

IATSE LOCAL 44 GENERAL ELECTION

BALLOTS COUNTED MARCH 31, 2025



★ VOTER INFORMATION GUIDE ★

Dear Fellow Brothers, Sisters, and Kin of Local 44,

The Election Committee is pleased to announce the opening of the Local 44 General Election! We have been working to run this election in accordance with Article IX of the Constitution and By-Laws. We are committed to running this election in as fair, transparent, and accessible a manner as possible.

This year we have a new election services provider, ElectionBuddy. The vote will open March 1, beginning with the release of emails and text messages with links to your online ballot. Paper ballots will also be mailed. Each ballot has a keycode, and only one of your ballots will be counted. If you vote digitally and then mail in your paper ballot, the digital ballot will supersede the paper one.

Please be sure to send in your ballot in time to arrive before the close of the election. Electronic ballots can be submitted at any point until 9:00 a.m. on March 31. Paper ballots should be put in the mail with enough time to arrive (not be postmarked) at our PO Box in North Hollywood by 9:00 a.m. March 31. The Election Committee dropbox outside the Local 44 hall may not be used to return ballots, and you may not return them to anyone or anywhere at the Local 44 hall; they must go through the mail.

Return ballots to: (this will be pre-printed on your return envelopes as well)

PO Box 229

North Hollywood CA 91603

The P.O. Box will be emptied on March 31, 2025, under the supervision of your Election Committee members and any candidate's observers. Any ballots received late cannot be counted, as the P.O. Box will no longer be checked. This is all done to ensure the integrity of the election process and that all ballots are received and properly counted in accordance with the Constitution & By-Laws, to which ALL members are bound. The ballots will then be counted by our third-party election services provider under the supervision of the Election Committee and in view of each candidate's observers.



If you run into a technical difficulty with your electronic ballot, if there is a problem with your paper ballot, or you need a corrected ballot, please contact our election services provider at iatse44@electionbuddy.com.

If you have a question about procedure, rules, or campaigning, please contact the Election Committee at electioncommittee@local44.org.

The responsibility to have one's vote counted is a duty shared equally by every member, and the strength of our union is increased by each voting member. Please remember that this is our Union. It is our duty to elect those that we want to be in office. In this most basic act of solidarity we ask you watch your email and text messages starting March 1 and your mailbox a few days later, so you do not miss these very important messages. Please fill out and return your ballot as soon as you feel informed and ready to vote. Then, congratulate yourself that you have fulfilled your duty as a Local 44 member!

In solidarity and with all confidence, we hope that the process of democratic election of leadership is as important to each of you as it is to us.

Thank you,
The 2025 Election Committee



ELECTION COMMITTEE CERTIFICATION

The statements of every candidate contained in this Voter Information Guide were printed verbatim and were not edited by the Election Committee, except to ensure compliance with the 200-word limit set forth by Article IX, Section 4 of Local 44's Constitution and By-Laws.

Statements made by any candidate express only the views of that candidate, and do not represent the views of Local 44, the International, or the Election Committee.

QUALIFIED CANDIDATES FOR OFFICES OF LOCAL 44

The following is a list of all candidates who have qualified to run for elected office. They are grouped by the position for which they are running and ordered alphabetically by last name. If a candidate is an incumbent running for re-election to the same office, the symbol (inc.) is printed next to their name.

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QUALIFIED CANDIDATES FOR OFFICES OF LOCAL 44 (CONT.)

The following is a list of all candidates who have qualified to run for elected office. They are grouped by the position for which they are running and ordered alphabetically by last name. If a candidate is an incumbent running for re-election to the same office, the symbol (inc.) is printed next to their name.

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AT-LARGE CANDIDATES

VOTING INSTRUCTIONS

The candidates for the following offices are voted on by the entire membership at large.

**BUSINESS AGENT
SECRETARY-TREASURER**

**PRESIDENT
VICE-PRESIDENT**

**SERGEANT-AT-ARMS
TRUSTEES**

Members may vote for:

- **one candidate** for Business Agent.
- **one candidate** for Secretary-Treasurer.
- **one candidate** for President.
- **one candidate** for Vice President.
- **one candidate** for Sergeant-At-Arms.
- **up to three candidates** for the Board of Trustees.

Candidate statements begin on the following page.

AT-LARGE CANDIDATES

BUSINESS AGENT

TOBEY BAYS (INC.)



It's an honor to serve as your Business Agent. During my tenure, we've faced incredible challenges—navigating the pandemic, enduring strikes, facing industry setbacks, and dealing with the devastation of recent wildfires. Through it all, our resilience and unity have proven our strength and solidarity.

Undeterred by the challenges, meaningful progress continued, leading to significant advancements within Local 44 and at the bargaining table. I reshaped the Local's negotiation approach by expanding outreach efforts, giving every member a chance to participate. Furthermore, I played a pivotal role in advocating for progressive reforms to the newly revised constitution and bylaws, granting greater governance authority to the membership. I have also worked to defend—and, in some cases, restore—lost jurisdiction while expanding training opportunities to equip members with the skills necessary to succeed. These accomplishments underscore the strength of our solidarity and our commitment to growth.

As we look to the future, my commitment to the success of Local 44 remains resolute. While challenges lie ahead, I'm confident in my ability to lead us forward. Together, we will grow, adapt, and thrive.

I humbly ask for your vote so we can continue this important work together.

In solidarity,

Tobey Bays
www.bays4businessagent.com

JAMES BENNETT



I am James "Jimmy" Bennett, Candidate for Local 44 Business Agent. This campaign is going to be about You, the membership, which is fundamentally the most important aspect of our Union. For nearly 30 years I have had the honor of working shoulder to shoulder with my 44 kin. Now I am going to focus on what I can do to usher us through these trying times.

I will balance the inequality between Elected Salaried Officers and membership, which has gone unchecked for too long. Therefore, I'm committing to accept the lowered 2028 mandated salary in my first year. The remaining balance of the BA salary will be donated to an account for Member Hardship. In Coordination with our President we will form a Committee to oversee this fund with E-Board Oversight.

As BA I will be stronger on contract violations and grievances. Members will have someone in their corner who knows the law and contracts. You will see ME on set visits, fighting for your jobs, our rights. Costly mistakes such as the Fox Lot cannot happen again.

I will return compassion and understanding to our union. No more locked doors, clear, honest communication and most importantly Accountability.

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TURN PAGE FOR
SECRETARY-TREASURER

AT-LARGE CANDIDATES

SECRETARY-TREASURER

**DOMINIC
LEE**



- 10 years former stockbroker on Wall Street
- 5 years banker
- Daily clients were the top hedge funds, wealthy individuals, top analysts, and high frequency trading firms.

I have worked amongst the best, and bring all of the above skills/experience to IATSE and Local 44. Our industry members are facing unprecedented challenges, and I am uniquely qualified to address the needs.

YOU WANT ME:

- To be at the negotiating table for contract negotiations.
- To work with the executive board on new ideas/improvements that can better serve the members such as work opportunities, financial solutions, etc.
- To communicate info in a precise and timely manner.
- To empower you all with education and information, so you can make informed decisions.

When it mattered most (at midnight, on the night of the WGA STRIKE), I was notifying members as our membership needed to know if it was official and the next steps on how to proceed. **When it mattered most, I was there for you!**

We are now in the streaming era with the studios and tech companies. With your support, WE will bring improvements in all areas of our union and our industry.

**ED
MCCARTHY (INC.)**



During my first term as Secretary–Treasurer, the industry has faced significant difficulties. To better face these challenges, I’ve restructured staffing at the local to improve communications and empower members to have a greater voice. I’m proud of the work we’ve done together and look forward to continued modernization to provide a local that serves members now and in the future. www.em4st.com

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Updated Communications:

- Newsreel quarterly updated, digitized
- Newsletter – weekly email of current events
- Education Opportunities – weekly email of training courses
- Communications Department – works with Organizer to send texts and interactive materials to members
- Hybrid Meetings!

Updated Infrastructure:

- Sale of old building on Burbank Blvd.
- Repairs to current building
- Replaced aging computer equipment, outdated software systems
- Replaced business office furnishings
- New member database nearing completion

Updated Finances:

- Reorganized banking, moved accounts to responsive banks
- Reinvestments harvested over \$1.3 million in interest over the past 2 years

GOALS

- New website to include local history, board meeting motions and minutes.
- Training Trust being established will enable Local 44 to apply and receive grants to train members for the new and changing workplace
- In person and online archives, to reverse and share our unique history

**ASHLEY
SWANSON**



I am running for Secretary-Treasurer because I believe in the power of transparency, showing up, and taking accountability. In these challenging times, it is crucial for our Local to have a reliable and meticulous steward of our financial resources and a strong, consistent and advocating voice for the members. I bring with me a wealth of experience in budget management, nonprofits, complex project administration and leadership.

Through access to efficient communications, organized online technology and 44-specific education, my aim is to keep all members clearly informed and abundant with opportunity to grow.

My service to Local 44 over the past ten years has included seats on the Executive Board, the Set Decorator’s Steering Committee, the Constitution and By-Laws Committee, and AMPTP Negotiations. One of my proudest moments has been launching a mentorship program for the Set Decorators. As Secretary-Treasurer, I would expand this resource to all Local 44 members, as we are more powerful when joined together.

Your vote for me as Secretary-Treasurer is a vote for integrity, efficiency, and a brighter future for our organization. Together, we can navigate the complexities of the current challenges of our industry and thrive as kin.

