

Master Class in Writing the Half-Hour Comedy Pilot with Phil Kellard



In a highly focused and collaborative workshop environment, writers start with a concept for a situation comedy series and develop it through outline, the pitch, first draft, re-write, and the final product: a polished pilot script ready to take out to agents, producers, studios, and networks. Emphasis is placed on complex characterization, comedic structure, and the pilot story and potential for future episodes. Participants gain an in-depth understanding of the marketplace and where their series concept may be best suited, whether multi-camera, single-camera, dramedy, or animation. Viewing and discussing examples of classic pilot episodes provide insight into the creative process. In addition, Master Class students pitch their ideas to guest professionals who give them network level feedback and notes.

Instructor Biography:

Phil Kellard is a writer-director and WGA member who was executive producer on *The Wayans Brothers* and *Martin* and producer on *Doogie Howser, MD*; *Hooperman*; and *My Two Dads*. Mr. Kellard currently is developing hour and half-hour series for network and cable and has written pilots for The Disney Channel, Showtime, FBC, and the Sci Fi Channel. He has received an Emmy Award for instructional programming.

In the instructor's words...

"Now's the time to raise the level of your commitment and writing skills. In this Master Class, you will go from writer to writer/creator. The ultimate wish for a television writer is to create his or her own series, get it on the air and have a share in the ownership of the work. This is where you start--with concept, development and final draft. A spec script for an existing television series shows your talent and is your calling card for a freelance assignment or a staff position. A well-developed and constructed pilot is your voice; it's who you are, the story you want to tell, and your passion project. More and more these days, TV executives are interested in reading spec sitcom pilots written by aspiring writers. They are looking for something fresh, for the next "big idea." What is your idea? Will it sustain audience interest? Will it be entertaining and original? Can it live for one hundred episodes? It is my job to help you answer these questions and guide you on this journey that will surely test your creative fortitude. I'm looking forward to it. I hope you are too."—Phil Kellard

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In a student's words...

Phil is incredibly knowledgeable, gracious, and generous with his time and feedback. He takes the appropriate amount of time needed for each individual to nurture them and improve their writing. – Former Student of Phil Kellard, 2009

SUBMITTING TO THE Master Class in Writing the Half-Hour Comedy Pilot with Phil Kellard:

Enrollment in this workshop is by submission only. Visitors are not permitted at any time. Submitting early is encouraged.

Submission fee: \$50 (nonrefundable)
Registration fee: \$2,400 payable upon acceptance.

The registration fee includes participation in one 20-week master class, consideration of a half-hour comedy pilot script by an established agent or manager and the opportunity to enroll for free in one Writers' Program unlimited-enrollment one-day course per quarter (two total).

Participants are notified of acceptance by September 17, 2010.
Registration fees must be received by the UCLA Extension Registrar's Office within seven days of notification of acceptance.

All submissions must include the following materials:

- A one-page personal statement that includes your writing background and goals, previous television courses taken as well as your email, home address and day job, if applicable.
- A spec script of an existing series or spec pilot.
- \$50 nonrefundable submission fee

Submit personal statement and writing sample electronically to writers@uclaextension.edu

Make all checks payable to Regents of the UC.

Mail submission fee to:
UCLA Extension Writers' Program
10995 Le Conte Ave. Room 440
Los Angeles, CA 90024-0901

(Please specify "Master Class in Writing the Half-Hour Comedy Pilot" on the envelope.)

Submission materials will not be returned. Incomplete submissions will not be considered.

UCLA Extension reserves the right to cancel or reschedule programs and to change instructors. Guest speakers are subject to change due to professional commitments.

Deadline: All submission materials must be received by 4pm (PST), September 3, 2010