

Tune In TOMORROW.

INTERVIEWEE BIOGRAPHIES

DANIEL ABRAHAM

Daniel Abraham is a novelist, screenwriter, and producer. He is best known, with Ty Franck, as one half of the writing team James S. A. Corey, creators of *The Expanse*. The critically acclaimed, bestselling science-fiction series of novels was adapted into the television drama of the same name. Together, the books and the TV series were awarded multiple Hugo Awards.

JOHN ANISTON

John Aniston's portrayal of Victor Kiriakis on *Days of Our Lives* became one of daytime television's defining performances. He played the role for decades after earlier soap work on programs including *Love of Life* and *Search for Tomorrow*. Aniston was honored with the Daytime Emmy Lifetime Achievement Award in 2022.

PARIS BARCLAY

Paris Barclay is an Emmy-winning television director, producer, and industry leader whose credits include *NYPD Blue*, *ER*, *The West Wing*, *Lost*, *House*, *Glee*, *Sons of Anarchy*, and *In Treatment*. A former two-term president of the Directors Guild of America, Barclay has also been recognized by the NAACP Image Awards and the DGA.

JUDITH BARCROFT

Judith Barcroft is an actress with a long career in Broadway, daytime television, and episodic drama. She created the role of Lenore Moore on *Another World* and later appeared as Ann Tyler on *All My Children*, with additional daytime credits including *As the World Turns* and *Ryan's Hope*.

BONNIE BARTLETT

Bonnie Bartlett Daniels is an Emmy-winning actress whose television career spans daytime drama, family television, and prime-time ensemble work. Her credits include *Love of Life*, *Little House on the Prairie*, *Better Call Saul*, *Parks and Recreation*, and her acclaimed role as Ellen Craig on *St. Elsewhere*. She is also the author of the memoir *Middle of the Rainbow*, an autobiographical perspective on her decades in American television.

LLOYD BATTISTA

Lloyd Battista is an actor and screenwriter whose work ranges from daytime television to feature films and European 'spaghetti westerns.' His credits include *Love of Life*, *Chisum*, *Love and Death*, and Broadway and Off-Broadway theatrical productions.

LORRAINE BRODERICK

Lorraine Broderick is a Daytime Emmy-winning television writer best known for her work on *All My Children*, where she served multiple stints as head writer, including during the show's final ABC

broadcast run. A protégé of Agnes Nixon, Broderick also wrote for *Guiding Light*, *Another World*, *As the World Turns*, *One Life to Live*, and *Days of Our Lives*.

SARAH D. BUNTING

Sarah D. Bunting is a writer, journalist, editor, podcaster, and pioneering online television critic. She co-founded *Television Without Pity* and created the long-running site *Tomato Nation*, helping shape the participatory, recap-driven style of internet television criticism. She has been a contributor to MSNBC, Salon, and *New York Magazine*.

RON CARLIVATI

Ron Carlivati is a television writer and producer known for his head-writing work on *One Life to Live*, *General Hospital*, *Days of Our Lives*, and *Beyond the Gates*. His daytime career has earned Daytime Emmy and Writers Guild recognition. Carlivati's work is closely associated with high-velocity plotting, legacy characters, and the modern reinvention of soap storytelling.

TOM CASIELLO

Tom Casiello is an Emmy-winning writer whose career spans daytime drama, professional wrestling, audio storytelling, and video games. His credits include *Another World*, *As the World Turns*, *Days of Our Lives*, *One Life to Live*, *The Young and the Restless*, WWE, the podcast series *Six Minutes*, and narrative work for the video game *Apex Legends*. He is also Narrative Director at Gravity Well Games.

MARC CHERRY

Marc Cherry is a television writer and producer best known as the creator of *Desperate Housewives*, *Devious Maids*, and *Why Women Kill*. Earlier in his career, he wrote for *The Golden Girls*, grounding his later prime-time melodramas in character-based ensemble comedy.

CASEY CHILDS

Casey Childs is a theater and television director, producer, and founder of Primary Stages, the New York nonprofit dedicated to producing new American plays. He has directed extensively for the stage and television, and has received two Emmy Awards. He is also past vice president of the Directors Guild of America and past trustee of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.

KEN CORDAY

Ken Corday is the longtime executive producer and music composer for *Days of Our Lives*, continuing the legacy of his parents, Ted and Betty Corday, who created the series in 1965. Under his stewardship, *Days of Our Lives* has remained one of American television's longest-running scripted dramas and has expanded into streaming-era production.

