

**MEDIA ALERT**

**THE COELHO CENTER FOR DISABILITY LAW PARTNERS LEADS  
DISCUSSION OF REPRESENTATION IN HOLLYWOOD**

**LOS ANGELES** - The Coelho Center for Disability Law, Policy and Innovation (TCC) is teaming up with Lights! Camera! Access! 2.0 (LCA 2.0) to host a roundtable discussion on disability representation in media and Hollywood today, Wednesday, Feb. 20, 2019 at the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences, 5220 Lankershim Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 91601.

This roundtable reconvenes the panelists from TCC's inaugural Nov. 5, 2018 symposium session, "Conquering Stigma: Representations of Disability in Media and Entertainment." That panel covered a range of topics including disability stigma in the media, what "diversity" means, the importance of disabled writers writing scripts and disabled actors cast in all types of roles, and pioneers and future programs addressing the lack of training and access into the industry. Returning and other panelists will join a closed-door discussion to craft a white paper that will include calls-to-action and policy proposals.

"This is a critical moment where Hollywood and media are responding to the widespread call to address issues with diversity," said Katherine Perez, TCC director. "This problem includes the lack of disability representation. Previous generations of disabled individuals have not seen themselves reflected in entertainment. It has contributed to the mistreatment of people with disabilities. Today, we have convened disabled thought-leaders across the industry to create an action plan that will include the publication of a white paper."

**Lights! Camera! Access! 2.0**  
**February 20, 2019**  
**Academy of Television Arts & Sciences**

**AGENDA**

**10 a.m.: Disability and Media Convening – Roundtable Discussion for White Paper (closed to media)**

**Steven Allen** and **Barbara Butz**, PolicyWorks; **Loreen Arbus**, Loreen Arbus Productions; **Karyn Benkendorfer**, Producers Guild of America, Diversity Committee; **Deborah Calla**, Producers Guild of America, Diversity Committee and Chair of the Media Access Awards; **Rick Boggs**, Audio Eyes (Audio Description Company); **Wendy Calhoun**, Co-Executive Producer Empire, Consulting Producer Station 19, Producer Nashville, Revenge, Justified, Hell's Kitchen; **Lawrence Carter-Long**, Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund; **Jo-Ann Dean**, Founder and CEO SIGNmation, Producer ASL Cabaret; **Consuelo Flores**, SAG-AFTRA Diversity; **Keith Jeffreys**, US Veterans' Artists Alliance; **Geri Jewell**, Actor, Facts of Life, Deadwood; **Diana Elizabeth Jordan**, Best Actor 2016 Easterseals Disability Film Challenge; **Michael Kaufer**, Deaf Film Camp; **Kristin Kucia** and **Benjamin Maixner**, Exceptional Minds; **Tatiana Lee**, Accessible Hollywood; **Ben Lewin** and **Judi Levine**, writer/director/producer The Sessions, Catcher Was a Spy, Please Stand By; **Nanci Linke-**

**Ellis**, Caption Films; **Jillian Mercado**, model/social media influencer; **Jd Michaels**, former EVP Diversity BBDO Worldwide; **Anna Pakman**, Empire Development Fund; **Katherine Perez**, Executive Director of The Coelho Center for Disability Law, Policy & Innovation; **David Radcliff**, Staff Writer, The Rookie; **Angela Rockwood**, producer, actress Push Girls; **Allen Rucker**, WGA Chair, Committee of Writers with Disabilities; **Sue Sawyer** and **Liz Zastrow**, CA Transition Alliance; **MyKhanh Shelton**, SVP 21st Century Fox Global Inclusion; Derek Shields, National Disability Mentoring Coalition; **Stephen Simon** and **Richard L. Ray**, Los Angeles Mayor's Office on Disability; **April Webster**, Casting Society of America; **Michelle Alford-Williams** and **Wan-Chun Chang**, CA Department of Rehabilitation; **Gail Williamson**, KMR Talent Diversity Division; **Danny Woodburn**, actor Seinfeld, Bold & the Beautiful; **Kaitlyn Yang**, CEO Alpha Studios; **Liz Kelly**, 21st Century Fox Diversity; **Consuelo Flores**, SAG-AFTRA.

