coast to coast.



Other Canadian content highlights:

- **74% of panels included a Canadian viewpoint**
- **First major industry stop for CRTC Chairperson Vicky Eatrdes**
- **First major keynote from Minister Pablo Rodriguez since the passing of Bill C-11**
- **First BANFF Master Class to focus on a French Canadian series with Club Ilico's *Mégantic***



Canada: state of the nation

Troy Reeb, EVP, Broadcast Networks, Corus Entertainment

Brad Danks, CEO, OUTtv

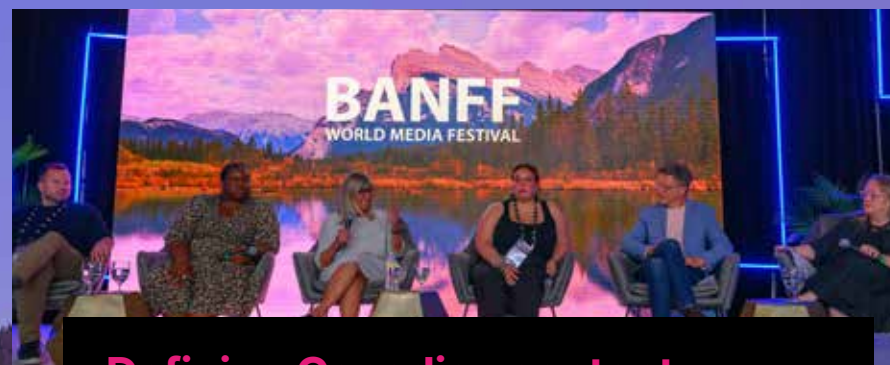
Barbara Williams, EVP of English Services, CBC

Jamie Schouela, President, Global Channels and Media, Blue Ant Media

Hayden Mindell, Senior Vice President of Television, Rogers Sports & Media

Andrew Peterson, Head of Canada, YouTube

Moderator: Victoria Ahearn, Editor, Playback



Defining Canadian content: the future of the industry

In partnership with: Canada Media Fund

Philippe Lamarre, President, URBANIA

Sasha Leigh Henry, Filmmaker, WILIM Media House

Christina Jennings, Chairman and President, Shaftesbury

Stacey Aglok MacDonald, Co-Creator, Executive Producer and Writer, upcoming Arctic comedy series for CBC, Netflix and APTN, Red Marrow Media

Tom Hastings, Head of Original Programming, Paramount+ Canada

Catalina Briceno, Partner, La société des demains

Moderator: Valerie Creighton, President and CEO, CMF

In Partnership with CPAC: Canadian content sessions were broadcast LIVE and aired in syndication over the summer on the channel.



BANFF WORLD MEDIA FESTIVAL
ROCKIE
AWARDS
INTERNATIONAL
PROGRAM COMPETITION

141 NOMINEES
ENTRIES FROM **46** COUNTRIES
ACROSS **27** CATEGORIES
A JURY OF **150** SENIOR
INTERNATIONAL INDUSTRY MEMBERS

Hosted by MC RedCloud and Crystle Lightning

WATCH HERE!