In solidarity, Ashley Swanson

PRESIDENT

**RAY
SCHREFEL JR. (INC.)**



Brothers, Sisters & Kin,

It has been a privilege to represent Local 44 and its members these last three years as your President. In the last election cycle, I pledged to bring stability, honesty, transparency, and a member-first mentality. Through cooperation with members to work on their needs, I have maintained my pledge and brought impartiality to this position. I have assisted in the formation of many successful committees that are currently flourishing and helped lower the quorum, allowing members to have a greater voice. In difficult times, there are many voices, but not enough listeners that will strive to collaborate. You can rest assured that I am here for the long haul to ensure that the future of our union is safe for generations to come. I care deeply and am not hesitant to donate, whether it be monetarily or with my time. We will achieve our goals by advocating for tax incentives, participating in committee causes, and fighting to bring work back to Los Angeles. It would be my honor to serve as your president once more and fight alongside you to achieve these goals and improve our lives.

In Solidarity,

President Ray Schrefel Jr.

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TURN PAGE FOR
VICE-PRESIDENT



AT-LARGE CANDIDATES

VICE-PRESIDENT

AYSE ARF (INC.)



Dear Members,

I am running to continue representing you as Vice President of Local 44.

Throughout my term, I've consistently fought for modernization, transparency, and a more democratic Local 44. I proudly worked to lower the quorum, establish hybrid meetings, and maintain access for rank-and-file members to observe Executive Board meetings.

I am also a staunch supporter of financial assistance for members during this time of unprecedented hardship in our industry. I firmly believe the money accumulated by our longstanding officers belongs to the members and should be spent to their benefit in times of crisis.

The work is far from over. It's been a privilege to serve thus far, and I look forward to making sure members' voices are heard in another term.

Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions or concerns. My contact information is on Local 44's website.

In Solidarity,
Ayse Arf
Vice President, Local 44

GEORGE ATAMIAN



Serving on this board has truly been an honor. I want to thank those who entrusted and enabled me to fulfill my duties in serving our membership. Beneficial were the opportunities afforded that have fostered my growth and leadership as a board representative. Officer training, organizing, attending the International General Executive Board meeting and observing negotiations with the AMPTP have been invaluable. Now I look forward to bringing my three decades of local 44 experience to you as Vice President. These past few years have dealt us unprecedented setbacks and now we find ourselves searching for jobs that have left our state and country. Apart from my duties I promise to assist in all efforts to keep work in Los Angeles. I will serve all members of this local with confidence, tenacity and passion. As Vice President I will uphold my support for President Schrefel who has done an exemplary job. I will faithfully assist in enforcing our Constitution and By Laws. A near perfect attendance record at all meetings and events is an accomplishment that will continue. These are requirements and duties that I will uphold. I deeply cherish this nomination and look forward to serving you.

E. COLLEEN SARO



Hello,

I'm E. Colleen Saro, and I would like to be your next Vice President for I.A.T.S.E. Local 44. I have been a member of I.A.T.S.E. 44 - California since 1993, and a member of I.A.T.S.E. 484 - Texas - since 1993. I have also been a proud member of the Prop Masters Guild (PMG) since it was formed in 2021. I first entered Local 44 as an On-Set Dresser, and I have held positions as a Lead Person, Swing, Shopper, Assistant Prop Master and Prop Master. For the past 10 years I have been actively involved in my Community by serving on the Venice Neighborhood Council, (VNC). I also chaired the Ocean Front Walk Committee (OFW). My committee and I were responsible for getting the permanent bollards installed on OFW. I was also instrumental in moving forward the licenses and restrictions for motorized scooters/vehicles to be taken off the Boardwalk. As the OFW Chair, I was responsible for writing the minutes and writing the agendas that were then submitted to the VNC Board and to the office of Council District 11. My past involvement with community committees has provided me with the experience and working knowledge of the protocol for meetings. It has also made me acutely aware of how long it can take when an issue is brought up, discussed, and either resolved or passed. I will do my best to give my brothers and sisters the representation they expect from their leaders. I hope to better unite Local44, so we can prepare for the next contract and any others issues that arise. I look forward to your support and your vote for me as your next Vice President. Please spread the word.

VICE-PRESIDENT

**JAMES “JD”
STREETT**



STATEMENT FOR EXECUTIVE BOARD VICE
PRESIDENT LOCAL 44:

I have had the honor and privilege of serving on Local 44's Executive Board for The Special Effects Craft for some time. I am seeking election to the office of Vice President on the Local 44 Executive Board. In that time, as your representative I have;

- Been a consistent fiscal watchdog , calling out for responsible use of our members money.
- Worked to get changes in the basic agreement to make it easier to get reimbursed for our federal, and many other, licenses we must obtain to do our job.
- Represented our craft with California State, Federal government and NFPA to see that our specialized work is represented in proposed legislation..
- Worked with Contract Services and the AMPTP to make the Special Effects Craft's interests are respected and represented.

I will continue to listen to the needs and concerns of ALL the Local 44 membership, and strive to be our members advocate on the Executive Board.

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TURN PAGE FOR
SERGEANT-AT-ARMS



SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

**STEPHEN
GIBSON**



**Local 44 Sergeant at Arms Stephen Gibson
Local 44 #5421**

In 1990 I showed up on our first day of shooting Twin Peaks season 2 at 7 am. At 2 am several of us met in a dark crew parking and voted to call IATSE. Two days later I was gathering signatures.

Although it took another two years before I was able to get regular work on a local 44 show during that time I attended every general and craft meeting I was available to attend (in town) and each one since including on zoom while I was sick in bed. At almost every meeting I would attend it was a standing banter that I was waiting for Wild Bill to retire so I could continue his legacy. When the opportunity arose he was on the election committee and not eligible to run. Now is my opportunity.

The duty of Sergeant at Arms is to help protect the integrity, decorum and safety of our meetings. Some of you know me, most don't, yet whether or not you vote for me to serve or not it has been a pleasure and great honor to be called your union brother.

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AT-LARGE CANDIDATES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**ROBERT
CARLYLE (INC.)**



NO STATEMENT SUBMITTED

**CURTIS
CORRALES**



As a dedicated Propmaker and eight-year union member, I'm running for Trustee to build a stronger, more supportive Local 44. My career experience gives me insight into our daily challenges, from safety to career growth. I advocate for educational resources and workshops to advance our skills, and I commit to transparent financial reporting so you understand how our dues benefit our community. The recent disruptions from the COVID-19 pandemic, strikes, and wildfires highlight the urgency of these goals. I've lived these challenges with you, understanding our unique family. I aim to serve, ensuring Local 44 is where we thrive. Vote Curtis Corrales for Trustee - let's innovate and succeed together.

**LESLI
LYTLE (INC.)**



Hello, I am Lesli Lytle. I am running for re-election to the position of Local 44 Trustee. I have been an IATSE member since 2011 when I joined Local 871 as a script supervisor. I was elected to their Executive Board, serving two terms. Concurrently, I served four terms as a Delegate.

I represented the Local at the Officers Institute, IATSE's Organizing training, as a delegate to the LA County Federation of Labor, numerous District-2 Conventions and Quadrennials.

I joined Local 44 in 2014 in the Property craft. I have served as a Local 44 Trustee for two terms. I graduated the IA Trustee Training. As an incumbent, I am vetted and bonded.

We found problems within our financials, made recommendations to rectify those issues, and facilitated changing banks to increase interest rates, whilst improving fiscal safety for members. It is my responsibility to be certain that members are receiving the benefits they richly deserve, making sure that dues payments are safe, to make sure that your hard work isn't wasted.

It has been my privilege to serve as a Trustee for the last 6 years and I would be honored to serve you for a third term.

**TURN PAGE FOR
BOARD OF TRUSTEES CONTINUED** 

AT-LARGE CANDIDATES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**MELISSA
MCSORLEY**



Hello Brothers and Sisters,

My name is Melissa McSorley, and I am seeking your vote for Trustee. I have been a proud member of Local 44 for 16 years, working as a Property Master and Food Stylist. During this time, I have been highly involved in our Local, serving as a Field Steward for six years and sitting on the Property Master Steering Committee, as well as serving as an online Sergeant-at-Arms.

I am dedicated to improving our Local, and with Local 44's finances being front and center in these challenging times, I want to contribute to the efforts that ensure our Local continues to build on the strong financial foundation that has been established while keeping our members' interests at the forefront.

Starting my career as an Aerospace Contract Administrator, I oversaw multi-million dollar government contracts. This experience, combined with my understanding of Local 44's operations, makes me well-qualified to earn your vote as a Trustee. I will work diligently to represent our members' best interests while ensuring our Local maintains its strong financial footing. Together, we can secure vibrant film careers for our members as we move forward.

Thank you for your support.

**CANDICE
MYERS**



Candice was born into a family of heavy construction bridge-builders, known for their expedited repairs to the 14-freeway and 10-freeway after the 1994 Northridge earthquake, and the construction of the 110/105-Interchange that leads to LAX (featured in movies like "SPEED" and "LA LA LAND") as well as countless bridges across the state of California. Candice is not new to fast-paced construction; it runs through her veins. A California native, she earned her Bachelor of Architecture (BArch) at Cal Poly Pomona and spent time in various architecture firms before being drawn back to her construction roots. She worked as a construction manager, retrofitting high-end historic buildings in Northeast Los Angeles and Beverly Hills, before ultimately jumping into the construction of tv & film sets. Candice brings a diverse skillset to her work in TV & Film Construction.

**GEORGE
ZAMORA**



Dear Fellow Members of Local 44,

I'm writing to express my interest in serving as a Trustee for our union. With over 40 years of experience as a Special Effects person and Coordinator, I possess a deep understanding of our union's inner workings.

I've served as a Shop Steward, attended Executive Board meetings, and made significant contributions to our Special Effects craft meetings. I've also been a ranking member of the Special Effects Qualifications Board for 20 years.

