

BECOME A SCREENWRITER! SUSTAIN THE INDUSTRY IN GEORGIA



KSU Screenwriting Club does a table reading

In 2018, more films and TV shows were produced in Georgia than anywhere else in the country. This, now a **9.5 billion-dollar industry**, has created more than **100,000 jobs** (*Film LA*).

But this is almost entirely from physical production, alone. Nearly all of the **content creation** and **development** still takes place in California or New York. That means, the 100,000 plus jobs and 10 billion dollars of revenue in Georgia rely mostly on out-of-state writers for content.

The MAPW is changing that situation by training screenwriters and helping to sustain the film industry in Georgia.

Writers create jobs. Writers create the scripts. Without scripts there is no film. Without film, there is no production and no work for actors, directors, electricians, carpenters, make-up artists and many other industry workers.

MAPW has been training screenwriters since 1995. Now, under the leadership of Professors Mitch Olson and Gabrielle Fulton, it is set to expand its film and TV writing course offerings.

There are two ways you can be a part of this exciting venture.

1. Become a **MAPW degree** candidate
<https://chss.kennesaw.edu/mapw/>
2. Become a **MAPW Creative Writing Certificate** Candidate
<https://chss.kennesaw.edu/mapw/>

Either way, you will study with practicing writers who will train you in subjects such as film adaptation, writers' room, half-hour and one hour television shows, feature film, documentary film, non-scripted TV shows, film history, the business of film and many other exciting subjects. As a degree candidate, you will have opportunities to intern within the industry. As either a degree or a certificate candidate, the MAPW will be a gateway to a screenwriting career in Georgia's exploding film and TV industry.

Join the Venture! Become a Screenwriter.

Application Deadlines

For SPRING Semester:
October 1

For FALL Semester:
February 1 (Priority)
June 1 (Final)

APPLY NOW



Dynamic Team Leads Screen Writing for MAPW



Gabrielle Fulton's short film, *Ir/Reconcilable* was broadcasted on HBO. Starring Jasmine Guy and the late Dick Gregory, the film was an official selection at the 2014 American Black Film Festival in New York City. Her Hip Hop Diaspora Project was optioned for development by MTV Networks. Gabrielle has an MFA in Writing for the Screen & Stage from Northwestern University. She is also an accomplished playwright and her plays

have been staged at Atlanta's Alliance and Horizon

Mitch Olson has worked on the writing staffs of shows like Netflix's "The Ranch" and Fox's "The Grinder," and has optioned a number of original scripts for both television and feature films. His full-length script, "The Lost Boy," now in development, was a NexTV award winner in the feature category. He was also a finalist for the NYC Midnight Scriptwriting Challenge. Mitch holds an MFA in Screenwriting from Brooks Institute of Film and Photography.



MAPW Screenwriters in the News



Alumna **Leigh Takata's** first film, "The Dear Women Project" debuted in June 2017. The film documents the stories of four abused and/or assaulted women who live in Metro Atlanta. Also in 2017, she debuted her first screenplay "My Story of Sam," about her personal rape. Leigh, an actor and dancer as well as a writer, starred in the film. She performs regularly around the country.



Mackleen Desravines, 2015 MAPW graduate, premiered her directorial debut, "Smoke" in October 2018. She also wrote the film. The movie, based on a true story, is about the case of a man who murdered his pregnant wife, was sent to jail, was released with the help of his church only to kill four children ten years after his release. For a teaser: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D4AWiJ6buf4>. Mackleen has also written and directed a videocast called "The Adjuncts," which is available on YouTube.

LA LIVE, a national scriptwriting contest and film festival, has selected the short screenplay, "Cutting Teeth," by MAPW student **Kandace James**. "Cutting Teeth" is a comedy-drama about Kaden, a thirteen-year-old, burdened with black teeth that keeps her from being at peace with herself. The screenplay will be promoted on all of LA LIVE's social media sites, as well as its promotions company's site at www.bighouse-la.com until the festival date of November 9th, 2019.



Laura McCarter, a current MAPW student, was one of just thirteen finalists of 300 competitors selected by judges in the Summit Pitch Contest held in Atlanta, April 6 and 7, 2019. The two-day contest was a feature of the ScreenCraft Writers Summit held at Atlanta's Georgian Terrace Hotel in conjunction with the Atlanta Film Festival. The Summit is known as one of the premier screenwriting events in the world and brought Oscar and Emmy-winning writers, producers, agents, and managers together for industry panels, craft workshops, and networking opportunities.

MAPW's Screenwriting Professor **Mitch Olson** and twelve other KSU students were also in attendance. Many of the KSU students pitched in the contest. Laura's pitch was for a screenplay called "DEE" about a young addict who tries to keep the memory of her deceased brother alive by playing his guitar and pursuing a career in music. While Laura's pitch didn't win the contest, her talent was exposed to hundreds of professionals at the event.

Screenwriting Professor **Gabrielle Fulton** was a panelist at one of the festival events.

Professor Olson, who organized the field trip for the MAPW students, also blogged for the event. Here are links to his posts, [opening day festivities](#) and [8 lessons learned](#). Olson said, "KSU's connections to events like this create opportunities that are critical in forming industry relationships and, ultimately, leading to jobs for our students."

I AM A PROFESSIONAL WRITER

LAURA MCCARTER

My greatest accomplishment so far in the MAPW was when I was invited to Rome, Italy by the International Congress on Visual Culture to present my research on visual rhetoric in screenwriting.

MAPWriting
MA in Professional Writing at Kennesaw State University



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