**2023
International
Program
Competition
winners
included:**

**2023
Grand Jury:**



Mo Abudu
CEO
EbonyLife Media



Alice Dickens-Koblin
SVP, Head of Unscripted Programming
Starz



Peter Gal
Chief Creative Officer, Television
DreamWorks Animation



Cynthia Kennedy
VP, Distribution
Incendo & Quebecor Content



Mark Linsey
Managing Director, Scripted
BBC Studios

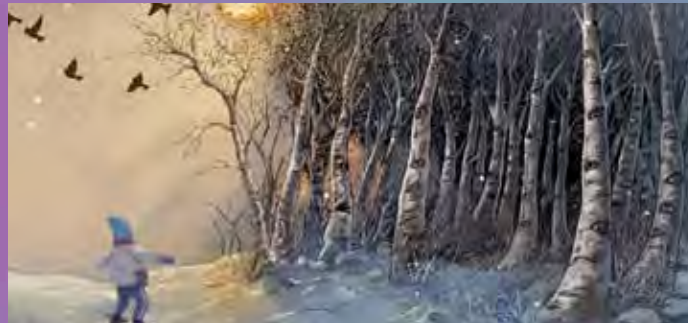


Jacqueline Sacerio
EVP, Co-Head of
Scripted Development
eOne



Beatrice Springborn
President
UCP & Universal International
Studios

**GRAND JURY
PRIZE RECIPIENT**



ETERNAL SPRING

CBC, MAX, SPHERE MEDIA
CANADA, USA

FRANCOPHONE PRIZE



**GÉOLOCALISER L'AMOUR
(GEOMAPPING LOVE)**

V10MEDIA, BELL FUND, ICI.TOU.TV, HG DISTRIBUTION
CANADA

**ROGERS PRIZE FOR EXCELLENCE
IN CANADIAN CONTENT**



SORT OF

CBC, MAX, SPHERE MEDIA
CANADA, USA

EMERGING TALENT PRIZE



**MAGICAL CARESSES
LORI MALÉPART-TRAVERSY**

NATIONAL FILM BOARD OF CANADA
CANADA

More 2023 International Program Competition winners:



EUPHORIA

HBO, ADD CONTENT AGENCY, I HOT | TCDY PRODUCTIONS, DREAMCREW, LITTLE LAMB PRODUCTIONS, A24, THE REASONABLE BUNCH
USA



WELCOME TO WREXHAM

BOARDWALK PICTURES
USA



PREHISTORIC PLANET

BBC STUDIOS NATURAL HISTORY UNIT, APPLE TV+, GOLEM CREATIONS
UK, USA



THE PATIENT

FX PRODUCTIONS



THE GOLDEN HOUR

AVROTROS, NL FILM, NPO
THE NETHERLANDS



THE SMEDS AND THE SMOOS

MAGIC LIGHT PICTURES
UK



THE TRAITORS UK

STUDIO LAMBERT, BBC
UK



EL PRESIDENTE: THE CORRUPTION GAME

GAUMONT, FABULA, KAPOW, ABOUT ENTERTAINMENT
ARGENTINA, BRAZIL, CHILE, USA

TASKMASTER

Avalon Television Ltd.
UK

SESAME STREET

Sesame Workshop
USA

ACID DREAM: THE GREAT LSD PLOT

BBC Studios
UK

CUNK ON EARTH

Broke and Bones
UK

THE BIG SEX TALK

Noble Television Inc., CBC Gem
Canada

MEMORY FOREST

Ttv Production
Israel

DINOSAURS: THE FINAL DAY WITH DAVID ATTENBOROUGH

BBC Studios Science Unit, NOVA, GBH Boston, BBC, PBS, France Télévisions
France, UK, USA

THEN BARBARA MET ALAN

Dragonfly Film and Television, One Shoe Films
UK

TROOP ONE

Seefood TV, TV 2
Norway

MY LIFE AS A ROLLING STONE

Mercury Studios, BBC
UK

MAGICAL CARESSES

National Film Board of Canada
Canada

MORIARTY: THE DEVIL'S GAME

Treefort Media, Audible
USA

KIRI AND LOU

Stretch Television New Zealand, CBeebies, BBC, New Zealand On Air
New Zealand

TRAFFICKED WITH MARIANA VAN ZELLER

Muck Media, National Geographic
USA

ETERNAL SPRING

Lofty Sky Pictures Inc.
Canada

AFFAIRS OF THE ART

Beryl Productions, National Film Board of Canada
Canada, UK

XIAO LU'S CHOICE BY YOUTH NEWS@PTS

Taiwan Public Television Service Foundation
Taiwan

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

RadicalMedia, History
USA

AZZURRO SHOCKING: HOW WOMEN TOOK BACK FOOTBALL

(COME LE DONNE SI SONO RIPRESE IL CALCIO)

RAI
Italy

A man with a beard and short dark hair, wearing a dark suit, stands at a black podium on a stage. He is speaking into a microphone. The background is dark with some light patterns. In the foreground, the backs of several audience members' heads are visible, some holding up smartphones to record the event. The lighting is dim, with some stage lights visible.

BANFF WORLD MEDIA FESTIVAL

ROCKIE AWARDS

Gala

**The Rockies Gala honours
outstanding talent, shows and
executives from across
the industry.**

Hosted by Craig Robinson,
Star and Executive Producer,
Killing It (Peacock)

This year's Rockies Gala honourees:



AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
presented by *VARIETY*
Sharon Horgan



