

BRADEN T. McCLAIN

Director - Cinematographer - FAA Certified Drone Operator

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Director and cinematographer with an MFA in Directing from Chapman University and professional experience spanning documentary, narrative, and broadcast production. Emmy-recognized for work on the PBS series *Chronicles*, with a background in leading creative teams, developing story-driven visuals, and managing productions from concept through delivery. FAA-certified drone pilot experienced in both studio and field environments.

WORK HISTORY

Last Week Tonight with John Oliver - *Production Assistant, Drone Operator*

Erie, PA • 07/2025

- Supported HBO field production by coordinating talent transportation, supervising production assistants, assisting with production design setup, and escorting talent during filming.
- Captured aerial cinematography as an FAA-certified drone operator for broadcast segments.

WQLN PBS NPR - *Director, Director of Photography*

Erie, PA • 07/2022 - 07/2025

- Directed and photographed documentary and broadcast segments for the PBS series *Chronicles*, overseeing productions from development through final delivery.
- Pitched episode concepts, secured interviews, and led field and studio shoots across multiple locations.
- Coordinated production teams and cross-department communication to meet broadcast deadlines.

Enzyme Productions - *Drone Operator, Digital Imaging Technician*

Los Angeles, CA • 01/2026

- Captured aerial cinematography for production while coordinating with the field team to achieve visually compelling narrative-driven shots.

Grant Larson Productions - *Key Production Assistant*

Burbank, CA • 01/2018 - 07/2019

- Assisted director with planning and completing film shots and B roll footage.
- Supported production needs by performing routine tasks using standard procedures and equipment.

Just Like Me And You LLC - *Production Coordinator*

Brentwood, CA • 01/2019 - 05/2019

- Assisted with budgeting and accounting of production-related tasks.
- Coordinated with multiple creative positions in the scouting and acquiring of filming locations.
- Managed production schedules and teams to ensure the timely return of transportation and equipment rentals.

Lyons Den Productions - *Key Production Assistant*

Edinboro, PA • 07/2018 - 08/2018

- Collaborated with production team to facilitate smooth operations, avoiding disruptions and delays.
- Assisted crews with set building and pointed out problems that could be potential safety and budgetary issues.

SKILLS

- Leadership
- Public Speaking
- Talent Booking
- Directing Performance
- Creative Development
- Drone Pilot Operation
- Story Development
- Location Scouting
- Microsoft Office Suite
- Adobe Creative Suite
- Final Draft 13
- Asana
- DaVinci Resolve

EDUCATION

Chapman University

Orange, CA • 07/2022

Master of Arts: M.F.A. in Film Production

Directing Emphasis

Edinboro University of Pennsylvania

Edinboro, PA • 12/2017

Bachelor of Arts: Media Arts: Film And Video

Production And English

CERTIFICATIONS

- Part 107 FAA Commercial Drone Pilot
- Covid-19 Compliance Officer

SELECTED DIRECTING AND CINEMATOGRAPHY WORK

- Jumpscare!** (2026)
80's Slasher Horror Short: Director of Photography, Producer
- Rusalka** (2026)
Folk Horror Short: Director, Producer
- Chronicles** (2022 - 2025)
Series: Director, Director of Photography
CGL Emmy-Award Winning Series
- The Lost Ones** (2024)
Narrative Short: Director, Producer
- Silverwork** (2024)
Web-Series: Director of Photography
- Doll of the Morningstar** – (2022)
Musical Short: Director, Writer
- Technicolor Aria** – (2022)
Narrative Short: Director, Producer
- You're the One That I Want** – (2021)
Dance Short: Director, Producer