As a Trustee, I'll work tirelessly on behalf of all Local 44 members. I've researched the responsibilities of this position and am confident in my ability to serve our membership with integrity and dedication.

Thank you for considering my candidacy. I would be honored to receive your vote.

Sincerely,
George Zamora

CRAFT REPRESENTATIVES

VOTING INSTRUCTIONS

The following candidates shall be chosen solely by the members of their respective craft.

Example: Propmakers can vote for a Propmaker Representative and Propmaker Alternate; Propmakers can **NOT** vote for a Property Representative nor Property Alternate.

The following is a list of the Craft Representative positions and the number of votes each member may cast.

Construction Coordinators may vote for:

- **two candidates** for Construction Coordinator Representative **AND**
- **one candidate** for Construction Coordinator Alternate Representative.

Property persons may vote for:

- **three candidates** for Property Representative **AND**
- **one candidate** for Property Alternate Representative.

Property Masters may vote for:

- **two candidates** for Property Master Representative **AND**
- **one candidate** for Property Master Alternate Representative.

Propmakers may vote for:

- **three candidates** for Propmaker Representative **AND**
- **one candidate** for Propmaker Alternate Representative.

Set Decorators may vote for:

- **two candidates** for Set Decorator Representative **AND**
- **one candidate** for Set Decorator Alternate Representative.

Special Effects persons may vote for:

- **two candidates** for Special Effects Representative. **AND**
- **one candidate** for Special Effects Alternate Representative.

Candidate statements begin on the following page.

TURN PAGE FOR
CRAFT REPRESENTATIVES



CRAFT REPRESENTATIVES

CONSTRUCTION COORDINATOR

**RANDY
CHILDS**



My name is Randy Childs and I am a Construction Coordinator running as Construction Coordinator Representative and Craft Alternate Delegate. I've been a member in Local 44 for over 35 years and your Alternate Representative for a little over 3 years.

I feel very fortunate to have served on the Executive Board as the Alternate Representative these last few years. Even better was to do it while learning from Andrew Moore and Karen Higgins.

I feel now is the perfect time for me to step up and represent you. I have had many wonderful mentors and teachers from Local 44 that have helped me over the years. It's time for me to give back and represent this wonderful and talented craft of Local 44 Construction Coordinators.

As a board member we need different opinions and ideas. Like I tell all my department heads, I want to hear what you have to say. I don't think everyone is always going to agree, but we must be able to discuss and figure it out. An open dialogue is critical in leadership and representation.

I truly hope you will consider me for the wonderful opportunity to serve you as Construction Coordinator Representative.

**GARY
CHRISTENSEN**



NO STATEMENT SUBMITTED

**KAREN
HIGGINS (INC.)**



I consider it both an honor and privilege to represent the Construction Coordinator craft on the Local 44 Executive Board.

Being a Construction Coordinator is, and always will be, my chosen profession and my desire to promote and serve our craft will be at the forefront of everything I do as a Board member.

My goal is to always advocate for our craft and foster an atmosphere of mentorship and cooperation among the Construction Coordinators, and in turn all of Local 44.

We face numerous challenges in these difficult times and a diverse and engaged Board is essential.

I have served on several Committees within our Union, most notably on the Contract Negotiations Committee this past year where historic pay increases for Construction Coordinators were achieved for the first time in my 40+ year membership in Local 44.

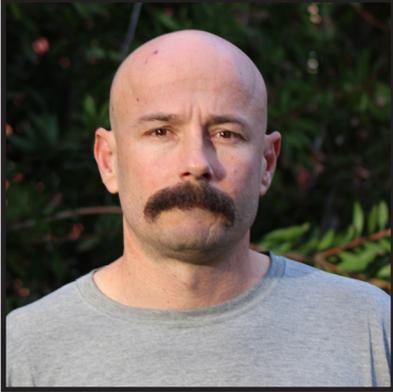
Our Union's strength is in its members and I am committed to serving not only the best interests of the Construction Coordinator Craft, but all members of our Union.

In solidarity,
Karen Higgins

CRAFT REPRESENTATIVES

CONSTRUCTION COORDINATOR

**DREW
SIMMONS**



Drew Simmons joined local 44 as a propmaker in December of 1999 and became a construction coordinator in 2016. He aims to prioritize crew members' family life over production's demands. His success and accomplishments are thanks to union wages and his goal as Construction Coordinator Board Member Representative is to maintain and improve local 44's status in the entertainment industry. Drew's main focus will be on membership and wages, with the goal to bring back the single-family income we once earned when he first joined back in 1999.

PROPERTY

**JEFFREY
CHANEY**



My name is Jeffrey Chaney. I have been a member of IATSE Local 44 since 2019. I am a member of the Property craft (working primarily as a lead person and prop assistant), and have served on the Property Steering Committee for about two years now.

As a prop assistant, I have worked long hours on under-staffed prop teams and know the difficulties of life "on production". As a lead, I have felt the struggle of making sure everything goes well today, while also negotiating with production for additional mandays to accommodate that last minute schedule change. I've lived it.

As a committee member, I have championed the zine project to increase our collective knowledge about contract language. This is because I believe that it is the responsibility of leadership to empower our membership to self-advocate and uphold the contracts that we work under.

If elected as a Property Craft Representative, I would continue to support the expansion of educational initiatives, seek to build community within our local, and advocate for specialized crafts, like greens people, drapers, food stylists, upholsterers, floorcoverers, buyers and gang bosses.

I believe that times are tough, but property craft is tougher.

Solidarity forever, Jeff

**NATALIE
CONTRERAS**



Breaking down barriers...

Brothers and Sisters of the Property Craft,

Being an Alternate these last 3 years has never swayed me from stepping up, bringing your concerns to the Board, and striving for constant communication and effective problem solving. Having the exceptional opportunity for full voice and vote, I've pressed, supported, and voted for the betterment you required from Local 44 and from your leadership. By continuing to show up, listen, and take action, we've made great strides thus far!

But we are not there yet. And I am committed to seeing through everything I've pushed for during my term; to secure craft recognition, collaborate with other crafts for better terms for all branches of Property, and advocate for a campaign to keep jobs in Los Angeles, to name a few. I can promise you I will not stand idle nor in the way of the amelioration of our Craft, our Union, our jobs, our future. I'm asking for your vote of confidence to continue to be your Property Craft Representative with full voice and vote.

In any given moment we have two options: to step forward into growth or step back into safety. - Abraham Maslow

In Solidarity,
Natalie Contreras

TURN PAGE FOR
PROPERTY REPRESENTATIVE CONTINUED

CRAFT REPRESENTATIVES

PROPERTY

OLIVIA "LIVI" DOM



I started working in the film industry at the height of Covid. I swore in a year before one of the largest workers strikes in Los Angeles. I have seen first hand the corners that are frequently cut to save a dollar, that cost our brothers sisters, and kin dearly.

My perspective is not one of Hollywood past, but one looking to navigate the realities of the world and the industry now. With great respect to what has been built before us, we have to keep looking forward and implementing changes to support the membership through these current trials.

I want our local to prioritize information accessibility and transparency for our membership. Decisions made should reflect the will of the membership.

As one of their first associate members, I frequently volunteer at Property Masters Guild events. I'm a member of multiple PMG committees, and want to bring that energy into representing the Property Craft in our local.

I am fired up and excited to run for this position. I want to fight for better conditions and continued membership support, because I want a better future for myself and my peers. I humbly ask for your vote. Thank you!

MICHAEL LOOMER (INC.)



Three years ago, you elected me as your representative on the Local 44 board. I was honored to be the face of the Property Departments in the AMPTP contract negotiations. I have continued to collaborate with your E-board reps to empower the property steering committee, which represents all of our diverse crafts; I have also fought tirelessly for ongoing training and improved communications. Going forward, I commit to pushing these critical improvements, and to break new ground in creative member outreach and events. As always, you can reach me for any questions at 323-353-8928. I thank you for your support and your vote.

NATASHA PIROUZIAN (INC.)



My Beloved Property Craft,

You are skilled.
You are talented.
You are driven.
You are ever-evolving.
And even in the face of challenges, you remain resilient.

Together, we've grown and adapted, constantly pushing each other to reach new heights. Your dedication and high standards have been the foundation of my work as your Property Representative.

Though we've faced challenges, it is in those moments that I've learned and grown the most. Whether pushing for a stronger presence during contract negotiations or collaborating with our leadership, I have always prioritized what matters most: fairness, equity, and the members. Over the past six years, I've had the honor of working alongside you, advocating for meaningful change, and ensuring your voices are heard. Through our collective efforts, we've made tangible progress in securing better working conditions and protections for us all.

No matter the obstacles that lie ahead, I will stand strong with you, guided by your reliance, dedication, and your belief in a better future for us all. Together, we've built something solid, but there is still much work to be done.

I humbly ask for your vote and the opportunity to continue serving you.

With deep respect and gratitude,
Natasha Pirouzian

CRAFT REPRESENTATIVES

PROPERTY

FANTE ZAMORA

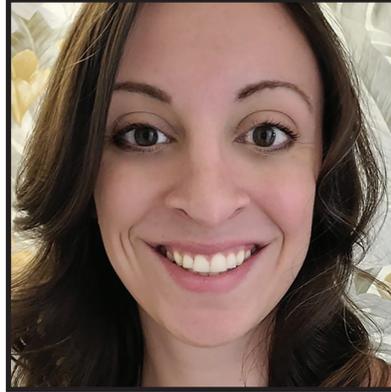


My name is Fante Zamora and I am running for Property Craft Representative. As a Set Dresser I have 22+ years of experience with IATSE Local 44. Our Union has afforded me the opportunity to forge the career of my childhood dreams and be a small but vital part of the "Hollywood Magic". I'm proud to be a member of the "Below-the-Line" machinery that truly makes our industry churn. I feel I am now in a position where I can, and should, give back to a community that has given so much to me and my family. Sisters, Brothers, and Kin, as my "second family" you have been a large part of who I am and who I have become. Over the years you have shared with me your wisdom, expertise, friendship, and strength and I want to honor you in kind as your conduit to the future of Local 44; as a mentor, historian, and caretaker. As Property Craft Representative I promise to bring the same work ethic, determination, and passion to representing you that I bring daily to life on the Gang. I look forward to your support and to supporting you!