BUFFALO ROCK AWARD
Star Trek



CAREER ACHIEVEMENT
presented by **CMF FMC**
Alanis Obomsawin



CREATIVE VOICE AWARD
Jennifer Podemski



GRAND JURY PRIZE
Eternal Spring



INNOVATIVE PRODUCER
AWARD
presented by **LIONSGATE**
Sphere Media



PROGRAM OF
THE YEAR
The Last of Us



SIR PETER USTINOV
COMEDY AWARD
Craig Robinson



THE IMPACT AWARD
presented by *The Hollywood Reporter*
**Fenton Bailey
+ Randy Barbato**



THE INCLUSION AWARD
presented by **A+E**
Garcelle Beauvais



BANFF, in partnership with the Directors Guild of Canada and Warner Bros. Discovery Access Canada recognized director **Elza Kephart** (Midnight Kingdom Films), as the first **Jean-Marc Vallée bursary recipient**. The bursary offers a Québec-based director an opportunity to attend the Festival to showcase their work and gain industry profile.

Photo credit: Bertrand Calmeau





**Keynotes
and featured
speakers**

DANI

WORLD MEDIA FESTIVAL

Summit Series
keynote
conversation with:

George Cheeks

President and CEO, CBS and CCO,
News and Sports, Paramount+

MODERATOR:
Peter White
Television Editor
Deadline Hollywood

MODERATOR:
Nekesa Mumbi Moody
Editorial Director
The Hollywood Reporter



Sharon Horgan

award-winning actress, writer, producer,
director, co-founder, Merman

The biggest names in the business take the stage at BANFF



MODERATOR:
Jenn Kuzmyk
Executive Director - BANFF,
Publisher - Playback
Brunico Communications Ltd.



Jennifer Mullin

CEO, Fremantle



Master Class: Star Trek

Celia Rose Gooding, Actor,
Star Trek: Strange New Worlds

Ethan Peck, Actor,
Star Trek: Strange New Worlds

David Stapf, President,
CBS Television Studios, CBS Studios

Moderator: John Elmes,
International Editor, Broadcast

In Conversation With: Killing It's Craig Robinson and Claudia O'Doherty

Craig Robinson, Actor and Executive Producer, *Killing It*

Claudia O'Doherty, Actor, *Killing It*

Moderator: John Elmes, International Editor, Broadcast





An inside look at 10 years of Netflix Originals

Bobby Berk (*Queer Eye*, *Blown Away: Christmas*)

Noah Centineo (*The Recruit*, *To All the Boys* trilogy)

Moderator: Peter Friedlander, Head of Scripted Series, U.S. and Canada, Netflix

In Conversation With: Fenton Bailey and Randy Barbato, Co-Founders, World of Wonder

Fenton Bailey, Co-Founder and Executive Director, World of Wonder

Randy Barbato, Co-Founder and Executive Director, World of Wonder

Moderator: Nekesa Mumbi Moody,
Editorial Director, The Hollywood Reporter
+ POST-SESSION BOOK SIGNING with Fenton Bailey



Master Class: Robyn Hood

Kerry Appleyard, SVP, Creative Affairs, Boat Rocker Studios

Kathleen Meek, most recently Manager, Original Content, Scripted and Factual, Corus Entertainment

Jessye Romeo, Actor, *Robyn Hood*

Director X, Co-Creator, *Robyn Hood*

Moderator: Kathleen Newman-Bremang,
Deputy Editor - Global, Refinery29 Unbothered

Int'l media leaders: big bang theories

Antony Fraser, Managing Director, ACF Investment Bank

Kevin Johnson, CEO, GroupM Canada

Juan Ponce, SVP and General Manager for Telemundo Streaming Studios, NBCUniversal Telemundo Enterprises

Patrick Vien, Group Managing Director, International, A+E Networks

Odetta Watkins, Head, Drama Series, Amazon Studios

Moderator: Elaine Low, Staff Writer, The Ankler

In partnership with HRTS



Trends in scripted programming

Chris Fry, Joint Creative Director of Scripted, SISTER Pictures

Barry Jossen, President, A+E Studios

Teza Lawrence, Executive Producer and Co-Owner, Amaze

Jacqueline Sacerio, Executive Vice President and Co-Head of Development, Scripted Television, U.S., Entertainment One Television

Bryan Seabury, EVP, Drama Development, CBS Studios

Moderator: John Elmes, International Editor, Broadcast

In partnership with eOne

Comedies that travel

Kate Adler, Executive Vice President, Comedy Development, CBS Studios

Rob Aslett, Company Director, Artist Manager and Executive Producer, Avalon Television