LINDA DANO

Linda Dano is a Daytime Emmy-winning actress and television host beloved for her portrayal of Felicia Gallant on *Another World* and Rae Cummings on *One Life to Live*. She also co-hosted Lifetime's *Attitudes* and built a strong presence in fashion and home design through QVC.

AL DELUCA

Al DeLuca is a veteran CBS Television set decorator whose many decades of credits include *60 Minutes*, *CBS Reports: The Road to the White House*, and *CBS News Sunday Morning*, and extend back to early black and white daytime drama.

WIL DEVRY

Wil deVry is a Canadian actor known to daytime audiences for roles including Tim Dolan on *Port Charles*, Michael Cambias on *All My Children*, Storm Logan on *The Bold and the Beautiful*, and Julian Jerome on *General Hospital*. His primetime screen credits also include *Stargate SG-1*, *Earth: Final Conflict*, *Nikita*, *InSecurity*, *Castle*, and *NCIS*. DeVry has received multiple Daytime Emmy nominations for his work on soap operas.

GARY DONATELLI

Gary Donatelli is an Emmy-winning television and film director and producer with more than 1,000 episodes of daytime drama to his credit. He entered daytime directing on *Loving*, moved to *Another World*, and then spent more than a decade directing *One Life to Live*, with additional work on *The Bold and the Beautiful* and *General Hospital*. His directing teams earned multiple Emmy wins and nominations. He has also directed for televised pro wrestling shows.

JUDI EVANS

Judi Evans is a Daytime Emmy-winning actress whose soap career began with her role as Beth Raines on *Guiding Light*. She went on to become closely identified with *Days of Our Lives* as Adrienne Johnson and Bonnie Lockhart, and also played Paulina Cory on *Another World*.

THEA GLASSMAN

Thea Glassman is an entertainment journalist and author whose work has appeared in outlets including *The New York Times*, *Vanity Fair*, *Architectural Digest*, and *Rolling Stone*. She is the author of *Freaks, Gleeks and Dawson's Creek*, a nonfiction study of seven influential teen television series.

RENÉE ELISE GOLDSBERRY

Renée Elise Goldsberry is a Tony- and Grammy-winning actor and singer best known for originating Angelica Schuyler in *Hamilton*. Daytime audiences know her as Evangeline Williamson on *One Life to Live*, and her screen credits include *Ally McBeal*, *The Good Wife*, *Girls5eva*, and Marvel Studios' *She-Hulk: Attorney at Law*. Her career links Broadway, daytime drama, streaming comedy, and prestige television performance.

MIKE HENRY

Mike Henry is Mass Media and Culture Coordinator connected to the Library of American Broadcasting. As a reference specialist, he brings an archivist's understanding of how broadcast drama has evolved over the past seven decades.

SCOTT HIGGINS

Scott Higgins is the Charles W. Fries Professor of Film Studies at Wesleyan University, where he is listed as chair of Film Studies, curator of the Wesleyan Cinema Archives, and director of the College

of Film and the Moving Image. His books include *Matinee Melodrama: Playing with Formula in the Sound Serial* and *Harnessing the Technicolor Rainbow*. Higgins brings a film historian's expertise in the introduction and evolution of seriality in silent and sound era cinema.

DENA HIGLEY

Dena Higley served as head writer for *Days of Our Lives* and *One Life to Live*. Her work has earned Daytime Emmy and Writers Guild recognition. Higley offers a writer's perspective on the speed, pressure, and emotional architecture of daytime serial drama.

MICHELE HILMES

Michele Hilmes is Professor Emerita of Media and Cultural Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Her influential books on broadcast history include *Radio Voices: American Broadcasting 1922 to 1952*, *Network Nations*, and *Only Connect: A Cultural History of Broadcasting in the United States*. Hilmes brings deep expertise in the history of serialized American radio dramas.

ED HULSE

Ed Hulse is a popular-culture historian, publisher, and editor best known for *Blood 'n' Thunder*, a magazine devoted to pulp fiction, movie serials, and vintage adventure storytelling. Through Murania Press, he has written and published works including *The Blood 'n' Thunder Guide to Pulp Fiction* and *Distressed Damsels and Masked Marauders: Cliffhanger Serials of the Silent Movie Era*. Hulse brings broad expertise in every format of melodramatic drama, from comics to cinema and television to pro wrestling.