With Gratitude and in Solidarity,
Fante

PROPERTY MASTER

THERESA CORVINO



As a Property Master for the last decade, I cut my teeth in low budget features before joining the union through new media, the wild west of filmmaking, then graduated to higher budget film and television. That gave me a unique perspective into how studios are finding creative new ways to exploit crew, and the gymnastics we have to navigate to succeed. The union has been behind in addressing the shifting industry.

We deserve better. Fresh ideas and a willingness to try new strategies is needed for our craft to thrive. Over the past several years, I have volunteered at Local 44 through the bylaws committee, steering committee, and contract negotiations. At the PMG, I have been a driving force for propelling our craft forward (Awards Show, Prop Culture Magazine, IMDb improvements...) Check out my link for more on the work I have already achieved for our craft. I don't want to spend three more years hearing excuses about roadblocks and delays that keep members from getting what they need. I am asking for your vote as Property Master Craft Representative to have the opportunity to work with you to find better ways forward.

www.theresa4rep.com

EMILY FERRY (INC.)



Of the ten films nominated for the best picture Oscar this year, only three were shot in the United States, and none of them in Los Angeles.

The films nominated for best Production Design were all made overseas.

Runaway production, often an issue in the past but now reaching epic proportions, makes it more important than ever that the vital contribution the Property Masters make to a motion picture, television show, or commercial is crystal clear.

With fewer projects, the rise of job threatening technology, and stepped up attacks on organized labor, the security of Property Masters is undeniably imperiled.

It is crucial that we battle for the recognition and respect that will bring more work, larger crews, and higher wages.

Keenly aware of these, and many other issues facing our craft, if elected, I will continue to doggedly strive to ensure a seat at the table for the Property Masters of Local 44.

TURN PAGE FOR
PROPERTY MASTER REPRESENTATIVE CONTINUED

CRAFT REPRESENTATIVES

PROPERTY MASTER

**CHRIS
HANSEN**



Hello, Local 44 Property Master brothers and sisters!

As you are all painfully aware, we are facing unprecedented times in our industry and in society at large. I am running for the position of Property Master rep because I want to help shape the future of our craft, as our industry evolves.

This last year, as a member of the bargaining committee, I fought for Property Masters in regard to both staffing issues and lagging pay rates. As your rep, I promise to continue those fights and others. Fights such as: future proofing our craft, aiding members through career shifts, and negotiating proper compensation for our equipment rentals.

We have a long and difficult road ahead of us, let's traverse it together.

In solidarity
Chris Hansen

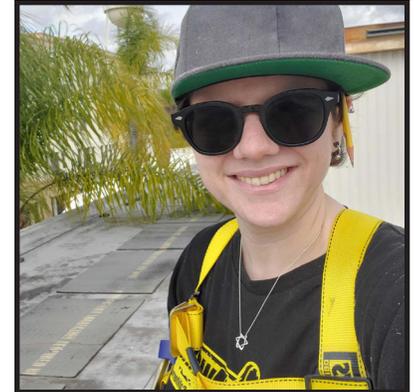
PROPMAKER

**MATTHEW
BRENNER**



We need younger leadership representing all of us on the Executive Board and I am here to be that leadership for you! The industry is changing—our leadership must change too. I'm running for the Executive Board and Propmaker Delegate to make sure Propmakers have the strong representation we deserve. As Chairperson of the Propmaker Steering Committee, I've spent the last year listening to your concerns and creating a group to unify all of us. Now, I want to take that work further—ensuring that Propmakers have a strong advocate in leadership, both within the local, and the International. Younger leadership brings fresh ideas and a new perspective—one that understands the challenges of today's industry and is ready to fight for solutions. If elected, I will be a relentless advocate for you, ensuring that Propmakers' concerns are prioritized, our voices are heard, and our needs are met. Your voice deserves to be heard. Your concerns deserve action. Vote for me, and let's build the future of Local 44 together!

**JENNIFER
CHAUVIN**



To my fellow 44 Propmakers, It has been my honor to serve you all as Sergeant-at-Arms these past three years.

Over this term, I haven't seen Propmaker interests represented at the board level. There are no Propmakers serving as Business Agent, Secretary-Treasurer, President, or Vice President making the only Propmaker voices those of our Craft Representatives. Out of the 4 people that can show up to fill the three seats at the table, we regularly have one person show up - sometimes two.

You deserve a voice at the board and you deserve the full weight of our votes on the board which should be three - a number matched only by Property.

Our reps have also not submitted any Propmaker specific contract proposals in the last several cycles and if elected I will take great care in surveying our members, finding out what's really important to you, and getting those items to the Negotiating Committee. At the bare minimum, representation requires having a presence and you deserve reps that will show up.

I am asking for your support and vote to become one of your Propmaker Representatives so that I may continue my years-long track record of showing up to serve.

CRAFT REPRESENTATIVES

PROPMAKER

**ROB
FOSTER**



My name is Rob Foster and I am running for Prop Maker Craft Representative. I believe that I can bring a positive voice to the table for all Prop Makers in Local 44. I am a strong proponent of working to keep jobs here locally. Primarily, I work with Art Directors and Production Designers in the Los Angeles Signatory Shops, acting as a conduit between construction and production. This includes having discussions with everyone in our trade, from Construction Coordinators to FX Coordinators. Keeping morale high occurs when we all feel needed, wanted and when we are treated fairly with regard to our craft. If all our brothers and sisters are working, we do not need to worry about what tomorrow brings regarding job stability. I am here to be that voice of encouragement to help keep productions honest in their hiring of union personnel. We need to get back to the ideal of productions wanting and needing to hire union, rather than demanding that they hire union. We needed to be treated fairly while providing craftsmanship that is sought after, valued and required. Please consider voting for what matters for all of us.

**ARMANDO "GRANDE"
GONZALEZ (INC.)**



NO STATEMENT SUBMITTED

**ERIN
HENNESSEY**



I have always been here for my brothers and sister propmakers so please help me help you in representing you as your propmaker delegate and representative. I will never be a weak link in this position.

TURN PAGE FOR
PROPMAKER REPRESENTATIVE CONTINUED

CRAFT REPRESENTATIVES

PROPMAKER

**MAX
WEBB**



Joining Local 44 has profoundly impacted my life. I've been a proud member for 12 years, and preserving our industry, growing as a union, and securing our future in California is a top priority. To achieve that, we need strong, forward-thinking leadership, and I'm committed to being one of those leaders.

I'm actively involved in many aspects of our union. I attend most of the meetings, observe executive board meetings, serve on the Propmaker Steering Committee, volunteer at union events, and I'm a shop steward. During the 2024 contract cycle, I served on the negotiations committee, gaining firsthand experience with the challenges we face. I saw how tough producers can be and learned firsthand about the obstacles in fighting for workers.

The Propmaker Craft Representative's role is to represent with integrity and professionalism. I believe I'm the person for this role. I recognize the challenges we face, and I'm ready to represent and advocate my fellow members. I'd be honored to serve as your Propmaker Craft Representative. Together, we can strengthen the prop making craft, protect Local 44's interests, and create a better future for our families. I hope to earn your support.

In solidarity,
Max Webb

SET DECORATOR

**LISA
ALKOFER**



I have been a member of Local 44 for 31 years! I began as a Property Person and have been fortunate to work my way up through all manners of Set Dressing to become a Set Decorator over 19 years ago.

My career has encompassed all different kinds of filmmaking. I have worked on Commercials, Half Hour Comedies, Network Dramas, Large-Scale streaming projects which have included fabrication and volume work as well as feature films large and small.

The craft of Set Decoration has changed greatly in the last 30 years. I have been lucky to see it change for the better. However, I believe it can be even better with the participation of everyone in the Local.

I feel I can represent Set Decorators accurately because of how varied my career has been.

Set Decorators do have a challenging job. We must communicate with all departments within Local 44 as well as the other IATSE locals in Los Angeles. I have learned how to succeed through trial and error so that everyone is on the same page by communication my needs and those of my department. It is my job as head of the Set Dressing Department to speak for my crew so that we all succeed.

**ANDREA "ANDI"
BRITTAN (INC.)**



Achievements & Goals for Our Craft
Our craft has progressed over the last cycle, but there is still much to do. Nationally, severe limitations have been placed on organizing and unions. I intend to fight for labor rights: fight for gains in the contracts, better working conditions and continuing education for all. As SD craft rep, I have fulfilled most everything from my last campaign:

- Gains in the basic agreement contract
- Transparency and communication between representatives and members
- Worked with other locals on pay equity
- Worked with construction coordinators on our presentation to the AMPTP and property reps to construct surveys for the Set Dec Department
- Surveyed our craft so we may understand our needs in bargaining
- Formed the #EmptyWithoutUs campaign with SD volunteers to create an online campaign showcasing our work and experiences on production.

The work ahead:

- Continue working for pay parity with Art Directors
- Confirm SD jurisdiction with the ADG and Local 44 kin.
- Provide set decorators tools to request assistant set decorators.
- Work on language returning Asst. Set Decorators to the Basic Agreement
- Get the work back to LA.