**11:45 a.m.: Photos**

**12 p.m.: Networking lunch break and LCA2.0 Participant Registration**

**1 p.m.: Welcome and Opening Remarks (Partners)**

**1:15 p.m.: State of the Industry**

**1:30 p.m.: Readout of Roundtable Discussion**

**1:45 p.m.: "How to Make it in the Media"**

**Moderator:**

- Anna Pakman, VP Digital Marketing, Empire State Development

**Panel:**

- **Jillian Mercado**, model/social media influencer
- **Ben Lewin**, director/writer THE SESSIONS, PLEASE STAND BY
- **Kesila Childers**, Vice President of Development for Powderkeg.
- **CJ Jones**, actor BABY DRIVER, AVATAR
- **Danny Woodburn**, actor, SAG-AFTRA

**2:30 p.m.: Networking Break**

**2:45 p.m.: Three Concurrent Sessions: Participants Rotate among three activities**

**1. Resume Review, Speed Interviewing Flash Mentoring (Governor's Board Room):**

**2. Self-disclosure: How to Leverage Disability to Sharpen Competitive Edge (Tech Lab)**

- Facilitated by Barbara Butz, PolicyWorks and Katherine Perez, The Coelho Center

**3. Networking and Mentoring (Foundation Board Room)**

- Facilitated by Derek Shields, National Disability Mentoring Coalition

**4:30 p.m.: Networking Break**

**4:45 Deaf & Disability Narrative Imperative: Casting Authentic Stories Across Genres –**

**Moderated by:**

- **Jd Michaels**, Creative Engineering, Michaels.Adams
- **Angela Rockwood**, producer, model influencer, Sundance Channel's PUSHGIRLS

**Panel:**

- **Diana Jordan**, Easterseals Disability Film Challenge and Performing Arts Studio West
- **Dawn Grawbowski**, actress, motivational speaker, comedienne
- **Tatiana Lee**, Apple social media influencer
- **Michael Kaufer**, Deaf Film Camp
- **David Radcliff**, THE ROOKIE

**5:20 p.m.: The Biz, Feedback, Moving Forward (Intro Post-Summit Webinar Series)**

**6 p.m.: Networking Reception for LCA and Caucus Guests**

**7 p.m.: Evening Panel - Disability Inclusion: In Front of and Behind the Camera –**

**Moderated by:**

- **Loreen Arbus**, Loreen Arbus Productions and
- **Tari Hartman**, EIN SOF Communications, Inc

**Panel:**

- **Zach Anner**, Story Editor, ABC's SPEECHLESS
- **Kaitlyn Yang**, CEO Alpha Studios and FORBES 30 Under 30 in Hollywood
- **Monika Mikkelsen**, VP of Casting, Paramount Pictures
- **Michael Berk**, Creator/Showrunner/Writer, BAYWATCH
- **Douglas Schwartz**, Creator/Showrunner/Director, BAYWATCH
- **CJ Jones**, actor, BABY DRIVER and AVATAR

**8:30 p.m.: Adjourn**

#### **About The Coelho Center for Disability Law, Policy & Innovation**

The Coelho Center, housed at Loyola Law School, Los Angeles at Loyola Marymount University (LMU), pursues a unique three-pronged mission: convening thought leaders to pursue positive change on disability issues; leveraging technology to advance the lives of people with disabilities; and creating a pipeline of lawyers with disabilities to populate the bench and hold elected office. The Coelho Center also draws on multiple areas of expertise from other LMU colleges. Founded by former congressman, disability rights icon and LMU alumnus Hon. Tony Coelho (LMU '64), The Coelho Center is the only organization of its kind at a Catholic university in America and the only one housed at a top U.S. law school. Details about The Coelho Center are available at [www.lls.edu/coelhocenter](http://www.lls.edu/coelhocenter).

#### **About Loyola Law School, Los Angeles**

Located on an award-winning Frank Gehry-designed campus in downtown Los Angeles, Loyola Law School is home to prominent faculty, dedicated students and cutting-edge programs. The Law School strives to instill in students the knowledge they need to excel on their chosen paths. It dedicates itself to preparing students for the rigors of practice with an extensive portfolio of practical-training opportunities, an 18,000-strong alumni network and a focus on social justice. Learn more at [www.lls.edu](http://www.lls.edu).

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