FRANCESCA JAMES

Francesca James is an actress, writer, director, and producer with deep ties to daytime television. She won a Daytime Emmy for her acting work on *All My Children* and later became a producer on *General Hospital* and *All My Children*, contributing to programs honored as Outstanding Drama Series.

SUE JOHNSON

Sue Johnson is a television and digital-media executive who formerly served as vice president of programming at ABC Daytime, where she oversaw *All My Children* and *One Life to Live*. She later moved into mobile and interactive storytelling, including leadership connected to Episode, Pocket Gems, and Radish Fiction.

JERRY LACY

Jerry Lacy is an actor and writer best known for his work on the cult classic *Dark Shadows*, where he played Tony Peterson and several members of the Trask family. His daytime credits also include *Love of Life*, *As the World Turns*, and *The Young and the Restless*, and he played Humphrey Bogart in the stage and film versions of *Play It Again, Sam*.

JILL LARSON

Jill Larson is an actress best known for her long-running role as Opal Cortlandt on *All My Children*. Her television career also includes *As the World Turns*, *One Life to Live*, *The Young and the Restless*,

Desperate Housewives, *CSI*, *Vinyl*, and *Hunters*, while horror audiences know her from *The Taking of Deborah Logan*.

KEVIN LEONARD

Kevin Leonard is Northwestern University's University Historian who spent more than four decades in the University Archives, including as University Archivist. Appointed University Historian in 2024, Leonard's duties include the preservation of the papers and legacies of notable Northwestern alumni including Agnes Nixon.

ELANA LEVINE

Elana Levine is Professor of Media, Cinema and Digital Studies in the Department of English at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. She is the author of *Her Stories: Daytime Soap Opera and U.S. Television History*, a major scholarly account of the genre's economics, gender politics, audience culture, and narrative form.

RYAN LINTELMAN

Ryan Lintelman is a Curator of Entertainment at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History. His work focuses on American film, television, comedy, and popular entertainment, and he is the author of *Funny Stuff: How Comedy Shaped American History*. Lintelman brings a unique perspective on how television shows become part of our national cultural memory.

SUSAN LUCCI

Susan Lucci is one of the most recognizable performers in daytime television history, best known for playing Erica Kane on *All My Children* throughout the show's original 41 year ABC run. In 1996, *TV Guide* ranked her number 37 of its 50 Greatest TV Stars of All Time list, naming her role as Erica Kane "unequivocally the most famous soap opera character in the history of daytime TV."

MARY MCNAMARA

Mary McNamara is a Pulitzer Prize-winning culture columnist and critic for the *Los Angeles Times*. A former television critic and senior culture editor, she won the 2015 Pulitzer Prize for Criticism and was a finalist in 2013 and 2014. McNamara brings a longtime critic's eye to the intersection of television and popular culture.

DAVE MELTZER

Dave Meltzer is a journalist best known as the founder and lead writer of *Wrestling Observer Newsletter*. Covering professional wrestling and mixed martial arts for more than four decades, Meltzer is widely considered the leading historian and journalist in that field. Legendary *Sports Illustrated* writer Frank Deford described Meltzer as the most accomplished reporter in sports journalism, saying "You could cover the Vatican or State Department and not do as good a job as Dave Meltzer does on wrestling."

WESLEY MORRIS

Wesley Morris is a critic at large for *The New York Times*, where he writes about pop culture and the intersection of culture and race. The only two-time Pulitzer Prize winner for criticism, he brings a

distinctive voice to film, television, music, and American life. His podcast work extends his criticism into long-form conversation about how media shapes culture.

JON MURRAY

Jon Murray is a Television Academy Hall of Fame inductee, an Emmy-winning producer, and co-founder of Bunim/Murray Productions. With Mary-Ellis Bunim, he co-created *The Real World*, widely seen as the first modern reality television show. His credits include *Road Rules*, *The Challenge*, *Project Runway*, *Keeping Up with the Kardashians*, and *Born This Way*.

MARY NIXON HILTBRAND

Mary Nixon Hiltbrand is the daughter — and teenage muse — of pioneering television creator Agnes Nixon. As a member of the Nixon family, she offers a personal perspective on the life and creative world of one of daytime television's central figures.