Thank you for your continued support. Together, we continue to thrive to the benefit of all members.

CRAFT REPRESENTATIVES

SET DECORATOR

**JON
BUSH**



Fellow Set Decorators,
We need work.

As a proud Local 44 member for thirty years, I've witnessed and been affected by previous cycles of runaway production. But as we all know, this time it is different.

We stand to lose our livelihoods altogether.

The hard fought gains recently achieved for Decorators are testament to our Craft Representatives' persistence, organization and leadership. Solidarity among us, strengthened by strong allyship with all Hollywood Locals made a difference.

Now it's crucial we turn toward IATSE's lobbying efforts in Sacramento and Washington.

Prior to decorating I worked as a Lead for many of you on features, television and commercials. To any set I bring hard work, solid listening skills, leadership and perseverance. This is what I will bring to the fight as your Craft Representative.

Unique experience serves my understanding of the individual concerns of Decorators working in all capacities, which will aid in lifting all of our voices.

Our primary goal will be to work tenaciously to keep current productions in LA and to bring back as much work as possible.

We all deserve to thrive, doing the work we love. Working together this is possible.

In solidarity,
Jon Bush

SPECIAL EFFECTS

**TIMOTHY B.
GRAHAM (INC.)**



It has been my privilege and pleasure to represent you on the executive board for the last 17 years. I have been, and will continue to be, an outspoken advocate for fiscal responsibility. **At a time when our industry members are facing unprecedented challenges, I will continue to ask the hard questions and promote democracy, transparency, and responsiveness for our members.**

My years of service allow me understand where we came from, how we got here, and how we can improve our Local for the current and future members. Taking the position seriously, I attend the meetings, having done my homework, prepared to intelligently & thoroughly discuss the issues at hand. I humbly ask for your vote.

Your vote and participation matters. Our union only remains strong if each and every member participates. Join me and reach out to your brothers, sisters, and kin and encourage them to do the same.

Thank you.

In solidarity,

Timothy B. Graham

**JASON
HANSEN**

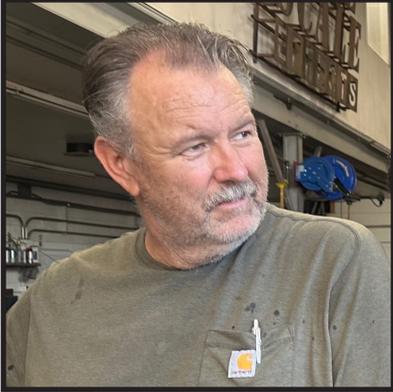


I have benefited greatly from the hard work of the representatives and delegates that paved the way for my successes in this crazy business! I want to give back to this community that has given me so much.

TURN PAGE FOR
SPECIAL EFFECTS REPRESENTATIVE CONTINUED

SPECIAL EFFECTS

**DAVID
PETERSON**



Thank you for considering me for the position of Special Effects Representative.

As a Special Effects Coordinator, and 30-year member of Local 44, working features, television, and commercials, I have witnessed, first-hand, the challenges facing our industry. With a union membership of close to 7000 members, and Special Effects making up only 2% of the total number, our needs are sometimes overlooked. I fully commit to ensuring that our money and budgets remain in line with our mission and the best interests of our members. Additionally, but no less important, I will listen to your grievances, challenges, and recommendations to improve our industry. I will be your advocate. I will fight for our craft, our position within the entertainment industry, and promote the advancement of our Special Effects membership.

Please consider voting for me this upcoming election to be your Special Effects Representative.

Together, let's build a cohesive, dynamic and productive team for the benefit and future of our industry and membership.

David Peterson

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CRAFT REPRESENTATIVE ALTERNATES

CONSTRUCTION COORDINATOR

ROBERT KONOWALOW



My name is Robert Konowalow. I am running for Construction Coordinator, Alternate Representative, and Alternate Delegate. I have been in Local 44 since 2012 and have recently served on the Election Committee. That experience has opened my eyes to a desire to serve our union further. When our representatives aren't available for board meetings, it is my goal to support my fellow coordinator representatives and bring your issues to light. I have been diligently working on the Google Group with our current representatives. Within this forum it is my goal to unite us as a group, to help us get the best deals we can on insurance, storage, and contracts. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

In solidarity,

Robert Konowalow

IATSE Local 44 Construction Coordinator

robert@konowalow.com

702-235-3746

PROPERTY

KEITH ALESHIRE-REZENDEZ



Hello, brothers and sisters! My name is Keith Aleshire-Rezendez, and I am running for the position of Property Craft Representative Alternate and Property Craft Delegate.

I have been a member of Local 44 for nearly two decades. I am usually known as a leadman, but I also work as a prop assistant, buyer, and set dresser. My journey began in October 1997 when I started as an Art PA right out of college in Orlando, Florida. In February 2002, I moved to Los Angeles.

As the PROPERTY CRAFT REP ALTERNATE, I am committed to attending all meetings and being fully present for you. I am open to making changes and am eager to listen, learn, ask questions, and engage in conversations. My primary goal is to prioritize the needs and interests of the members of Local 44 and work towards making the union a better place for everyone. I promise to do this with dedication and commitment.

Please feel free to contact me by phone or text if you have any questions or thoughts.

-M. Keith Aleshire-Rezendez
323-481-9984

DUSTIN BLANKENSHIP



Brother, Sisters, and Kin,

As a ten year member of our Local I have strived to see our union be more open communicative, and democratic for members. Our strength as a labor union derives from the solidarity of its membership.

While serving on your Property Steering Committee I have worked hard to foster more communication within our crafts. These efforts are helping members to stand together and secure better rental rates from the employers. This has shown me the power we have when our members unite on their own.

I earnestly believe in this collective power of our members. You can be the agents of change within our local. As a member of the executive board I will push to keep members more informed about the decisions made at the table and help allow you to implement effective reforms at our General Membership Meetings.

I humbly ask for your vote to represent your will on the executive board and empower you to make this Local a reflection of what you want it to accomplish. This is your local to mold and shape. This is your community to foster and grow.

In Solidarity Forever,

Dustin Blankenship

TURN PAGE FOR
PROPERTY REPRESENTATIVE ALTERNATES CONTINUED

CRAFT REPRESENTATIVE ALTERNATES

PROPERTY

**JAMES
HARDY**



I have over 20 years of production experience working as a Lead inside the Set Decoration Department. Within that time, I have developed the comprehensive skills, that directly aligns with the responsibilities of a Property Craft Representative (alternate). They include budget tracking, managing logistics for multiple crews, as well as coordinating with many production departments ensuring smooth operations from planning to execution.

I bring strong leadership and decision-making skills, consistently making informed choices that serve the best interests of the crews I lead, all while maintaining adherence to the collective bargaining agreement. With a deep curiosity of labor protections and the unions bylaws I will advocate for the best interest of the Property Craft, Local 44, as well as, protecting workers' rights.

My communication skills allow me to effectively liaise with union members, leadership, and external partners ensuring transparency and fostering collaboration. I have a proven track record of resolving conflicts, navigating workplace challenges, with an eye towards fair and constructive solutions.

Above all, I am deeply committed to the principles of solidarity and the well-being of our members. I am eager to work alongside my fellow members to strengthen the union's impact and unity.

In solidarity,

James Hardy

**NANCY
GOODMAN ILAND**



I have been a Food Stylist in the Props department for over 30 years and grateful to work with the best Prop Masters and crews creating delicious shows.

I also do Educational outreach to culinary schools talking about being a food stylist in The Biz, Mentoring new food stylists, am involved in STREAM (Science, Technology, Reading, Engineering, Art, and Math) for K-12 schools, Volunteered with Local 44 making phone calls to get our union members to Vote in our last election and most recently Volunteered at this past nomination rally.

I'm now ready to be involved with the inner working of our union and be part of the backbone that holds us up especially with the entire entertainment industry in a state of flux due to the ever-changing landscape, as well as to the extraordinary advances of technology. I want to give back to you and our Local 44 and be a part of the solution!

I am known for my integrity, dedication, and teamwork, and I am committed to bringing these values to my role as Property Craft Representative Alternate and contributing my skills and passion to our shared success of Local 44.

Thank you for your VOTE!!

**ERIC
LABONTÉ**



Dear Union Members,

I am writing to express my interest in the position of Property Representative Alternate. I believe my experience as a Set Decoration Buyer makes me a strong candidate for this role. Having been an active and committed member of our Union for almost 20 years, I recognize the importance of advocating for our collective rights.

As a Set Decoration Buyer, I've honed critical skills in negotiation, vendor management, and budgeting, all of which directly align with the responsibilities of a Property Representative. My ability to manage large-scale procurement and understand the intricacies of property logistics gives me a unique perspective on the challenges and needs of our members in the field.

Moreover, my work requires clear communication and collaboration with various departments, enabling me to effectively represent and advocate for the needs of the team. These skills are essential for any role that requires managing diverse viewpoints, handling disputes, and ensuring that the interests of our members are always upheld.

I am a firm believer that everyone has a voice and that our concerns should be addressed promptly and fairly. I would be honored to serve in this role. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Eric LaBonté

CRAFT REPRESENTATIVE ALTERNATES

PROPERTY MASTER

**CHARLES “CHUCK”
MCSORLEY (INC.)**



I would be honored to continue representing the interests of Property Masters as your Property Master Alternate Rep in Local 44 matters. With over 38 years of experience in feature films, television, and commercials—26 of which I have spent as a working Prop Master—I bring valuable insight gained from serving as your E-Board Alternate Representative for the past six years.