Deniese Davis, Founder and CEO, Reform Media Group

Marina Di Pancrazio, Chief Content Revenue Officer, Just for Laughs Group

Stan Pham, Current Programming, CBS Studios

Moderator: Bill Lundy, SVP Comedy, New Metric Media





Moving the dial forward for underrepresented communities in entertainment - successes and continued growth

Tayo Amos, Filmmaker

Robert Baltazar, Vice President, TV Programming DEI, NBCU Launch, NBCUniversal

Joan Jenkinson, Co-Founder and Executive Director, Black Screen Office

Kelly-Ann Jones, Senior Manager, Audience Research, Canada Media Fund

Thea Loo, Producer, No More Productions Inc

Alexis McLaren, Development Executive, Original Programming, Scripted and Unscripted, Bell Media

Sina Sultani, Writer, Director and Producer, Photocell Productions

Tonya Williams, Founder and Executive Director, Reelworld Screen Institute

Moderator: Kathleen Newman-Bremang, Deputy Editor - Global, Refinery29 Unbothered

In partnership with Reelworld Screen Institute

The power of music: in conversation with Nora Felder

Nora Felder, Music Supervisor, Picture Music Company

Moderator: Matt Cansick, Senior Director, Creative Licensing - TV North America, BMG Production Music

In partnership with BMG Production Music



Writer superpanel: strike edition

Kara Brown, Writer, Executive Producer

Adele Lim, Writer, Producer and Director

Elan Mastai, Writer

Moderator: Manori Ravindran, Executive Editor,
International and Senior Writer, Variety

In partnership with Blink49 Studios, Variety



Home reno-ssance: what's hot in property

Josie Crimi, EVP, Development and Production, Scott Brothers Entertainment

Lauren Frasca, SVP, Content, Magnolia Network, Warner Bros Entertainment

Scott McGillivray, CEO, MEM

J.C. Mills, President and Head of Content, Cineflix Productions

CJ Yu, Head of Unscripted Development, Global Formats, Amazon Studios

Moderator: Vibika Bianchi, Executive Producer, Catalyst

In partnership with Prime Video

Get in the sandbox with kids-biz experts

Aubrey Clarke, Commissioning Executive, BBC Children's 7+, BBC

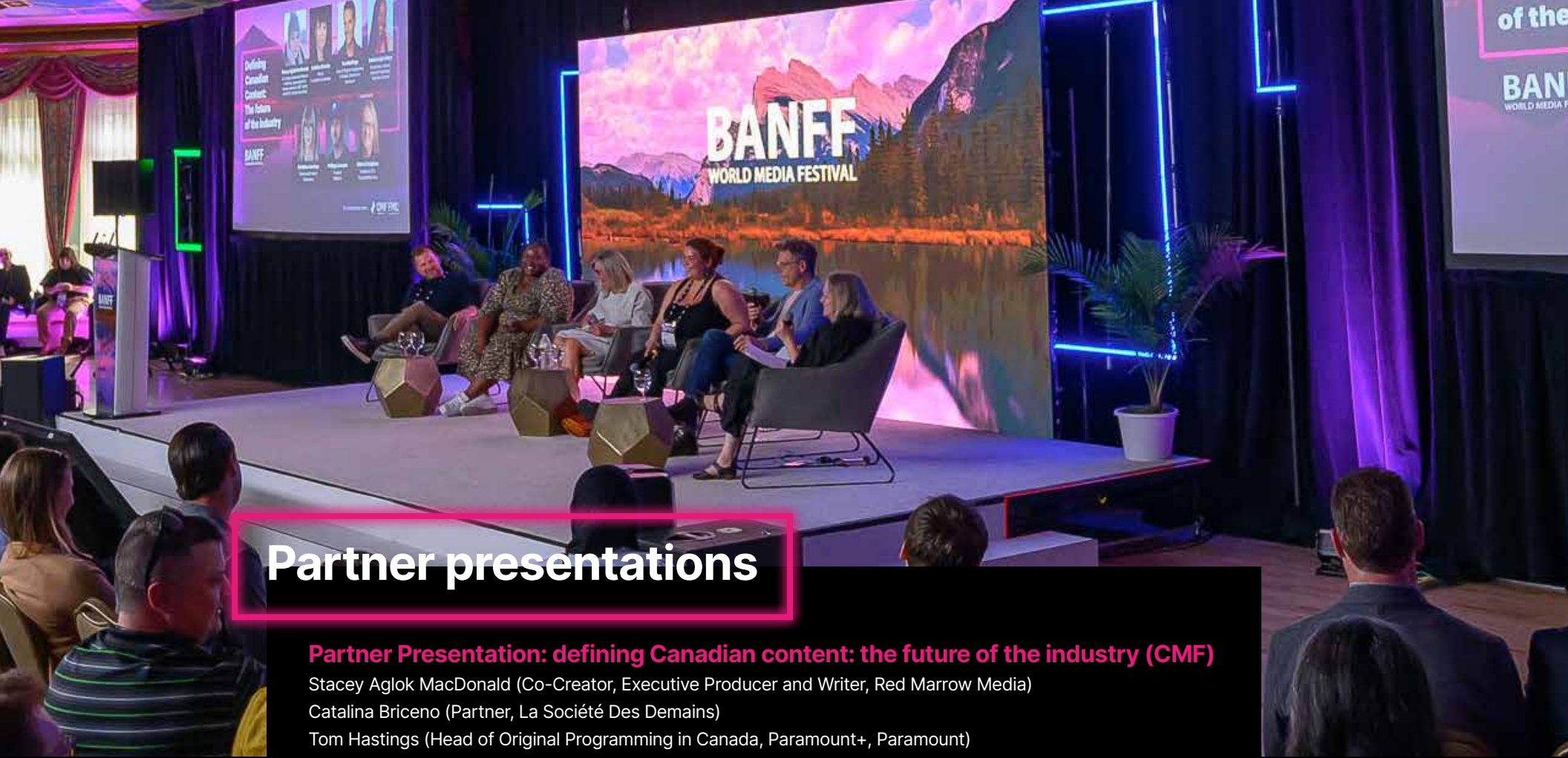
Drew Mullin, Executive in Charge of Production, Kids, CBC