BOB NIXON

Bob Nixon is a filmmaker, writer, and conservationist whose documentary and dramatic work has focused on the natural world, endangered species, and environmental advocacy. As the son of Agnes Nixon, he also brings an intimate view of the most respected creator of daytime television.

PAMELA MIA PAUL

Pamela Mia Paul is a Steinway Artist and celebrated concert pianist who also played keyboards for TV soap operas. A former child prodigy on piano, she is the daughter of self-taught child prodigy and legendary radio and television organist Charlie Paul. By the age of 17, Charlie Paul was the youngest pit conductor for silent movies at the Loews Theatre in New York. He went on to perform live music for 1940s radio dramas including *The Adventures of Ellery Queen* and *Young Doctor Malone*. After transitioning into the new field of television drama, Charlie Paul composed or performed decades of live and recorded music for *Love of Life*, *The Secret Storm*, *As the World Turns*, *Another World*, *One Life to Live*, *Guiding Light* and *All My Children*.

BARRY QUALLS

Barry V. Qualls is a Dickens scholar and professor emeritus of English at Rutgers University. His scholarship focuses on Victorian literature, Victorian women writers, and the moral and narrative imagination of nineteenth-century fiction. His publications include *The Secular Pilgrims of Victorian Fiction: The Novel as Book of Life*. Qualls brings a literary historian's perspective on serialized narrative, social realism, and the long cultural afterlife of Dickensian storytelling.

JASON SACKS

Jason Sacks is a comics historian, editor, and writer whose books include *American Comic Book Chronicles: The 1970s* and work on *American Comic Book Chronicles: The 1990s*. He has also co-edited interview collections on Steve Gerber and Jim Shooter, two figures central to modern comic-book storytelling.

KARL SCHADOW

Karl Schadow is a Golden Age radio historian and popular-culture researcher specializing in mystery and horror programming, radio drama, comics, pulps, and related media. The Library of Congress has featured his work with historic radio-drama materials.

LISA SEIDMAN

Lisa Seidman is an Emmy-winning television writer whose career spans prime-time drama and daytime serials. Her credits include *Dallas*, *Knots Landing*, *Falcon Crest*, *Murder, She Wrote*, *Cagney & Lacey*, *Scarecrow and Mrs. King*, *Sunset Beach*, *One Life to Live*, *Days of Our Lives*, *The Young and the Restless*, and *General Hospital*.

ERIKA SLEZAK

Erika Slezak is one of daytime television's most celebrated performers, best known for playing Victoria "Viki" Lord on *One Life to Live* for more than 42 years. A graduate of the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, Slezak joined the series in 1971 and became central to its identity. She received nine Daytime Emmy nominations for Lead Actress and won a record six times for the role. Her career offers a rare actor's perspective on sustaining character, memory, and audience intimacy across generations.

STEPHANIE SLOANE

Stephanie Sloane is a leading journalist and editor in the daytime television field. A lifelong soap fan, she joined *Soap Opera Digest* after graduating from Syracuse University's Newhouse School, and rose from assistant to the editor to editor, and later to VP and Editorial Director. In 2023, she joined *TV Guide Magazine* as a soap columnist. Sloane brings decades of reporting experience and deep institutional knowledge of daytime television's artists, audiences, and fan culture.

MICHAEL SLOVIS

Michael Slovis, ASC, is an Emmy-winning cinematographer, television director, and producer. He is widely associated with the visual language of *Breaking Bad*, earning multiple Emmy nominations for his cinematography on the series, and he won a Primetime Emmy for *CSI: Crime Scene Investigation*. His directing and cinematography credits include *Breaking Bad*, *Better Call Saul*, *CSI*, *Fringe*, *Game of Thrones*, *The Walking Dead*, and related prestige-television projects.

SAL STOWERS

Sal Stowers is an actress and model who first came to national attention as the winner of *America's Next Top Model* Cycle 9. Daytime audiences know her as Lani Price on *Days of Our Lives*, a role she originated in 2015, and as Cassandra Foster in the online revival of *All My Children*. Her other screen credits include *Switched at Birth*, *The Fosters*, *New Girl*, and *Tyler Perry's Sistas*.

SALLY SUSSMAN MORINA

Sally Sussman Morina is a television writer, producer, and documentary filmmaker. Her daytime career includes creating, head-writing, and executive-producing the groundbreaking *Generations*, the first soap opera to feature a Black family. She has also held head-writing roles on *Days of Our Lives* and *The Young and the Restless*.