In recent years, Local 44 members have faced numerous challenges. These challenges have tested our jurisdiction while eroding our job security and our financial well-being. If re-elected, I will continue my commitment to promoting diverse and inclusive crews, addressing the gender disparity among Prop Masters, and enhancing the recognition of our craft not only within our union but also with other unions, guilds, and organizations.

In solidarity.

**MICHAEL
TRUDEL JR**



Over the past two years, I have acted as a key organizer, working hard towards elevating the craft of Property Master through key projects with the Property Masters Guild and the Local 44 Steering Committee. Projects such as producing and hosting podcasts, organizing convention booths to educate the public on our craft, and acting as a committee member on the first awards show for Property Masters to gain us more respect as department heads. I've worked to bring our craft closer together as a community through meetups like the Liftgate event, and working to create an open line of communication on rate, kit and trailer negotiations to empower Property Masters to fight for better deals. I have even led a motion for more transparency on contract negotiations for our craft.

It is a personal goal of mine to get to know every Property Master on a personal level to be able to serve as a voice for them and their needs on a larger scale as a true representative for my peers. Being the Property Master Craft Representative Alternate will afford me even more opportunities to continue advancing not only our craft as Property Master, but Local 44 as well.

PROPMAKER

**ROBERT “BOB”
BALOGH**



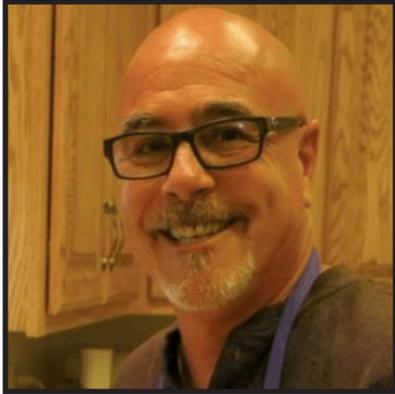
Hello brothers, sisters, and kin! For those who don't know me, I am a Chicago transplant who was a carpenter and contractor on the outside, until moving to Los Angeles 10 years ago to work in Hollywood. After 7 years of experience working with my union family, I feel that I have absorbed a broad range of perspectives. I also have several years experience working on various committees with multiple arts based non-profit organizations. I will be a strong voice for the concerns of all the rank and file members.

TURN PAGE FOR
PROPMAKER REPRESENTATIVE ALTERNATES CONTINUED

CRAFT REPRESENTATIVE ALTERNATES

PROPMAKER

**MICHAEL “MIKE”
CAPPELLO (INC.)**



The Cappello name has been working in the business for many years and has supported PropMakers by being involved and volunteering my time on your Executive Board.

Over the years I have been involved in bringing work back, brainstorming ideas to stop the outrageous flow of runaway productions, and helping our members in their greatest times of need.

During Covid Years, I supported the \$1 Million rescue plan, putting money directly into the pockets of PropMakers when work shut down and our members were hurting. I listened to the needs of our members and take a common-sense approach in taking care of issues, whether it's a hungry child, a catastrophic event or you just need a studio pass to find work, I've been there for you.

2024 Writers Strike, I supported hundreds of thousands of \$'s in Local 44 money to help our members. Now, here we are again, wild fires, members are homeless, and we are still giving!

The Cappello family has been in the business for many years, providing jobs, and many opportunities to help make The American Dream Come True Again!

**TAYLOR
ESTEVEZ**



Dear Propmakers,

I'm running for the position of Propmaker Craft Representative Alternate because I am dedicated to supporting our craft and advocating for propmakers within our union.

I've attended many executive board meetings as an observer, gaining a working understanding of how the board operates and the functions of craft representatives and alternates.

As a member of both the Propmaker Steering Committee and the Advancing Technology Committee, I have firsthand insight into the challenges we face and believe that member participation is key to building a better union.

If elected as your Propmaker Craft Representative Alternate, I will listen to your concerns, advocate for our needs, and work to ensure propmakers are represented fairly. I believe in collaboration and in building a more inclusive Local where every member's perspective is valued. I'm committed to fostering two-way communication and bridging the gap between propmakers and the union.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to the honor and opportunity to serve you,

Sincerely,

Taylor Estevez

**DANIEL
TURK**



For The Greater Good

CRAFT REPRESENTATIVE ALTERNATES

SET DECORATOR

**LIZZIE
BOYLE**



I've been a Local 44 Set Decorator for 8 years, and have worked on just about every contract: from the Basic Agreement to commercials, to every tier of feature, to the Videotape Agreement, I have firsthand experience tackling the different challenges of each. That broad background will make me a better representative.

I'm grateful for all the work the decorators have been doing since I joined and want to help carry on that work - pushing for pay equity, fostering connections between decorators, supporting education and training. I've taken part in the negotiation workshops and mentorship program, and those experiences have directly impacted my career.

I already observe board meetings regularly and will be prepared to step in as an alternate. If called to serve, my priorities will be:

- Safe working conditions for all
- Member-to-member outreach
- Fair pay and adequate staffing in the Set Decoration department
- Supporting the IA backing pro-union legislation (like film incentives)
- Transparency, communication, and education about how our Local works

Thank you. Please remember to vote!

SPECIAL EFFECTS

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TURN PAGE FOR
CRAFT DELEGATES

VOTING INSTRUCTIONS

The following candidates shall be chosen solely by the members of their respective craft.

Example: Propmakers can vote for a Propmaker Representative and Propmaker Alternate; Propmakers can **NOT** vote for a Property Representative nor Property Alternate.

The following is a list of the Craft Representative positions and the number of votes each member may cast.

Construction Coordinators may vote for:

- **one candidates** for Construction Coordinator Delegate **AND**
- **one candidate** for Construction Coordinator Alternate Delegate.

Property persons may vote for:

- **one candidates** for Property Delegate **AND**
- **one candidate** for Property Alternate Delegate.

Property Masters may vote for:

- **one candidates** for Property Master Delegate **AND**
- **one candidate** for Property Master Alternate Delegate.

Propmakers may vote for:

- **one candidates** for Propmaker Delegate **AND**
- **one candidate** for Propmaker Alternate Delegate.

Set Decorators may vote for:

- **one candidates** for Set Decorator Delegate **AND**
- **one candidate** for Set Decorator Alternate Delegate.

Special Effects persons may vote for:

- **one candidates** for Special Effects Delegate. **AND**
- **one candidate** for Special Effects Alternate Delegate.

Candidate statements begin on the following page.

CRAFT DELEGATES

CONSTRUCTION COORDINATOR

KAREN HIGGINS



I consider it both an honor and privilege to represent the Construction Coordinator craft on the Local 44 Executive Board.

Being a Construction Coordinator is, and always will be, my chosen profession and my desire to promote and serve our craft will be at the forefront of everything I do as a Board member.

My goal is to always advocate for our craft and foster an atmosphere of mentorship and cooperation among the Construction Coordinators, and in turn all of Local 44. We face numerous challenges in these difficult times and a diverse and engaged Board is essential.

I have served on several Committees within our Union, most notably on the Contract Negotiations Committee this past year where historic pay increases for Construction Coordinators were achieved for the first time in my 40+ year membership in Local 44. Our Union's strength is in its members and I am committed to serving not only the best interests of the Construction Coordinator Craft, but all members of our Union.

In solidarity,

Karen Higgins

PROPERTY

KEITH ALESHIRE-REZENDEZ



Hello, brothers and sisters! I'm Keith Aleshire-Rezendez, and I'm seeking the Property Craft Delegate and Property Craft Representative Alternate positions.

I've been part of Local 44 for over 20 years, serving as a leadman, prop assistant, buyer, and set dresser. My career began in October 1997 as an Art PA in Orlando, Florida, and then I moved to Los Angeles in February 2002 and continue working in the film industry.

As a PROPERTY CRAFT DELEGATE, I would attend conventions to share my knowledge and experiences with all union members. I'm dedicated to listening, learning, and addressing the concerns and issues facing our union. I aim to foster open and meaningful conversations to find solutions that benefit everyone.

My top priority is to enhance Local 44 for its members, creating a more positive and supportive work environment. I believe that prioritizing members' needs will lead to a stronger union.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions, thoughts, or concerns. I look forward to the chance to serve and work with you to make Local 44 a more successful union.

M. Keith Aleshire-Rezendez
323-481-9984

JACQUELINE HAVERLAND



As a proud member of Local 44, I am running for Property Craft Delegate to be a strong, experienced voice for our craft and our union's future. Coming from a union family, I understand the power of solidarity and our responsibility to protect and uplift one another. My foundation is built on fairness, transparency, and hard work—values that have guided me throughout my career.

As previous Chair of the Young Workers Committee I worked to try and engage as well as empower the next generation of union members, fostering mentorship opportunities and encouraging active participation. I am committed to fair representation, equitable working conditions, and ensuring every member feels seen, heard, and valued.

In these uncertain economic times, our craft faces unique challenges. We need representatives who understand the pressures on working families and the importance of maintaining strong checks and balances within our local. I will stand up for your rights, protect our contracts, and work toward a more inclusive, transparent union.

I would be honored to have your support and your vote. Together, we can strengthen our craft and secure a better future for all members.

TURN PAGE FOR
PROPERTY DELEGATE CONTINUED



CRAFT DELEGATES

PROPERTY

**NATASHA
PIROUZIAN (INC.)**



My Dear Property Craft,

Serving as your Delegate at the highest level of our crafts involvement with the I.A.T.S.E. has been a privilege and honor. This experience has provided me with the knowledge and experience to navigate our union on the largest stage, ensuring we are recognized, respected, and heard.

Throughout this journey, I have had the opportunity to build meaningful relationships with local and international leaders. Sharing ideas, learning from each other, and bringing back successful strategies has been an incredibly rewarding part of my work. Additionally, attending officer training has been invaluable in strengthening my understanding of union politics, collaboration, decorum, and, most importantly, how to better advocate for all of us.

