

# PRESS RELEASE



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**CONTACT:** Michelle Long-Coffee, PR Director  
[LongCoML@wlaac.edu](mailto:LongCoML@wlaac.edu) | (310) 287-4597  
9000 Overland Ave. - Culver City, CA 90230

## West LA College Hosts 3rd Annual WESTTalks Hit TV Writers, Producers and Actors and Overwatch Game Developer **SATURDAY, APRIL 27**



*DAN O'SHANNON: Multi Emmy Award winning writer/producer*



*JOSEPH RAYMOND LUCERO Actor, "Mayans M.C."*



*ANYA ADAMS, TV Director "Black-ish" "Fresh Off The Boat"*



*JOY KECKEN, TV Writer/Producer "The Wire," "Cloak & Dagger"*



*WARREN HSU LEONARD, TV Writer/Producer - "How to Get Away with Murder," "Power"*



*JOY NASH, Actor "Dietland"*

Actors from hit shows, award-winning television writers and producers, a blockbuster game developer and other creatives will share their stories and celebrate creative thought at the **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual WESTTalks: The Creative Edge Conference at West Los Angeles College on Saturday, April 27 from 10:00am – 3:00pm.**

The Creative Edge is West's crowd-pleasing version of TED Talks and will feature a diverse lineup of speakers whose credits include "Black-ish," "Modern Family," "Marvel's Cloak & Dagger," "Frasier," AMC's "Dietland," FX's "Mayans M.C.," "Overwatch" and "Call of Duty." Topics will include: Building Creative Teams; Favor Your Failures; The Gift Of Boredom; Maintaining The Creative Career; and The Tao Of Maybe. Additionally, a panel will reflect on the slow but steady growth of diversity in entertainment and what remains to be done.

WESTTalks is open to the public. Suggested donation is \$15 which includes parking and a light lunch. Children under age 17 and West students and employees get in free. For more information and tickets, visit [www.WLAC.edu/Creativity](http://www.WLAC.edu/Creativity).

**WESTTALKS featured speakers include:**

**DAN O'SHANNON, Television Producer and Writer** has won six Emmy awards for his work on TV shows such as "Newhart," "Cheers," and "Frasier."

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## WESTTalks...continued

As a former executive producer for “Modern Family,” Shannon now has a development deal at CBS TV Studios. In addition to television writing, he is the author of two books.

**JOSEPH RAYMOND LUCERO, Actor** is best known for his role as “Creeper” in the FX series “Mayans M.C.”. Lucero made his acting debut in the 2006 film Gridiron Gang. He is also a Homeboy Industries alumnus and spokesperson.

**ANYA ADAMS, Television Director** has credits including “Fresh Off the Boat,” “Black-ish,” and “GLOW.” Her 2017 original short film, “Lemonade Mafia,” was an official selection at over 14 film festivals.

**JOY KECKEN, Television Writer, Producer and Director** is best known for her work on the critically acclaimed television series “The Wire,” as well as “Marvel’s Cloak & Dagger” and the Sundance feature documentary, “The Biggest Little Farm.”

**WARREN HSU LEONARD** is a **TV Writer, Producer and CoExecutive Producer** for shows including “How to Get Away with Murder,” “Goliath,” and “Power.” Prior to his career in television, Leonard practiced corporate law and served as Deputy General Counsel for the LA Dodgers.

**JOY NASH, Actress** is best known for her role as Alicia “Plum” Kettle on the AMC television series “Dietland.” Before this breakout role, she appeared in “Twin Peaks: The Return” and “The Mindy Project” among other television shows.

**CHACKO SONNY, Video Game Developer** is currently working as the Production Developer for Blizzard Entertainment’s smash hit game “Overwatch.” Before joining Blizzard, Sonny worked on successful titles such as “God of War: Ascension” and “Call of Duty.”

**STEWART SCHILL, Writer, Director and Editor** has cut features, series, and pilots with credits including “The People vs. OJ Simpson,” “American Horror Story,” and “Dexter.” Schill has been nominated for an Emmy and multiple ACE Awards.

**DEBRA ROGERS, Writer’s Coach, Relationship Expert and Reinvention Strategist** wrote the award-winning book “He Did You a Favor,” contributes regularly to the Huffington Post and won the Independent Publisher Award.

To view a complete list of speakers and presentation times, visit [www.WLAC.edu/Creativity](http://www.WLAC.edu/Creativity).

*West Los Angeles College is located at 9000 Overland Avenue, Culver City, CA 90230. The college is an ACCJC-accredited community college providing full-time, part-time and online paths to university transfer and career preparation.*

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