



CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY  
DODGE COLLEGE  
OF FILM AND MEDIA ARTS

## Robert Bassett

Twyla Reed Martin Dean's Chair in Film and Media Arts  
Dodge College of Film and Media Arts  
Chapman University

**Dean Robert Bassett** heads the School of the Dodge College of Film and Media Arts at Chapman University, which offers undergraduate and graduate degrees, with programs in production, producing, screenwriting, film studies, broadcast journalism, digital arts, production design, public relations, advertising, and screen acting. He provided leadership to create the film school and design and build its unique studio environment. With more than 1,300 students, Dodge College is considered one of the leading film schools in the nation.

A visionary educator who pioneered the integration of digital technologies in film education, Dean Bassett oversaw the conversion of the film school's entire curriculum to the use of digital technology in the early 90's, long before others followed suit. More recently, he led the creation of a fully networked digital environment in Marion Knott Studios, anchored by a 128-terabyte Avid ISIS server that enables students and faculty to access their media assets from anywhere in the school. A Thompson Spirit 4K Datomic allows students to capture on film and edit and output to digital formats, fully using the Digital Intermediate 2K workflow in-house.

The Dodge College Dean has also assembled a world class faculty with a combined filmography of more than 150 feature films, a record unmatched among full-time faculty at other programs. World-renowned director John Badham (*Saturday Night Fever*, *WarGames*, *Short Circuit*) heads the directing program. Academy Award winning screenwriter David Ward (*The Sting*) leads the screenwriting sequence. Bill Kroyer, veteran animation director/pioneer (*TRON*) and Governor of the Animation Branch of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, leads the digital arts program. Other distinguished faculty include A.S.C. cinematographer Bill Dill, editor Paul Seydor (*Barbershop 2*), producer Alex Rose (*Norma Rae*), director Martha Coolidge (*Rambling Rose*) and production designer Larry Paull, famous for his stunning design for the futuristic thriller *Blade Runner*. The wealth of knowledge these industry veterans offer students is supplemented by the semester-long Filmmaker-in-Residence programs, created by Dean Bassett, that bring industry luminaries such as directors William Friedkin and Mark Rydell, screenwriter Larry Gross, production designer Polly Platt and many others to campus on an on-going basis.

Current initiatives include international outreach with programs in Singapore and Korea and talks underway with Vietnam. Dodge College is also offering new programs with Chapman University's law and business schools, enabling students to earn J.D./M.F.A. or M.B.A./M.F.A. degrees as preparation for careers in producing.

**Lawrence and Kristina Dodge College of Film and Media Arts | Chapman University**

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Dean Bassett successfully led a \$42-million dollar fund-raising campaign to build Marion Knott Studios, a 76,000-square-foot state-of-the-art studio complex, complete with sound stages and pre- and post-production facilities, that opened in 2006. He received the 2006 Artistic Visionary Award from Arts Orange County for lifetime achievement in recognition of his leadership in developing Chapman's film school and building Marion Knott Studios, a key community asset.

Having taught a wide range of production and film studies courses, including editing, cinematography, film aesthetics, and film genre studies, Dean Bassett also has hands-on experience as an award-winning producer and director of educational films and video projects for corporate and non-profit clients including Children's Hospital of Orange County, the American Cancer Society, John Wayne Airport, the University of California, Irvine, and Pomona College.

Dean Bassett has served as President and Conference Vice-President of the University Film and Video Association (UFVA), the primary national professional organization of film faculty, and led the delegation that saw the Dodge College elected as one of 12 U.S. members of CILECT (Centre International de Liaison des Ecoles de Cinéma et de Télévision), the premier international association of film schools. He is also a member of the International Council of Fine Arts Deans (ICFAD) and a trustee of the University Film and Video Foundation

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