Being a delegate is about more than just representing our craft; it's about seeing the bigger picture, understanding how our union functions as a whole, and supporting each other every step of the way. I've seen firsthand how our collective efforts can create real change, and that's something I'm deeply proud of.

I humbly ask for your vote and the chance to continue serving you with passion, dedication, and heart.

With deep respect and gratitude,
Natasha Pirouzian

**DIANE
ZURN**



I'm honored to be considered for Property Delegate. As a 17-year member with almost 19 years in the industry and over a decade of corporate B2B experience in creative, HR, and tech, along with my teaching experience, I bring a unique skill set to this role.

This candidacy stems from my experiences both as a working member and from observing Executive Board meetings firsthand. Through these experiences, I've developed a strong understanding of the challenges we face and the importance of having a representative who genuinely cares about the wellbeing of our Local.

As your Property Delegate, I will prioritize effective communication and serve as a dedicated ambassador for our Local on the national stage. My goal is to ensure that the needs, concerns, and interests of our members are consistently represented and addressed.

I will work to create stronger connections between our Local and the national leadership, facilitating smoother processes and clearer understanding of policies and decisions that impact us all. By listening to the membership and advocating for our shared values, I aim to ensure our Local remains strong and united.

With your support, I'm ready to continue building a better future for all of us in 44.

PROPERTY MASTER

**EMILY
FERRY (INC.)**



With a background in film, television, and commercials, I have a broad understanding of how the industry truly functions, but, also, as an independent, volunteer representative for the Property Masters, I have a firm grasp on the ins and outs of what I call "the union biz."

I am fortunate enough to be assigned to the District 2 Constitution Committee, where I bring our voice to the table, supporting the Property Masters as well as our sister Hollywood locals.

Attentive networking with these representatives, along with I.A.T.S.E. officials, allows an effective delegate to pursue resolution to issues within their own craft and the industry as a whole.

If elected, I will continue to persevere, honorably representing the Property Masters of Local 44 at our union's conventions.

CRAFT DELEGATES

PROPERTY MASTER

**CHRIS
HANSEN**



Hello, Local 44 Property Master brothers and sisters!

As you are all painfully aware, we are facing unprecedented times in our industry and in society at large. I am running for the position of Property Master rep because I want to help shape the future of our craft, as our industry evolves.

This last year, as a member of the bargaining committee, I fought for Property Masters in regard to both staffing issues and lagging pay rates. As your rep, I promise to continue those fights and others. Fights such as: future proofing our craft, aiding members through career shifts, and negotiating proper compensation for our equipment rentals.

We have a long and difficult road ahead of us, let's traverse it together.

In solidarity

Chris Hansen

PROPMAKER

**MATTHEW
BRENNER**



We need younger leadership representing all of us on the Executive Board and I am here to be that leadership for you! The industry is changing—our leadership must change too. I'm running for the Executive Board and Propmaker Delegate to make sure Propmakers have the strong representation we deserve. As Chairperson of the Propmaker Steering Committee, I've spent the last year listening to your concerns and creating a group to unify all of us. Now, I want to take that work further—ensuring that Propmakers have a strong advocate in leadership, both within the local, and the International. Younger leadership brings fresh ideas and a new perspective—one that understands the challenges of today's industry and is ready to fight for solutions. If elected, I will be a relentless advocate for you, ensuring that Propmakers' concerns are prioritized, our voices are heard, and our needs are met. Your voice deserves to be heard. Your concerns deserve action. Vote for me, and let's build the future of Local 44 together!

**MICHAEL "MIKE"
CAPPELLO (INC.)**



My North Star:

Pay Attention, Always Improving, Be the Voice for PropMakers,
And Get the Work Back in the USA!

PropMakers First!

We are the Gold Standard of the industry, and it's time to win back our seat at the head of the table.

We need to Lead from the Front and be the strongest Stage Craft once again!

Losing is NOT an option, we are not door mats!

Representing PropMakers at Highest Level

Dedicated to PropMakers, the voice of your Delegate must be the strongest person in the room, and NOT afraid to stand up to the International.

WE DEMAND MORE JOBS in The USA and BETTER CONTRACTS!

We Will NOT Be Quiet!

The Fight is Real!

Don't be fooled by social media clutter and our own members who are desperate for attention. NEVER Pander to the "Karen's" on Social Media

and Don't allow them to destroy our Craft, we are in the Big Leagues fighting for jobs in the USA and demanding the IA Hear us LOUD & CLEAR!

**TURN PAGE FOR
PROPMAKER DELEGATES CONTINUED**



CRAFT DELEGATES

PROPMAKER

**JENNIFER
CHAUVIN**



It has been my honor to serve you all as Sergeant-at-Arms these past three years and in addition to running for Propmaker Representative, I am also asking you to elect me to represent Local 44 Propmakers to District 2 and Quadrennial.

I paid my own way to the January 2023 General Executive Board Meeting to see what meetings are like at the International level. It was eye opening. I also completed the IATSE Officer Institute this past November which was incredibly educational. I am deeply involved in interlocal efforts to improve our quality of lives and have formed relationships both locally and throughout the IA that I can use to help push forward desperately needed changes in our industry, contracts, and the IA itself. My involvement in and care for this union and its members should be clear from my dedication and investment.

I am asking for your support and vote to become your Propmaker Delegate so that I may represent your interests at the Local and International level.

Thank You.

In Solidarity,
Jennifer Chauvin

**ROB
FOSTER**



My name is Rob Foster and I am running for Prop Maker Craft Delegate. I believe that I can bring a positive voice to the table for all Prop Makers in Local 44. I am a strong proponent of working to keep jobs here locally. Primarily, I work with Art Directors and Production Designers in the Los Angeles Signatory Shops, acting as a conduit between construction and production. This includes having discussions with everyone in our trade, from Construction Coordinators to FX Coordinators Keeping morale high occurs when we all feel needed, wanted and when we are treated fairly with regard to our craft. If all our brothers and sisters are working, we do not need to worry about what tomorrow brings regarding job stability. I am here to be that voice of encouragement to help keep productions honest in their hiring of union personnel. We need to get back to the ideal of productions wanting and needing to hire union, rather than demanding that they hire union. We needed to be treated fairly while providing craftsmanship that is sought after, valued and required. Please consider voting for what matters for all of us!

**ERIN
HENNESSEY**



I have always been here for my brothers and sister propmakers so please help me help you in representing you as your propmaker delegate and representative. I will never be a weak link in this position.

CRAFT DELEGATES

PROPMAKER

VICTOR REYES



Victor Reyes, MPA

I am running for Propmaker Delegate - I am committed to amplifying Propmakers voices, building grassroots power, and ensuring we have a seat at the table. I was privileged to work on feature films, television, music videos, commercial projects, and studio facilities for 20 years. Currently, as a Business Representative I serve as the frontline liaison between Union members and production companies, upholding collective bargaining agreements and employee labor contracts, advocating for equitable treatment, compensation, scheduling, workplace conditions, and safety. My track record for resolving member complaints at the initial stages of potential grievances has prevented unnecessary arbitration and expense.

Work Experience:

- California State University Dominguez Hills, Labor Studies Dept., Lecturer
- Los Angeles Trade Technical College, IATSE - Hollywood CPR, Instructor
- Los Angeles Trade Technical College Construction Management & Utilities, Advisory Committee
- Los Angeles Trade Technical College Foundation, Board Co-Chair
- Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, Delegate
- Los Angeles County Federation of Labor Committee on Political Education (COPE), IATSE L44 Proxy Delegate
- College of the Canyons Career Education, Advisory Board Member
- Hollywood Cinema Productions Resources, IATSE Advisory Council

SET DECORATOR

ANDREA "ANDI" BRITTAN (INC.)



Labor organizing is under threat, it's crucial to view ourselves not just as members of Local 44 but as part of the broader I.A.T.S.E. union spanning locals nationwide and internationally.

Representing Local 44 at I.A.T.S.E. conventions and District 2 allows me to participate in the larger labor movement that have impact on labor laws and legislation.

With wealth inequality growing, corporations hold more power, influencing laws to limit unionization.

Labor laws in the U.S. are weak, and without stronger protections against worker exploitation, labor will remain vulnerable.

This is the reason I'm running for Set Decorator Delegate as well as Craft Representative, so I may support the Set Decorator craft, gain experience, and influence the future of labor within a union of 170,000 members. National action relies on solidarity, I want to contribute to education, legislation, and actions that can protect workers and challenge the forces that threaten our well-being.

For too long, corporations have profited while workers have struggled. It's time to shift the balance and ensure fair wages, safe working conditions, and strong protections for everyone.

AndiBSetDec - A Luta Continuar

SPECIAL EFFECTS

JASON HANSEN



I have benefited greatly from the hard work of the representatives and delegates that paved the way for my successes in this crazy business! I want to give back to this community that has given me so much.

TURN PAGE FOR
SPECIAL EFFECTS DELEGATES CONTINUED

SPECIAL EFFECTS

**DAVID
PETERSON**



Thank you for considering me for the position of Special Effects Delegate

I feel whoever is your SPFX Craft Rep should also be your voice at International gatherings.

As a Special Effects Coordinator, and 30-year member of Local 44, working features, television, and commercials, I have witnessed, first-hand, the challenges facing our industry. With a union membership of close to 7000 members, and Special Effects making up only 2% of the total number, our needs are sometimes overlooked. I will be your voice within our local at these gatherings. So, VOTE for me David Peterson Special Effects Delegate to be your voice and represent our craft.

