

# MY NEWS

(Press Kit)

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CARL DAVID BLAKE PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS *MY NEWS* • CAST HADLEY ANN NIELSEN, ALYSSA NAMAZI, & MICHAEL ZURN • EDITOR JORDAN D. BROCKMAN • CINEMATOGRAPHER ADRIAN PACHECO • MUSIC RUSS WHITELOCK • DIRECTED BY CARL DAVID BLAKE • WRITTEN AND PRODUCED BY CARL DAVID BLAKE

-----CARLDAVIDBLAKEPRODUCTIONS.COM-----

## **FOR PRESS & FESTIVAL INQUIRIES**

### **CONTACT**

energymovie777@gmail.com  
512-608-5295 (cell)  
www.carldavidblakeproductions.com  
www.MyNewsTheMovie.com

### **CONTACT – MAIL**

Carl David Blake  
Carl David Blake Productions  
P.O. Box 1803, Draper, UT 84020

### **SPECIFICATIONS**

English Title – My News  
Setting – USA  
Category – Short Narrative  
Genre – Drama  
Broadcast Standard – NTSC-Region 0 (for DVD only)  
Aspect Ratio – 16:9 (1.78)  
Frame Rate – 23.98 fps  
Camera – iPhone-12  
Film Color – Color  
Sound – Stereo  
TRT – 3:39  
Film Location – Murray, Utah  
Production Company – Carl David Blake Productions  
Completion – November 18, 2021

### **TAG/LOG LINE**

Jason Salt, a prominent newscaster, breaks down during a commercial break, but a little savior appears.

### **SHORT SYNOPSIS**

When Jason Salt, a prominent newscaster, has a breakdown during a commercial break, from the grind of deceiving people and lying to his audience, a little savior appears.

### **THE TALENT**

Hadley Ann Nielsen, Alyssa Namazi, and Michael Zurn.

## PRESS RELEASE

Murray, UT, December 17, 2021. The short dramatic film *My News* is finally completed. The post-production process is over, and the producer will be submitting it to the film festivals soon.

Carl David Blake wrote, produced, and directed *My News*. The movie stars Hadley Ann Nielsen as Maddy, Alyssa Namazi as Lisa, and Michael Zurn as Jason. Adrian Pacheco, the cinematographer, carefully filmed each scene to capture the essence of the plot, and Jordan D. Brockman, the editor, cut the scenes together brilliantly.

In addition, Adrian shot the movie on an iPhone-12, so it will be eligible for iPhone-only film festivals as well as the others. Several prominent Hollywood directors urged Carl to participate in the iPhone challenge, shooting a movie using a cell phone, and after putting it off for years, he decided to go ahead and do it.

*My News* is a dramatic short narrative film about Jason Salt, a prominent newscaster of a major news station, who has a breakdown during a commercial break before a little savior appears. *My News* is a serious story about hope and love, in a pressured world. Furthermore, all the footage for *My News* (drone, actual movie, behind the scenes, and interviews) were shot in one day, actually under eight hours, as the team pulled together effectively to get the footage completed.

*My News* is for all audiences, and children will enjoy the plot structure of this short film.

For more information, contact: Carl at [energymovie777@gmail.com](mailto:energymovie777@gmail.com) or visit the website at: [MyNewsTheMovie.com](http://MyNewsTheMovie.com) or [carldavidblakeproductions.com](http://carldavidblakeproductions.com). You can find the movie trailer by going to either website, click on Movies, select *My News*, and then scroll to the bottom of the page to find the movie trailer and press kit. Click here for the web link to the movie trailer.

## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Many, many years ago, before the dinosaurs roamed the earth, Canon created a new DSLR, the famous 5DM2, armed with a full frame sensor and clearly ahead of its time. As the word spread throughout the land, past the dark dungeons, the dangerous dragons, and brutal baristas, making lattes with pictures on them, our set photographer picked up this weapon and shot many photos on a movie that I directed, *Differences between Men and Women*. He also had the ability to shoot full-frame (using professional 35 mm lenses) videos, which he did, and soon thereafter, some film festivals began creating DSLR-only movie categories. Soon after the release of the 5DM2, many famous Hollywood directors asked their cinematographers to film entire full-length features, using just a DSLR. Furthermore, many of these movies surprisingly showed amazing production value, especially as the DSLRs became progressively better.

While the DSLRs have come a long way, another movie-making technology emerged on the scene, the iPhone. Furthermore, the cell phone and tablet engineers began to create better and better movie-making capabilities for these devices, and a new market emerged. When I moved to Austin, Texas in 2005, only the rich kids were shooting High Definition (HD). None of us regular filmmakers could afford such luxuries; we shot only in Standard Definition (SD).

