

BENJAMIN ASCIUTTO

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EDUCATION

University of Pittsburgh, The David C. Frederick Honors College **April 2023**
Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences & College of Business Administration Dual Major Program 3.96/4.0 GPA
Majors: Film & Media Studies and Business, Honors Degree; Italian Minor Summa Cum Laude

WORK EXPERIENCE

The Wilson Project | *"Jitney in Italy"* - Producer **Vicenza, Italy** | April 2023 – Present

- Produced a documentary short film about the first international production of Pulitzer and Tony award-winning playwright August Wilson's first play: *Jitney*
- Formulated each shoot day schedule, orchestrated travel logistics to Italy, interviewed actors and director
- Funded by the University of Pittsburgh's Honors College with an \$8,000 budget for a 6-person crew

Warner Bros Discovery | *HBO Documentary Films Intern* **New York, NY** | June 2022 – Aug. 2022

- Screened and wrote script coverages for pitches sent to the HBO Documentary Films Executive team
- Actively participated in strategy rollout meetings with Media Relations, Program Marketing and Creative Services teams
- Developed and maintained the HBO team's filmmakers, awards and agents databases in FileMaker Pro & Airtable
- Constructed 4 tracking grids of film festival award winners nationally for competitors' slates in one-sheet format

Pitt Honors Creative Arts Fellowship | *Documentary Filmmaker: "Next Stop"* **Leonia, NJ** | Jan. 2021 – Jan. 2022

- Provided with a grant to produce my own documentary film on understanding how a changing commuter culture will affect the suburbs of America's cities because of the COVID-19 pandemic
- Managed \$4,000 budget, built call sheets, and set up equipment to carry out 12 shoots with interviewees
- Officially Selected into Barrymore Film Center Short Film Festival and Northeast Film Festival

ON-SET EXPERIENCE

NBCUniversal | *"The Blacklist" Season 8 - Set Production Assistant* **New York, NY** | May 2021 – May 2021

- Transported film to editing studio for export of footage from each shoot day
- Oversaw and managed lockups of public areas to ensure the safety of pedestrians for each scene in Central Park, NY

HBO | *"Succession" Season 3 - Set Production Assistant* **New York, NY** | May 2021 – May 2021

- Maintained lockups of public areas to ensure the safety of pedestrians during filming
- Distributed communication equipment to facilitate working environment for 14 production assistants

Netflix | *"Sweet Girl" - Set Production Assistant* **Pittsburgh, PA** | Jan. 2020 – Jan. 2020

- Helped 20+ background and extras move to-and-from the set
- Maintained lockups to ensure the safety of pedestrians during each high-volume action scene

LEADERSHIP & EXTRACURRICULAR INVOLVEMENT

Pitt Tonight Late-Night Talk Show | *Executive Producer* **Pittsburgh, PA** | Aug. 2021 – April 2023

- Led Pitt's *College Emmy*-nominated one-and-only late night talk show with a 50-person crew
- Programmed monthly show schedule and approved the guest segments and field pieces for the production, writing, marketing, and talent departments
- Oversaw taping of sold-out episodes in front of a live 120 to 130-person studio audience on-campus and 2,000+ subscribers on YouTube

'Pitt in Hollywood' Undergraduate Research | *Podcaster & Programmer* **Los Angeles, CA** | June 2022 – Oct. 2022

- Provided with a \$4,000 research grant to develop my own podcast series of interviews with LA-based Pitt alumni
- Served as the Honors College and Career Center Ambassador for students looking to pursue a career in Hollywood
- The podcast is available on Spotify & Apple Podcasts; public-facing to all Pitt students

SKILLS

Skills: Adobe Creative Cloud (Premiere Pro, Photoshop, Illustrator, Acrobat), MS Office (Excel, PowerPoint, Word, Outlook), Zoom/MS Teams, Audacity, DropBox, Google Suite, Experienced Assistant, Secret Compass COVID-19 Production Safety Trained