MARK TESCHNER

Mark Teschner is an award-winning casting director best known for his decades of work on *General Hospital*, where he has served as casting director since 1989. He has received eleven Daytime Emmy Awards for Outstanding Achievement in Casting and seven Artios Awards from the Casting Society of America.

MAGGIE THOMPSON

Maggie Thompson is an Eisner Award and Harvey Award-winning comics editor, historian, critic, and fan-culture chronicler best known for her decades with *Comics Buyer's Guide*. With Don Thompson, she helped make the publication the most important forum for comic-book news, criticism, collecting, and fandom. She brings an unparalleled depth of familiarity with the full breadth of comic books.

FRANK VALENTINI

Frank Valentini is an Emmy-winning producer and director best known as executive producer of *General Hospital*, a role he assumed in January 2012 after an award-winning run as executive producer of *One Life to Live*. His earlier *One Life to Live* career included work as stage manager, associate producer, producer, director, composer, and executive producer.

FRED VAN LENTE

Fred Van Lente is a *New York Times* bestselling comics writer, novelist, and playwright whose work ranges from superhero fiction to nonfiction comics history. His credits include *Action Philosophers*, *The Comic Book History of Comics*, *The Comic Book History of Animation*, *Incredible Hercules*, *Marvel Zombies*, *Archer & Armstrong*, and the Jack Kirby stage play *King Kirby*, co-written with Crystal Skillman.

JESSICA WALTER

The late Jessica Walter was an Emmy-winning actress whose work spanned daytime drama, film, prime-time comedy, and animation. After beginning her acting career at age 21 in live television on *Love of Life*, she went on to an acting career of nearly 60 years. She is perhaps best known for her starring roles in *Arrested Development* and *Archer*, where she voiced Malory Archer. She won a Primetime Emmy for *Amy Prentiss* and later became beloved by new generations as Lucille Bluth.

WISNER WASHAM

Wisner Washam is a soap-opera writer best known for his work on *All My Children*, where he served as head writer and later associate head writer in collaboration with Agnes Nixon, Lorraine Broderick, and others. He won Daytime Emmy Awards for writing-team work on *All My Children* and *Guiding Light*.

JANE WELLS

Jane Wells is an award-winning broadcast journalist and longtime CNBC reporter and special correspondent. Based in Los Angeles, she covered a vast range of topics. She was among the first journalists to cover the O.J. Simpson murder story and subsequent legal proceedings, the televised coverage of which is widely blamed for the downfall of daytime soap opera viewership.

MING-NA WEN

Ming-Na Wen is an actor whose work spans daytime television, feature film, animation, network drama, Marvel, and Star Wars. Her credits include *As the World Turns*, *The Joy Luck Club*, *ER*, the voice of Mulan, *Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.*, and Fennec Shand in *The Mandalorian*, *The Book of Boba Fett*, and related Star Wars projects. She was named a Disney Legend in 2019 and received a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame in 2023.

ROBERT SCOTT WILSON

Robert Scott Wilson is an actor and model known to daytime audiences for playing Ben Weston and, later, Alex Kiriakis on *Days of Our Lives*. He first played Pete Cortlandt in the online revival of *All My Children* before becoming a central *Days of Our Lives* performer.

RAY WISE

Ray Wise is a veteran actor whose credits move from daytime television to cult classics and prime-time drama. Soap audiences know him from *Love of Life* and as Ian Ward on *The Young and the Restless*, a role that earned him a Daytime Emmy for Outstanding Special Guest Performer. His wider credits include *Twin Peaks*, *Twin Peaks: Fire Walk with Me*, *RoboCop*, *Reaper*, *24*, *Fresh Off the Boat*, and the critically acclaimed film *Good Night, and Good Luck* with George Clooney. Wise brings a performer's perspective on melodrama, villainy, the enduring power of serialized mystery, and the groundbreaking network TV phenomenon of *Twin Peaks*.

LAURA WRIGHT

Laura Wright is a Daytime Emmy-winning actress best known for playing Carly Corinthos Spencer on *General Hospital* since 2005. Her earlier daytime roles include Ally Rescott on *Loving* and *The City*, and Cassie Layne Winslow on *Guiding Light*. For her work as Carly, she has earned multiple Daytime Emmy nominations and won Outstanding Lead Actress in 2011.