

BOAZ DVIR

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EDUCATION

- Master of Fine Arts** 2014
University of Florida
Creative Photography
Concentration: Documentary Filmmaking
- Master of Arts** 2008
UF Documentary Institute
Documentary Filmmaking
- Bachelor of Science** 1988
University of Florida
Major: Journalism
Minor: International Studies (one semester at Tel Aviv University)

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Senior Lecturer in journalism and film** 2014-present
Penn State University
- Courses taught: Multimedia Reporting, Business Reporting, Feature Writing, Documentary Production, Idea Development/Media Writing
 - Multimedia coach for capstone International Journalism course
 - Chairs Student Production Agency Committee
 - Serves on Strategic Communications and Pockrass Lecture Series committees
 - Taught dozens of independent study students
 - Guest lectured in several undergraduate and graduate classes
 - Advises undergraduate students
 - Earned a spot in the 2014 Schreyer Institute for Teaching Excellence first-year faculty group
 - Documentary filmmaking: *Cojot*
- Affiliated Faculty Member, Digital Worlds Institute** 2010-2014
University of Florida
- Courses taught: Documentary Filmmaking and Documentary Filmmaking 2
 - Advised undergraduate and graduate student theses
 - Documentary filmmaking: *Discovering Gloria*
- Independent Study Instructor, University of Florida** 2003-2014
- Taught multimedia skills to dozens of undergraduate and graduate students

Visiting Professor, Paris Research Center, Columbia's Reid Hall 2009-2010

- Courses taught: Dateline: Paris and Documentary Filmmaking 101
- Advised undergraduate and graduate student

Adjunct Professor, University of Florida College of Journalism and Communications 2004-2010

- Courses taught: Digital Storytelling, Magazine Production, and Magazine and Feature Writing

Writing and Multimedia Coach, International Journalism course University of Florida 2004-2008

- Led undergraduate and graduate journalism students to Guatemala to cover hunger and malnutrition
- Co-led undergraduate and graduate journalism students to Nicaragua to cover social issues
- Advised undergraduate and graduate journalism students in researching and implementing story ideas
- Edited written and multimedia projects

FILM/VIDEOGRAPHY

Discovering Gloria (2016), writer, director, producer.

Hour-long documentary about an African American inner-city schoolteacher who transformed into a trailblazing innovator and a national model.

Distribution: In talks with PBS, Oprah's OWN.

- Grants:
 - \$63,000 W.K. Kellogg Foundation
 - \$1,000 Smallwood Foundation
- Presentations:
 - Penn State University Profession Development School, 2015, 2016
 - Miami-Dade County – sponsored by United Teachers of Dade, 2014
 - Pinellas County – sponsored by Pinellas County Schools, 2013
 - St. Johns County – sponsored by the St. Johns Education Association, 2013
 - Alachua County – sponsored by Alachua County Public Schools, 2013
- Press:
 - *Gainesville Sun*, *St. Augustine Record*, the *Guardian*, *Scene* magazine
- Narrator: Tamara Tunie (*Law & Order: SVU*)

Cojot: A Second Chance Comes Only Once (2016), writer, director, producer.

Hour-long documentary about an a Parisian banker/Holocaust survivor who tracked down Gestapo commander Klaus Barbie and played a pivotal role in the Entebbe hostage rescue
Presenting Station for national distribution: South Florida PBS.

- Grants:
 - \$6,000 Penn State Summer Research Grant, 2015
 - \$5,000 University of Florida Summer Research Grant, 2015
 - \$2,500 Penn State Institute for the Arts and Humanities, 2015
- Presentation:
 - American-Jewish Historical Society, Manhattan, 2016
- Narrator: Judd Nelson (*Breakfast Club*)

A Wing and a Prayer (2015), writer, director, producer.

Hour-long documentary about World War II aviators who risked their lives and U.S. citizenship to give newborn Israel a chance to survive in 1948.

Distributors: American Public Television (2015-17), Green Apple Entertainment (2017-27).

