

NAVIGATING THE WORLD OF TV WRITING WITH KAREN KIRKLAND

 @karenkirkland



Creative Strategist, Karen Kirkland, conducted an in-depth discussion on navigating the world of TV writing. She shared her knowledge and 25 years of experience exploring the art and craft of the ever-evolving television writing landscape. Karen pulled back the curtain and offered advice, tips and tricks to help move their writing career in a forward motion and succeed in today's highly competitive world of content creation. Topics discussed included: 1) Having a relevant portfolio, 2) Pitching yourself, 3) Networking, 4) Interview Do's & Don'ts! 5) How social media plays an essential part in building your brand and 6) What comes first the agent or the job...?

***Karen Kirkland** is an industry veteran, who over the last 25 years, has been involved in various aspects of the film and television industry. As a Producer at FM Rocks, RSA, BlackDog, DNA, Geneva Films and Shooting Star Pictures, Karen has amassed over 50 commercials and music videos to her credit, including the T-Boz music video for Rugrats in Paris: The Movie. She has been nominated for multiple MTV Music Video Awards, and won an NAACP Image Award for Video of the Year for her work on R. Kelly's "I Wish". Karen was also the Producer of the Los Angeles Film Festival from 1995 to 2001, a preeminent cinematic event, showcasing the world's best independent features.*

Currently, as VP of Talent Development & Outreach at Nickelodeon, Karen oversees the network's incubator programs and is responsible for establishing pipelines throughout the organization for the purposes of fostering innovative writing talent. She has spent the last 11 years identifying, developing and staffing writers onto Nickelodeon network productions. Not only has Karen firmly established Nickelodeon's Writing Program as the most competitive and successful program in the country, moreover the Writing Program has become one of the most well respected vehicles for emerging television writers.

Karen is a member of ATAS, ASIFA-Hollywood, Women in Animation, NALIP, and NAMIC. She has been a judge for numerous screenwriting award competitions including the BANFF World Media Festival, the UCLA Screenwriter's Showcase and the Austin Film Festival Screenplay Competition. And most recently she became a mentor for the International Screenwriters' Association Fast Track Fellowship.