For those of you who need perspective, here is the progression of video resolution (480-SD, 720-HD, 1080-HD, and 4K-Ultra HD) during my time as a director. I actually started in 2006, producing my first film, using prosumer movie cameras that only shot 480-SD. Today, cell phones can shoot in 4K! Famous directors in Hollywood began to request from their cinematographers that they use the latest iPhone to film full-length features, and they are surprisingly turning out well.

In addition to advancing technologies, most film festivals began looking for shorter and shorter films, all with a clear 3-act structure. The shorter the films were, the more movies they could put in their festivals. There are many festivals with time limits, some requiring below 15 minutes, 10 minutes, 5 minutes, and they even have some 1-minute film festivals now. So the writing became more challenging as the TRT (Total Running Time) became shorter and shorter. I chose to create a movie that was under 5 minutes.

Over a decade ago, while I lived in Austin, Texas, I had the idea for *My News* as a series of TV shows; however, it seemed like a good idea to direct the first one, not as a pilot, but as a dramatic, narrative short film. As always, I began to look for a cinematographer who can shoot this movie, and then I pondered my conversations with several fellow directors.

A few of my fellow Hollywood directors laid down the challenge for me several years back to shoot a movie only using an iPhone. I put off this challenge for 5 years, and when the opportunity recently presented itself, I wrote a clear 3-act script. I knew with a few editing revisions we could easily get the movie under 5 minutes. So, I cast Michael Zurn, a talented local actor, Alyssa Namazi, a gifted First AD and actor, and Hadley Ann Nielsen, a cute, multi-talented, 6-year old girl. My dear friend Norm Zurn let us film in his house, and we gathered the cast and crew for a one-day shoot. Talent attracts talent, and we put this movie together with the help of many skillful moviemakers who made *My News* a reality.

## CAST AND CREW LIST

### Cast

Hadley Ann Nielsen	Maddy Salt
Alyssa Namazi	Lisa Salt
Michael Zurn	Jason Salt

### Crew

Carl David Blake	Producer, Writer, Director
Adrian Pacheco	Cinematographer
Nathan Dobbin	Gaffer, First AC
Alyssa Namazi	First AD, Catering
Tatianne Dobbin	Script Supervisor
Todd Waldron	Location Sound
Juan Alonso	Set Photography
Jenni Nielsen	Wardrobe
Jordan D. Brockman	Editor
Russ Whitelock	Music
Bryan Densley	Sound Design
Britte Sappington	Editor Consultant
Norman Zurn	Location
Kathy Zurn	Location
Jeanne Keel	Special Thanks
William 'Socks' Zurn	Special Thanks

## **CAST – DETAILED**

### **Hadley Ann Nielsen (Actor)**

Hadley Ann Nielsen started dancing at 18 months old. She has performed many times, including leads such as Young Snow White and Toto in her ballet school's productions. She also traveled to Orlando, Florida, at her young age, to take dance classes at Harriett's Orlando Ballet School. She loves doing ballet, jazz, hip hop and contemporary styles of dance. In the past year Hadley Ann has developed a passion for acting and singing and has performed in multiple musical productions including a children's production of Disney's *FROZEN – The Broadway Musical*. She loves school and is proficient in art, science, math, and reading. Hadley Ann loves spending time with her family and friends. She is thoughtful, sweet, organized, and funny, and her performing talent is limitless with incredible potential. Hadley Ann is excited for the opportunities ahead!

IMDB: needs one

### **Alyssa Namazi (Actor, 1<sup>ST</sup> AD, Craft Services)**

Alyssa has had a love of acting and movies ever since she was a little girl. During her high school years, she played various roles in several plays. She went on to earn a B.A. in English from Weber State University, where she also minored in Theatre Arts. She then attended Western Governors University where she earned a B.A. in Mathematics. She taught high school math for four years until this past school year, when she decided to quit teaching in order to pursue her dream of being a full-time actor. Currently, Alyssa enrolled in the Film Production program at Salt Lake Community College, where she has had the opportunity to write, direct, and act in her own short films. She has attended multiple acting workshops, and has been taking ongoing acting classes for over three years. She also takes acting lessons from a private coach. Alyssa has enjoyed being both an actor and 1st AD for "My News," and she is looking forward to working on other film projects in the near future!

