EPICS WELCOME

Welcome back to all MFA Writing for Stage and Screen students returning from winter break. We hope you had a successful first quarter, and are ready to continue exploring your career interests and options with EPICS. Whether you will be planning your summer internship or life after graduation, the next few months will be a critically important time to prepare, and we at the EPICS office are here to support you in your journey.

During the fall quarter, the EPICS office has been hard at work in a number of different areas. I had the pleasure of meeting many of the first year students individually to discuss internship and career goals. I have also onboarded several important new companies in the Chicago area. Finally, EPICS has planned several amazing programs and events in the next few months that will give you valuable access and insight into the film and television industry here in Chicago and across the country.

Again, welcome back! We’re looking forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Todd Lillethun
Assistant Director of EPICS

Email: todd.lillethun@northwestern.edu
Office: 847-491-5010
Creating Your Internship Search Strategy

Finding the right internship can be time consuming and competitive, but it can be instrumental in jump-starting your career after you graduate. By creating your own internship search strategy, you will be able to make this process much more manageable and meaningful for you.

Your strategy should include three main components:

1. SoConnect – Northwestern’s online career management system created exclusively for the School of Communication, and managed by EPICS;
2. Other Northwestern resources, including Career CAT, Our Northwestern, program faculty, and alumni groups;
3. Your own personal contacts and outreach.

Last year 50% of first year MFA Writing for Stage and Screen students found internships on their own, while the other 50% found them through SoConnect and faculty connections. EPICS is available to assist you with creating your internship strategy through Career Coaching appointments, but ultimately it is up to you to find the internship that would best match your career goals and meet the internship requirement.

Potential Internships

Here is a sample list of employers who offered internships to Northwestern University students last summer that were related to writing for screen and stage:

- Goodman Theater (Chicago)
- Red Orchid Theater (Chicago)
- Full Spectrum Features (Chicago)
- New Horizons (LA)
- Sentinel Pictures (LA)
- Arts + Labor (Austin)
- Radmin (LA)
- Carousel Productions (LA)
- Ensemble Studio Theater (LA)
- Haven Entertainment (LA)
- Greenlight Films (Bangkok)
- Paramount Pictures (LA)
- Viacom (New York)
- Apatow Productions (LA)
- Red Hour Films (LA)
- Blumhouse Entertainment (LA)
Here is a sample of film/TV employers that are also expected to have opportunities for summer 2016 which may be relevant for writers:

- Berlanti Productions (LA)
- Late Night with Stephen Colbert (New York)
- The Daily Show (New York)
- Comedy Central (New York)
- Lionsgate (LA)
- MGM Studios (LA)
- NBC Universal (New York)
- Bad Robot (LA)
- Conan (LA)
- Fox (LA)
- IFC Films (New York)
- Kopelson Entertainment (LA)
- Partizan Entertainment (LA)
- HBO (LA)

**CAREER COACHING**

Students enrolled in the MFA, Writing for Stage and Screen program have access to 1:1 career coaching with EPICS. Coaching appointments topics include resume and cover letter reviews, creating an internship or job search strategy, offer-negotiation coaching and more. It is advised that you plan on having a minimum of 1 career coaching appointment per quarter. All appointments are with myself: EPICS Assistant Director, Todd Lillethun.

Students can request an appointment with EPICS via SoConnect. Once logged-in, click on the I Want To … menu on the left, then select click on Make Appointment. There you will find my availability posted and can choose an open time slot. If no appointments are available, please email me at todd.lillethun@northwestern.edu and I will reply with further options.

**PROGRAMS & EVENTS**

You can view a list of events on our EPICS calendar, located in SoConnect and on our website. Highlights from Winter Quarter include:

- **SoC & Medill Career + Internship Fair:** approximately 60+ Chicago-area employers are expected to attend (January 27)
- **EPICS Connections:** Screening & Discussion of PBS Series “Mercy Street” featuring David W. Zucker and David Zabel (February 3)
- **MSLCE Speaker Series:** Harry Gottlieb, Founder of Jellyvision and Jackbox Games (February 4)
- Theatre Networking Roundtable, more info to follow via email shortly (February 8)
- Career Workshops: Personal Branding (February 12)
- EPICS Connections: Jeb Brody (Producer, Secret Hideout) will be on-campus March 2

More programs will be announced later in January. Please check your email and social media feeds for updates!

**EPICS NEWS**

Keep up to date on EPICS news and events through SoConnect, EPICS Blog, social media and weekly newsletters. Each Friday, you will receive a short newsletter that will update you on upcoming events, announcements, and new postings on SoConnect. For the latest information, follow EPICS on Facebook and Twitter, where you can learn about new internships, job postings, and events for students in the School of Communication.