Kate Sanagan, Head of Sales and Distribution,
Sinking Ship Entertainment

Moderator: Sara DeWitt, SVP and General Manager, PBS Kids

In partnership with Julie App





Partner presentations

Partner Presentation: defining Canadian content: the future of the industry (CMF)

Stacey Aglok MacDonald (Co-Creator, Executive Producer and Writer, Red Marrow Media)

Catalina Briceno (Partner, La Société Des Demains)

Tom Hastings (Head of Original Programming in Canada, Paramount+, Paramount)

Sasha Leigh Henry (Showrunner, Director, Admiral Productions + Sunflower Studios)

Christina Jennings (Chairman & President, Shaftesbury)

Philippe LaMarre (President, URBANIA)

Moderated by Valerie Creighton (President & CEO, Canada Media Fund)

Partner Presentation: the climate cost of production: charting the sustainability path for the screen industry (Telefilm)

Lisa Clarkson (Executive Director, Business & Rights, and Production Sustainability, CBC)

Tyler Hagen (Producer, Experimental Forest Films)

Andrew Robinson (Principal, Sustainability Strategy & Engagement, Green Spark Group)

Moderated by Cyle Zezo (Executive Producer, Solarpunk Village)

Partner Presentation: maximize the value of your IP on YouTube

Morgan Greco (Senior Vice President, Digital Business Development, A + E Networks)

Steven He (Comedian, Actor, Producer and YouTuber)

Stephanie Wilson Chapin (Strategic Partner Lead for TV, Sports, News, Canada, YouTube)

Followed by a Workshop on how to monetize your YouTube channel

Women in Global Entertainment Champagne Breakfast

presented by **A+E** NETWORKS and *THE* **Hollywood** REPORTER



A conversation with **Garcelle Beauvais**
(Lifetime EP, *Black Girl Missing* and *Real Housewives of Beverly Hills*)

Moderated by **Traci Melchor**
Senior Correspondent, *Etalk*



Over 1,200 pre-set meetings

1:1 Meetings:

Pitch Doctors
– Virtual

Speed Meetings
with Buyers

Production
Partners

Small Group Meetings:

Meet an
Agent

Meet a
Decision Maker

Meet a
Distributor

Meet a Showrunner
+ Director

Drop-in Group Networking:

Topic Tables



1:1 Meetings:

Pitch Doctors
– Virtual

Speed Meetings
with Buyers

Production
Partners

Over 600 curated exclusive
in-person and virtual 1:1
meetings with the world's
top networks, streamers,
producers and studios

Buyers and Decision Makers that took part in networking at BANFF 2023 included:

A + E Networks - Brad Holcman, Senior Director of Non-Fiction + Alternative Programming

Amazon Studios - Beth Iley, Senior Development Executive

Amazon Studios - Catherine Casey, Senior Creative Executive, Global Unscripted Formats

