Octavia Grunewald-Adeyemi

Film Director

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SUMMARY

Film director with 8 years in narrative shorts, one independent feature and branded films for agencies. Directed a $410K feature shot in 21 days that played 9 festivals and sold to a streaming distributor. Works closely with writers, cinematographers and editors, runs efficient sets of up to 45 crew and delivers commercial work on schedule.

EXPERIENCE

Director — Cholla Light Pictures

Phoenix, AZ · Jan 2021 – Present

- Directed the feature drama 'Dry Wash' on a $410K budget in 21 shoot days, finishing 1 day ahead of schedule.
- Selected for 9 festivals in 2024, winning 2 jury awards, which led to a streaming licence in 3 territories.
- Directed 14 branded films for 6 agency clients, with average completion rates of 68% on paid social.
- Cast 32 speaking roles across 3 projects, working with 2 casting directors and local talent agencies.
- Cut reshoot days to 0 on the last 5 projects by locking shot lists with the cinematographer 2 weeks ahead.

Director and Writer, Short Films — Independent

Tucson, AZ · Jun 2017 – Dec 2020

- Wrote and directed 4 short films on budgets of $8K to $35K, raising 60% through grants and crowdfunding.
- Screened shorts at 17 festivals, including 2 Oscar-qualifying events.
- Led volunteer and paid crews of 12 to 25 across 18 total shoot days.

SKILLS

Directing: Script breakdown, blocking, performance direction, coverage planning, tone and pacing

Production: Shot lists, scheduling with ADs, budget trade-offs, location scouting, safety meetings

Finishing and post: Editorial notes, color sessions, sound mix review, festival deliverables

Tools: StudioBinder, Final Draft, Avid Media Composer, DaVinci Resolve, ShotGrid

CERTIFICATIONS

Directors Lab Fellowship, Sonoran Film Fund

EDUCATION

Master of Fine Arts, Film Production, Chapman University, 2017

Fictional example by FindAJobAI: the person, employers and numbers are invented.