IMDB: needs one

### **Michael Zurn (Actor)**

Michael Zurn is an actor and one of the stars in My News. He is also the owner of a successful real estate investment company. Mike has an amazing family, who supports his thespian efforts, as he pushes on for his dream of acting. He trains hard in acting classes, is teachable, and is always up for the challenge. Mike's interest in acting sparks his creativity, and he enjoys affecting others positively by his example of performing difficult tasks. He also enjoys playing soccer, golf, and skiing as well as snowboarding in the beautiful ski resorts in the mountains of Utah.

IMDB: needs one

## CREW – DETAILED

### **Carl David Blake (Producer, Writer, Director)**

Carl is a writer, director, producer, and a Guinness World Record Winning Film filmmaker who is now located in Salt Lake City, Utah. He earned a B.S. degree in Biology & Zoology and an M.A. degree in Mass Communication from the University of South Florida. In addition, he has been a college professor of Communications, an SAT instructor, and a college English textbook author. Additionally, Carl has written, produced, and directed now 7 independent films. Furthermore, Carl studied story structure with Robert McKee, who is among the most widely known screenwriting lecturers in the world. He also studied film directing under Steve Mims, who has also taught Robert Rodriguez among many other accomplished directors.

IMDB

Website

### **Adrian Pacheco (Cinematographer)**

Adrian is a cinematographer who is located in Salt Lake City, Utah. He has an outstanding commitment to each project, whether shooting on an iPhone-12, as we did with *My News*, or with higher-end professional cameras. Adrian is comfortable behind the camera and enjoys helping out on movie sets. He films his own material as well as others, which includes weddings, commercials, music videos, and movies. Ultimately, Adrian's goal is to create artistic beauty that could change the way people feel in a positive way. He has seen the way films can lift the spirits of people, and he wants to be a big part of that contribution.

IMDB: needs one

### **Jenni Nielsen (Wardrobe)**

Jenni Nielsen is a mom, dancer, choreography, event planner, and service advocate. She has been a dancer for 30 years and dance instructor for 20 years. Jenni's had great performance and choreography opportunities, including Disney Channel original movies, *The President of the United States - Barrack Obama*, *Disneyland* and *DisneyWorld* performances, *SeaWorld* performances, ESPN TV performances, the *Deaflympic* opening ceremonies, a leader of all her dance teams, coach of numerous teams and companies, competition director, and head of student development. Jenni is also a huge advocate for lending her talents to good causes and providing service to those who need it. She has planned fundraisers for organizations, such as the Tyler Robinson Foundation (started by Imagine Dragons), Susan G Komen foundation, local schools, and numerous nonprofit organizations. Jenni has done amazing things, but her favorite is being a wife and mom. She has 3 talented and beautiful children, and an amazingly supportive husband.

IMDB: needs one

### **Juan Alonso (Set Photographer)**

Juan Alonso is a photographer and audiovisual producer from Bogota, Colombia. He began his career as a cinematographer in the documentary *Calle, Camilla, Cajón*, which was a winner of the Bogota Ministry of Culture award. Additionally, Juan worked on the Colombian television series *Corazón Blindados*, the RCN channel *La Pre pago*, and for the RCN channel as a still photographer. In Argentina, he filmed music video clips as well as the documentary *La Compañera*, which was about the evolution of the Harmonica in Argentina. Currently Juan resides in Utah, planning new projects as well as working on other's emerging projects.

IMDB: needs one

[Website](#)

### **Jordan D. Brockman (Editor)**

Jordan is a Salt Lake local whose love for filmmaking started with local nonprofit Spy Hop Productions. He then pursued his degree in film from the University of Utah and since has been a part of countless student productions as well as several major productions, including ABC's *Blood and Oil and E!'s Scouted*. Jordan loves storytelling and being part of the process on and off set. Jordan's commitment to the story telling to the film is fantastic.

IMDB: needs one

### **Bryan Densley (Sound Designer)**

Bryan has been doing production and post-production audio for over 12 years including work on the local hit series Studio C. He has been a musician for 30 years, enjoys hiking and the outdoors, home renovations, and reading sci-fi novels. Bryan is the owner of Densley Sound Design Inc.

[IMDB](#)

[WEBSITE](#)

### **Russ Whitelock (Musical Composer and Arranger)**

Russ is an amazing musical composer and arranger who received the award for Best Music Score at the Utah Film Awards. He has composed music for numerous film and television projects, including movies, such as *Lucy Shimmers & The Prince of Peace*, *The Santa Box*, *Identical Love*, and *Hot Chocolate Holiday* airing on the Lifetime channel Christmas 2021. Russ recently completed the score for the movie *Fighting Chance* and *The Last Page*, both of which are being released in 2022. Russ resides in Salt Lake City, Utah with his wife Tami and their dachshund Winston.

[IMBD](#)

[WEBSITE](#)