

Biography of Casting Director/Make-up artist:

Jim A. Choate

Jim A. Choate has been working in the television, film and live entertainment industries for the past 25 years. With two performance degrees he started as a professional actor and has been featured in 23 films (most recently seen in Ron Maxwell's epic film "Gods and Generals" in the principle role of confederate General Bernard Bee), 19 nationally syndicated television shows and over 290 stage plays and national tours. In 1989 Jim was recruited and hired by Disney for their new theme park, Disney/MGM Studios at Walt Disney World in Florida. He worked as a show host for SONY's 'Super Star Television', 'The Monster Sound Show' and the 'Theatre of the Stars'. In 1990 Jim left Disney and was recruited as casting director for the 'Nickelodeon Network' at Universal Studios Florida. Jim cast over 600 children and their parents for their first three seasons of shows, including 'Make the Grade', 'Think Fast', 'You Can't Do That On Television', 'Outta Here', 'Double Dare', 'Family Double Dare', 'Super Sloppy Double Dare' and 'Welcome Freshmen'.

In early 1994 Jim left Nickelodeon and moved to the Washington DC area and was hired as a casting director and talent agent for Erickson Casting. While there he was involved in casting talent for hundreds of television commercials and nationally syndicated television shows, as well as on camera training and casting several feature films. His casting film credits include, 'Enemy of the State', 'Rules of Engagement', 'Hollow Man', 'Hannibal' and 'Gods and Generals'. Jim left Erickson in 2000 and was recruited as the casting director/director for New Dominion Pictures in Suffolk Va. The multiple shows that Jim cast while there for the 'History' and 'Discovery Channel's' were 'The F.B.I. Files', 'The New Detectives', 'Daring Capers' and 'Secret Missions of the Navy SEAL's'.

In 2002 Jim left New Dominion Pictures and started his own casting company 'Choate City Casting' and cast several commercials and shows for the 'History Channel' and 'National Geographic television and film'. Jim worked with a company named Historical Entertainment, LLC for 4 years as their Casting director/ Production manager, Key make-up artist and Weapons specialist and Safety officer. While working with them, Jim cast multiple television shows for the 'History Channel', 'Discovery Channel, The Science Channel, and National Geographic 'as well as working on the sets, still had time to cast and work two independent feature films, 'April 1865: The month that saved America' and 'No retreat from Destiny' released in 2005.

His most recent casting project was for the new Mount Vernon viewing center in Mount Vernon Virginia. The film is titled "We Fight To Be Free" and Jim did all of the pre- production casting for this feature film including some principals and extras casting. During production he worked on the make-up crew and made up and painted 50 Native Americans each day of the shoot, and safety checks at wrap.

Jim has arranged and conducted hundreds of auditions working with producers, directors, and talent throughout the country. He has trained and coached thousands of actors for the stage and camera over the past 25 years, as well as working as a: Producer, Director, Production manager, Key make-up artist, Script writer, Horse wrangler, Weapons specialist and Actor for multiple productions. Jim A. Choate is a consummate professional who is never 'sick at sea' and loves the entertainment industries and is well respected by all of those who have worked with him. What Jim brings to the table is his professionalism, his experience, his expertise and always his "A" game. Jim is available for work now and willing to travel.