- Aired during prime time on more than 150 PBS stations around the country, including all Top 30 markets – in most places, several times
- Grants:
 - \$25,000 Bob Naegele Jr., Minnesota Wild (NHL team) co-owner
 - \$10,000 Yavitz Foundation
 - \$10,000 Herb Siegel, media mogul
 - \$10,000 Greater Miami Jewish Federation
 - \$5,000 Machal Fund
 - \$5,000 Jack Chester Foundation
 - \$3,500 G. Milford Gerson Foundation
 - \$1,800 Broad Foundation
- Presentations:
 - Syracuse University Maxwell School of Citizenship & Public Affairs and Newhouse School of Communications, 2015
 - Columbia University's Global Center, Paris, 2015
 - American-Jewish Historical Society, Manhattan, 2015
 - Woodstock Mountainview Studio, 2015
 - Penn State Libraries and Student Film Organization, 2015
 - Historical Society of Napa Valley, 2015
 - Penn State Great Valley Graduate School, 2105
 - WHYY, Philadelphia, 2015
- Reviews/Press:
 - *The Miami Herald*, *New York Post*, *Stars and Stripes*, the *Daily Freeman* (NY), *Daily Local News* (Pa.), the *Palm Beach Daily News*
 - *Centre Daily Times*, *The Collegian*, *The Daily Orange*
 - *The Jewish Daily Forward* (NY), *Jewish Journal* (Calif.), *Jewish Exponent* (Pa.), *Times of Israel*, OU.org, Jewish Telegraphic Agency
 - Dvir, B., *The Conversation*, "Why We Should Cheer WWII Operatives ..."
 - Dvir, B., *Las Vegas Sun*, "WWII Veterans Offer Pearls of Wisdom"
 - Dvir, B., *Times of Israel* blog
- Review: *20th Century Aviation magazine*: "Boaz Dvir succeeds in bringing an obscure but signal period of history out of the shadows"
- Peer-review: Miriam Elman, Syracuse University associate professor: "The film, which has become a hit on PBS with viewers describing it as 'riveting,' 'moving' and 'powerful,' includes over 20 interviews with the mission's key members"
- Narrator: Billy Baldwin (*Squid and the Whale*)

Digging Deeper Into Action Research (2013), director, producer.

Forty-minute documentary about teacher-conducted research accompanied, as a DVD, the book *Digging Deeper Into Action Research* (Dana, N., 2013).

Distributor: Corwin Publishing.

- Grant: \$20,000 Corwin Publishing
- Documentary short accompanied Dana's peer-reviewed paper, "Understanding Inquiry as Stance: Illustration and Analysis of One Teacher Researcher's Work"

Jessie's Dad, (2011), writer, director, co-producer.

Hour-long documentary about an uneducated truck driver (Mark Lunsford) who transforms into a savvy child-protection activist. The film helped Lunsford push for the passage of Jessica's Law in 44 states.

Distributor: Green Apple Entertainment.

- Available on Hulu, Amazon, iTunes, Google Play and other streaming sites
- Grants:
 - \$2,000 Carole Fielding Production Grant
 - \$1,000 University Film & Video Association (UFVA)
- Awards:
 - Best Documentary, ITN Distribution Film & New Media Festival, 2011
 - Best Florida Film, Fort Lauderdale International Film Festival, 2011
 - CINE Special Jury Award, 2010
 - CINE Golden Eagle Award, 2010
 - Direct Cinema Outstanding Documentary Award, 2008
- Finalist:
 - International Documentary Association's David L. Wolper Award, 2009
- Presentations:
 - Columbia University's Global Center, Paris, 2010
 - CINE showcase, Washington, DC, 2010
 - UFVA annual conference, Colorado Springs, 2008
- Festivals:
 - Culture Unplugged International Film Festival, online, 2013
 - St. Augustine Film Festival, 2012
 - ITN Distribution Film & New Media Festival, Los Angeles, 2011
 - Fort Lauderdale International Film Festival, 2011
- Television (footage used):
 - Lifetime's "Missing"
 - Investigation Discovery
- Reviews/Press:
 - Reviews: *Sun-Sentinel Weekly Newspapers* (3½ stars); *St. Petersburg Times*: "The film offers an intimate portrait of Lunsford It shows Lunsford struggling through relationships, legislative sessions and public scorn"
 - Print/ TV/radio: MSNBC.com, *Tampa Tribune*, *The Gainesville Sun*, *the Independent Florida Alligator*, *St. Augustine Record*; WJCT, WJXT, WTLV, WJXX (Jacksonville's PBS/NPR, CBS, NBC, ABC stations, respectively)

American Jewish Historical Society Overview (2011), writer, director, co-producer.

Twelve-minute documentary about this New York-based national archive.

- Grant: \$10,000 American Jewish Historical Society

PALS (2009), writer, director, producer.

Five-minute documentary helped earn a Nobel Peace Prize nomination for Partners in Adolescent Lifestyle Support (PALS), a teen-founded program that helps troubled children.