AMI-tv, Cara Nye, Director, Content Development + Production

APTN - Lisa Ducharme, Director of Online Content

BBC - Aubrey Clarke, Commissioning Executive

Bell Media - Sarah Fowlie, Head of Production, Original Programming

BRON Media - Brenda Gilbert, Co-Founder + President

CBC - Drew Mullin, Executive in Charge of Production, Kids

CBC - Greig Dymond, Director of Development, Comedy

CBC - Jessica Schmiedchen, Director of Development, Unscripted Content

CBC - Lea Marin, Director of Development, Drama

Channel 4 - Polly Scates, Senior Acquisitions Manager

CMF - Valerie Creighton, President + CEO

Corus Entertainment - Colin Bohm, EVP, Content + Corporate Strategy

Eagle Vision - Lisa Meeches, Founder + Executive Producer

eOne - Darren, Giblin, VP, Current Scripted Programming

Hallmark - Jessica Callahan, VP Development

NBCUniversal Telemundo Enterprises - Juan Ponce, SVP + General Manager for Telemundo Streaming Services

Netflix - Tara Woodbury, Director, Series Canada

OUTtv - Lauren Whitelaw, Head of Programming

Paramount+ - Katrina Kowalski, VP Content

RAI Fiction - Michele Zatta, Commissioning Editor in Charge of International Co-Productions

Roku - Vicki Liao, Director, Content Acquisition

S4C - Gwenllian Gravelle, Head of Scripted

Starz - Kathryn Tyus-Adair, SVP Original Programming

TFO - Marianne Lambert, Director Co-Productions + Acquisitions

The CW Network - Brad Schwartz, President of Television

Topic - Jennifer Liang, VP Acquisitions, Programming + Sales

Walden Media - Benjamin Tappan, President, Production

Warner Bros. Discovery - Benjamin Thornton, Development Executive



Small Group Meetings:

Over 600 delegates participated in small group networking at BANFF 2023. Sessions included **Meet a Decision Maker, Meet an Agent, Meet a Showrunner + Director, Meet a Distributor** and our new session - **Topic Tables!**

There were 35% more small group meeting opportunities than in 2022, and they all took place in the William F. White small group networking hub!

Here are some of the Distributors, Agents, Directors and Showrunners who networked at BANFF:

Adele Lim, Writer and Director (*Joy Ride, Crazy Rich Asians*)

Animiki See Distribution Inc. - Jean La Rose, General Manager

Banijay Rights - Simon Cox, EVP Content + Acquisitions

BBC Studios Canada - Jodi Mackie, Director, Content Sales + Co-productions Kids & Family

Blue Ant Media - Nick Solowski, Senior Director, International Sales + Acquisitions

CAA - Dan Norton, Agent

Characters - Sohrab Merchant, Agent

Cineflix Rights - Richard Life, SVP of Acquisitions + Co-Productions

eOne - Cathy Hare, Director of Acquisitions North America

Fremantle - Nadia Paulos, Senior Director of Distribution Operations

Incendo - Brook Peters, Managing Director + Senior Vice-President, Sales + Production Operations

Lionsgate Entertainment - Courtney Fitzpatrick, Director of Content Strategy

Nimisha Mukerji, Director (*65_RedRoses, Blood Relative*)

New Metric Media - Bill Lundy, EVP Comedy

Reelworld Screen Institute - Safia Abdigir, Industry Programming Manager

Roku - Mary-Anne Taylor, Head of Content Distribution

Sustainable Entertainment Society - Melanie Windle, Executive Director, Sustainable Production Forum

VERVE - Tyler Reynolds, Head of Television Directing

Virtual Production House - Karoli Grenman, Head of Operations

Nora Felder, Music Supervisor (*Yellowjackets season 2, Stranger Things, What We Do in the Shadows*)

IN PARTNERSHIP

30 Minutes With...

Delegates gathered in the Fairmont Banff Springs theatre to hear the programming needs and priorities of major content investors first-hand and participate in live Q&A. These buyer briefings are closed to press.

Lea Marin and Greig Dymond, CBC

Participating companies included:

AMAZON
STUDIOS



NETFLIX

A group of five executives (three men and two women) are seated on a stage in modern armchairs, facing each other for a panel discussion. The stage is lit with purple and blue lights, and there are large white letters in the background. A red rectangular box highlights the text 'Spotlight sessions' on the right side of the image.

