

## CAREERS FOR FILM/VIDEO MAJORS

Production-related careers can be categorized by employment type: a **company employee, freelancer or entrepreneur**. All of these require the job seeker to have a network of colleagues who are knowledgeable about employment opportunities because many of the jobs are not advertised in the usual way with an ad displayed on an employment web site.

Depending upon the size and type of company, an **employee** can be hired as a specialist, e.g. editor at a post-production facility, or as a generalist who is expected to know how to light, record sound and build sets at a small full-service production facility. The larger the company the more specialized the employees tend to be, and they enjoy full benefits the typical large conglomerate offers to its employees.

**Freelancers** comprise a vast number of workers in the film/video production industry. The entry-level is production assistant when the reputation of the PA is built; crew members on set will be able to observe the PA, and if the work is outstanding, then more work will follow for future productions. The work is dependent upon the quality of the previous work, but once freelancers establish the words, "dependable" and "excellence" to their names, then others will seek out them for future projects. As years pass, freelancers can become specialists who are only working in the area of expertise.

**Entrepreneurs** have their own film/video business which can be like a full-service production company or as a specialty, e.g. lighting or editing. These business owners are also dependent on their reputation which may have started when they were freelancers. They have to advertise themselves to earn new clients which can lead to steady work for companies, public relations agencies and others needing visuals to be produced regularly but do not have the expertise to create them.

Ancillary to production are the jobs at talent agencies, marketing, accounting, web development, costume and make-up, location scout and many more. Some of these employment opportunities are far removed from the actual production.

Writing is an essential part of nearly all film/video production, but it's not only about scriptwriting. Grant writing is a way to earn a living. Good writers always are in demand.