- Grant: \$6,000 Shands Hospital (Fla.)

The Flight of Petr Ginz (2009), researcher.

A documentary by Co-Directors Sandra Dixon and Churchill Roberts about a prodigy who perished during the Holocaust but lives on through his artwork and writings.

Molding Master Teachers (2008), writer, director, producer.

Twenty-minute documentary highlighting a cutting-edge University of Florida professional development program that has revolutionized educator training in high-needs schools.

- Grant: \$10,000 UF College of Education grant

The Unwilling Crusader (2007), writer, director, producer.

Five-minute documentary and front-page, long-form South Florida *Sun-Sentinel* story about a conservative Southern writer (William Bradford Huie) who transformed to play a pivotal role in launching and sustaining the Civil Rights Movement.

- Grant: \$1,000 South Florida *Sun-Sentinel*

OTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Freelance Writer/Editor, 1990-Present

- 15 years of journalism experience writing stories, essays, and book reviews for New York's *Newsday*, the *St. Petersburg Times* (currently the *Tampa Bay Times*), the South Florida *Sun-Sentinel*, *Explore* magazine, *The Satirist*, Scripps Howard Treasure Coast Newspapers, the *Jerusalem Post*, *Jerusalem Report* and *The Times of Israel*
- Joined Carl Hiaasen, Michael Connelly, Zora Neale Hurston, Tom Petty and others in writing a chapter ("The Only Israeli in Town") in *Homegrown in Florida* (2013), an anthology edited by Boston University Journalism Department Chair Bill McKeen
- Edited University of Florida business professors' articles for peer-reviewed journals

Syllabus Writer, Harvard University, 2015

- Created "Critical thinking, ethics and knowledge-based practice in visual media" for Harvard Kennedy School's Journalist's Resource

Operations Manager, University of Florida Lastinger Center for Learning, 2012-2014

- Created and ran Algebra Nation, an innovation that helps students learn algebra online in socially interactive ways
- Wrote a successful proposal for a \$250,000 Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation grant
- Played key role in launching high-quality professional development programs in Abu Dhabi and Palm Beach and Seminole counties

Creative Manager, University of Florida Lastinger Center for Learning, 2010-2012

- Created a website that serves as the model for other University of Florida websites
- Produced documentary shorts about educational innovations
- Produced numerous publications and reports

Director of Communications, University of Florida College of Journalism and Communications, 2003-2010

- Transformed the college's newsletter into student-centered magazine
- Won six Florida Magazine Association Awards
- Substantially upgraded the college's website

Chair, University of Florida Web/Electronic Communications Committee, 2005-2006

- Played a key role in improving the University of Florida's web presence
- Created collaboration across campus

Commentator, TV and radio shows, 1995-2006

- Appeared on live roundtable regional PBS/NPR show, “Week in Review” (WJCT)
- Wrote radio commentaries for WJCT show, “In Context” (WJCT)
- Appeared on statewide roundtable TV show, “Business Update”

Editor, *Jacksonville Business Journal*, American City Business Journals (ACBJ), 1999-2003

- Turned around a struggling news operation; launched real-time web operation
- Won several Florida Press Association awards, including first place for column

Managing Editor, *South Florida Business Journal*, ACBJ, 1998-1999

- Played key role in turning mediocre operation into one of ACBJ’s leaders
- Helped paper win its first Eagle Awards, including General Excellence

Editor, *Palm Beach Jewish Times* and *Boca Raton Jewish Times*, 1994-1998

- Co-hosted weekly radio talk show
- Wrote popular weekly column, received hundreds of letters from readers

Associate Editor, Sun-Sentinel Newspaper Group, South Florida, 1993-1994

- Edited the chain’s entertainment and lifestyle sections
- Served as editor of the *Boca Raton Times*

Lilly Endowment Recipient, Religion News Service, 1993

- Received \$5,000 to research spiritual aspects of Holocaust
- Published stories in newspapers around the country; interviewed on NPR

Editor/Professional Officer, Israel Defense Forces Spokesman’s Unit, 1990-1992

- Wrote and edited stories for *IDF Journal*, the military’s prestigious English magazine
- Gathered and disseminated vital information during 1991 Gulf War
- Provided info to James Baker’s office; researched reports for Benjamin Netanyahu

Associate Editor, Sun-Sentinel Newspaper Group, South Florida, 1988-1990

- Won three Florida Press Association Awards, including Investigative Reporting
- Wrote popular weekly column, received hundreds of letters from readers