David Peterson

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CRAFT DELEGATE ALTERNATES

CONSTRUCTION COORDINATOR

**RANDY
CHILDS**



My name is Randy Childs and I am a Construction Coordinator running as Construction Coordinator Representative and Craft Alternate Delegate. I've been a member in Local 44 for over 35 years and your Alternate Representative for a little over 3 years.

I feel very fortunate to have served on the Executive Board as the Alternate Representative these last few years. Even better was to do it while learning from Andrew Moore and Karen Higgins.

I feel now is the perfect time for me to step up and represent you. I have had many wonderful mentors and teachers from Local 44 that have helped me over the years. It's time for me to give back and represent this wonderful and talented craft of Local 44 Construction Coordinators.

As a board member we need different opinions and ideas. Like I tell all my department heads, I want to hear what you have to say. I don't think everyone is always going to agree, but we must be able to discuss and figure it out. An open dialogue is critical in leadership and representation.

I truly hope you will consider me for the wonderful opportunity to serve you as Construction Coordinator Representative.

**ROBERT
KONOWALOW**



My name is Robert Konowalow. I am running for Construction Coordinator, Alternate Representative, and Alternate Delegate. I have been in Local 44 since 2012 and have recently served on the Election Committee. That experience has opened my eyes to a desire to serve our union further. When our representatives aren't available for board meetings, it is my goal to support my fellow coordinator representatives and bring your issues to light. I have been diligently working on the Google Group with our current representatives. Within this forum it is my goal to unite us as a group, to help us get the best deals we can on insurance, storage, and contracts. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

In solidarity,

Robert Konowalow

IATSE Local 44 Construction Coordinator

robert@konowalow.com

702-235-3746

PROPERTY

**DUSTIN
BLANKENSHIP**



Brother, Sisters, and Kin,

As a ten year member of our Local I have strived to see our union be more open communicative, and democratic for members. Our strength as a labor union derives from the solidarity of its membership.

While serving on your Property Steering Committee I have worked hard to foster more communication within our crafts. These efforts are helping members to stand together and secure better rental rates from the employers. This has shown me the power we have when our members unite on their own.

I earnestly believe in this collective power of our members. You can be the agents of change within our local. As a member of the executive board I will push to keep members more informed about the decisions made at the table and help allow you to implement effective reforms at our General Membership Meetings.

I humbly ask for your vote to represent your will on the executive board and empower you to make this Local a reflection of what you want it to accomplish. This is your local to mold and shape. This is your community to foster and grow.

In Solidarity Forever,

Dustin Blankenship

TURN PAGE FOR
PROPERTY DELEGATE ALTERNATES CONTINUED

CRAFT DELEGATE ALTERNATES

PROPERTY

**JANINE
CAVOTO**



As a member of Local 44 for 20+ years I have experienced many changes working in features, television and commercials. The last few years have been especially challenging with the Covid shutdown, strikes and now the general reduction of productions, especially here in LA. With an eye to the future I would like to help create a support system to help navigate these choppy waters. And with my varied experience in Set Decoration and Props I am qualified to represent our craft as a delegate.

As your Property Craft Delegate Alternate Representative I hope to observe and participate in the workings of Local 44 and the IATSE, and by advocating for our craft at the convention. I am up for that challenge.

**ERNESTO
CRUZ**



Thank you to the family of the local 44 for this privilege. As a member for over 12 years I have tried to make it to over 95% of the meetings and functions that have taken place even in these hard times. I still show up. I look at this as an opportunity to be even more involved! Thank you for your consideration. Ernesto Cruz property.

PROPERTY MASTER

**CHARLES "CHUCK"
MCSORLEY**



Over the last six years, I have been honored to represent Property Masters as the Property Master Alternate Representative. My experience in this role, combined with my 26 years of work as a Property Master in feature films, television, and commercials, has equipped me with the knowledge necessary to effectively represent our craft as the Alternate Delegate at larger-scale District and International IATSE conventions.

As your Alternate Delegate, I am prepared to step up when needed to advocate for our demands and concerns with the International Alliance. I am well aware of the challenges our craft faces and the provisions we need to thrive. I sincerely hope to earn your trust as your Delegate Alternate, just as you have trusted me to represent you at the board level.

CRAFT DELEGATE ALTERNATES

PROPERTY MASTER

**ANGELA
O'NEILL**



NO STATEMENT SUBMITTED

**CHRISTOPHER "SKEETER"
STANBACK**



Aloha, my name is Christopher "Skeeter" Stanback and I'm running for the Position of Property Master Delegate Alternate. I have been an active member of IATSE since 2007 when I started my career in Hawaii with local 665. I joined Local 44 in 2015 but have been a part of Multiple Unions including Local 600 and have worked in various crafts and locations across the United States and around the world. I am passionate about supporting each other in all our Crafts at local 44 as well as members of other unions in our entertainment industry, particularly by volunteering for union functions and advocating for union representation and better conditions. Please Vote for me and allow me the honor to represent IATSE Local 44 and our vast and diverse members and crafts as a Delegate Alternate in the Craft of Property Master.

In Solidarity, Mahalo.

Skeeter

**MITCH
THOMPSON**



Mitch Thompson has been working as a property master for 13 years and joined Local 44 in 2022. He is passionate about learning the stories of the trade, and is committed to preserving the decades of institutional knowledge and experience accumulated by seasoned craftspeople. At the same time, Mitch believes in ensuring that Local 44 nurtures the next generation of technicians and artists, so that our local continues to be known for its high standard of craftsmanship. This approach is the surest way to maintain a high standard of living for everyone, from our newest inductees to retired members who are living off the fruits of their decades of hard work. Mitch prides himself on maintaining a positive attitude both on and off set, his eagerness to learn from peers of every level of experience, and his love for mastering the tools of the trade.

TURN PAGE FOR
PROPERTY MASTER DELEGATE ALTERNATES CONTINUED

CRAFT DELEGATE ALTERNATES

PROPERTY MASTER

**MICHAEL
TRUDEL JR**



For the same reasons I would like the opportunity to represent my peers and craft as a property master within local 44, as a delegate I would be able to do the same on a national level. I know that by being a delegate and representing Property Masters and Local 44, one of the largest IATSE unions, I will have better opportunities to advocate more for Hollywood to an IA that is primarily east coast focused. It would also better help me push to form better relationships with other locals and help us get on the same page with future negotiation cycles.

PROPMAKER

**ROBERT "BOB"
BALOGH**



Hello brothers, sisters, and kin! For those who don't know me, I am a Chicago transplant who was a carpenter and contractor on the outside, until moving to Los Angeles 10 years ago to work in Hollywood. After 7 years of experience working with my union family, I feel that I have absorbed a broad range of perspectives. I also have several years experience working on various committees with multiple arts based non-profit organizations. I will be a strong voice for the concerns of all the rank and file members.

**MAGGIE
GOLL**



To my fellow Local 44 Prop Makers -

It is no secret that I have been actively organizing with rank-and-file IATSE members across the nation to increase member power in the IATSE decision-making process. Already in the last couple of years, my unofficial efforts have gotten the International leadership to pay attention and act to increase member participation. In your contracts and union governance, your voice as a union member should hold still greater weight - will you support efforts to make IATSE fight harder for you?

As your Prop Maker Craft Delegate Alternate to the District 2 and Quadrennial conventions, you can empower me to spearhead resolutions and constitutional changes that benefit you AND strengthen our union. No more just showing up and pledging support with no full-through. It's time to make IATSE put words to action and work towards legislation, working conditions, and common sense policies that improve your life.

As a proud member of this incredible creative industry and the IATSE union, I pledge to always fight, full send, alongside you. Join me in making the Prop Maker voice heard throughout our union with your vote!

In Solidarity,

Maggie Anne Goll
maggieannegoll@gmail.com

CRAFT DELEGATE ALTERNATES

SET DECORATOR

BETH
WOOKE



NO STATEMENT SUBMITTED

SPECIAL EFFECTS

TIMOTHY B.
GRAHAM (INC.)



It has been my privilege and pleasure to represent you on the executive board for the last 17 years. I have been, and will continue to be, an outspoken advocate for fiscal responsibility. ***At a time when our industry members are facing unprecedented challenges, I will continue to ask the hard questions and promote democracy, transparency, and responsiveness for our members.***

My years of service allow me understand where we came from, how we got here, and how we can improve our Local for the current and future members. Taking the position seriously, I attend the meetings, having done my homework, prepared to intelligently & thoroughly discuss the issues at hand. I humbly ask for your vote.

Your vote and participation matters. Our union only remains strong if each and every member participates. Join me and reach out to your brothers, sisters, and kin and encourage them to do the same.

Thank you.

In solidarity,

Timothy B. Graham

ALEX
HILL



I've worked all over the world doing special effects and I appreciate the need to forge strong relationships. If you choose me to be your delegate alternate, I look forward to representing you while building those types of relationships in our IATSE union and finding support for initiatives that truly help local 44 members. Thank you for your consideration.

STOP! THIS IS THE END
OF THE VOTER GUIDE.





IATSE Local 44
12021 Riverside Drive
North Hollywood, CA 91607

PLACE
POSTAGE
HERE

IATSE LOCAL 44 GENERAL ELECTION

BALLOTS COUNTED MARCH 31, 2025

★ ***VOTER INFORMATION GUIDE*** ★

www.local44.org

DO NOT VOTE IN THIS BOOKLET
Official ballots will be sent to you separately
in the mail. Return the ballots using only the
included self-addressed stamped envelope.

Remember to Vote!
Ballots must be returned to the Local 44
Election Committee Post Office Box no later
than 9:00AM on March 31, 2025.

This Voter Information Guide was prepared by the Local 44 Election Committee and Newsreel Team
and mailed to all voting-eligible members using the most current address on file.