Spotlight sessions

Executives sat down to highlight what they are looking for in content along with industry trends and how to engage with their teams.

Spotlight: Roku

David Eilenberg, VP and Head of Content, Roku

Brian Tennenbaum, Head, Roku Originals, Roku

Jennifer Vaux, VP Content Acquisition and Programming, Roku

Moderator: Jordan Pinto, North American Editor, C21 Media

Spotlight: Blue Ant Media

Solange Attwood, EVP International, Blue Ant Media Inc

Laura Michalchyshyn, Chief Creative Officer, Blue Ant Media, Co-President Content, Blue Ant Studios, Blue Ant Media

Jamie Schouela, President, Global Channels and Media, Blue Ant Media Inc

Moderator: Manori Ravindran, Executive Editor, International & Senior Writer, Variety

Spotlight: CBC

Jennifer Dettman, Executive Director, Unscripted Content, CBC

Trish Williams, Executive Director, Scripted Content, CBC

Moderator: Kelly Townsend, News Editor, Playback

Spotlight: Hallmark Media

Suzanne Berger, VP of Production, NASHAMA Entertainment

Charles Cooper, President, Front Street Pictures

Jimmy Holcomb, VP of Production, Hallmark Media

Randy Pope, SVP Physical Production, Hallmark Media

Moderator: John Morayniss, Chief Executive Officer, Blink49 Content Inc

Spotlight: Fremantle

Michela Di Mondo, EVP Distribution and Sales, Canada, Fremantle

Lisa Honig, Senior EVP Program Distribution, North America, Fremantle

Jens Richter, CEO Commercial and International, Fremantle

Moderator: Mark Bishop, co-CEO and Executive Producer, marblemmedia

Spotlight: Bell Media

Sarah Fowlie, Head of Production, Original Programming, Bell Media

Rachel Goldstein-Couto, Head of Development, Original Programming, Bell Media

Moderator: Karen Tsang, SVP Creative Affairs / Executive Producer, Pier 21 Films



Access + opportunity = systemic change

BANFF 2023 welcomed 100+ fellowship participants from historically underrepresented groups through such programs as:

BANFF
Spark
ACCELERATOR
FOR WOMEN IN THE BUSINESS OF MEDIA

5

BANFF Spark
Accelerator for Women in
the Business of Media

NETFLIX

BANFF
DIVERSITY
OF VOICES
INITIATIVE

100

Netflix-BANFF Diversity
of Voices Initiative

**CANADA-FRANCE
SERIES LAB**

10

Canada-France Series
Lab

**Indigenous
Screen Summit**

14

Indigenous Screen
Summit Pitch Forum

**JEAN MARC
VALLÉE BURSARY**

1

recipient



CANADA-FRANCE SERIES LAB

The Canada-France Series Lab is a joint venture between

Le Canada-France Séries Lab est une initiative de



New to BANFF, the Canada-France Series Lab welcomed four co-producing teams on the first event of a year-long program culminating with producers pitching their projects at the 2024 Series Mania Forum in France. Launched in 2022, the lab is a joint venture between Series Mania Forum, Telefilm Canada, the Centre national du cinéma et de l'image animée (CNC), and BANFF is meant to encourage and facilitate the development of new co-productions between Canadian and French producers.

Workshop Experts included:

Cynthia Kennedy, VP Distribution - Incendo and Quebec Content

Christina Jennings, President - Shaftesbury

Richard Life, SVP Acquisitions and Co-productions - Cineflix Rights

Jeremy Spry, National Director - Canada Media Fund Program Administrator

Stephen Shinn, President - Shinn Communications (Paramount and Warner Bros.)

Pam Wilson, President - Ink Media PR

Cayce Kelly, Publicist - Ink Media PR

NETFLIX



Launched in 2018, and providing nearly 600 opportunities to underserved Canadian film & TV professionals to date, the Netflix-BANFF Diversity of Voices Initiative (DOV) is Canada's largest and most widely impactful industry development initiative.

Participants are given the opportunity to attend BANFF and take part in exclusive sessions and networking opportunities. The program is succeeding at breaking down systemic barriers at scale and moving projects and careers forward. Its effect will continue to be seen for years and potentially decades to come.

————— SUPPORTING PARTNERS —————



INDIGENOUS SCREEN OFFICE
BUREAU DE L'ÉCRAN AUTOCHTONE



2023 Participant Profiles

100% Black, Indigenous and People of Colour
54% Women, Non-Binary, Two-Spirit, Agender
21% Francophone

**Exclusive Diversity of Voices Programming
created specifically for this cohort included:**

Info Session & Participant Networking Event

Featuring:

Jean-Francois O'Bomsawin, Director of Marketing & Communications, Indigenous Screen Office (ISO)
Joan Jenkinson, Executive Director, Black Screen Office

Netflix-BANFF Diversity of Voices Initiative Lunch

Featuring:

Stéphane Cardin, Director, Public Policy, Canada, Netflix
Jean-Francois O'Bomsawin, Director of Marketing & Communications, Indigenous Screen Office (ISO)
Richard Jean-Baptiste, VP Business Innovation, Executive Producer, Attraction

Working with Netflix

Featuring:

Danielle Woodrow, Director, Content - Canada, Netflix
Tara Woodbury, Director, Content - Canada, Netflix

Moderator: Nafisa Murji Director of Development, Pier 21

Co-Production Deep Dive: International Financing and Content Trends

Featuring:

Brenda Gilbert, President, BRON Media Corp
Jennifer Liang, VP Acquisitions, Programming Strategy & Sales, Topic.
Gwenllian Gravelle, Head of Scripted, S4C
Cher Hawyrsh, SVP Production, Walden Media LLC
Michele Zatta, Commissioning Editor in Charge of Co-productions, RAI
Adam Steinman, President and Founder, Mount Royal Films LLC

Moderator: Mark Johnston, President, RiverRock Real

"I previously attended the virtual edition but the in-person venue is incomparable. The opportunity to meet old friends and create new contacts while accelerating projects with the support of the Netflix-Banff DOV program is life-changing. Add to the fact that I'm Alberta-born and raised and it's easy to see why the festival is such an incredible place to be"

Sina Sultani, Writer/Director/Creator, Photocell Productions Inc.

"I was nervous to attend Banff for the first time. But as a Diversity of Voices pitch participant, I felt so well supported. Everyone I met was so friendly. I shook hands, pitched my shows, made great contacts and got to do it all from the beautiful Fairmont in Banff. But most importantly, I met friends for life; fellow like-minded creators."

Alexandra MacLean Writer/Director/Creator

"I'm grateful for this event, and the best use of it for me is returning year after year - because a career is not made in a day or a meeting, but in years and connections that carry value and intention."

Raghd Charabaty, Writer/Director/Creator, Amar Films

"Wonderful to meet new people, get sage advice from industry professionals, get access to gatekeepers and funders - and great speakers."

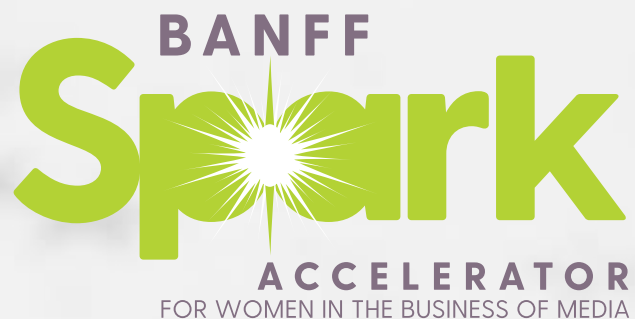
Bruce Thomas Miller, Writer/Director/Creator, Inc.nation

"I got to meet many like-minded creatives as well as production partners who are not based out of Ontario, which I wouldn't have access to without this conference."

Neha Kohli, Screenwriter/Actor

"Being a part of the BANFF DOV program was an excellent opportunity to meet with key decision-makers, network with other creatives, and have private sessions with networks. The relationships built will undoubtedly help my long-term career goals."

Moniquea Marion, Writer/Director/Creator, Reallife Pictures



The 2023 BANFF SPARK ALL STARS program was a special edition of the Banff Spark Accelerator for Women in the Business of Media, and provided five alumni of the program their own customized stream of business development opportunities, one-on-one mentorship, and exclusive access to top international media industry professionals, during this year's Festival.

FOUNDING INDUSTRY PARTNER



ALL STARS



Jennifer Beasley
Big Cheese Pictures Inc.



Jennifer Pun
Edge Entertainment



Sholeh Alemi Fabbri
Good Measure Productions



Alexandra Roberts
Push Pictures



Kaitlan Stewart
Fenix Film & Television



**That's
a wrap!
See you
next year for
BANFF's 45th
anniversary.**

June 9-12, 2024

**SAVE
THE
DATE**