

Clayton Sandell

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Accomplished Emmy-winning television storyteller, contributing writer for Industrial Light & Magic and Skywalker Sound, and co-author of multiple Disney-Lucasfilm *Star Wars* publishing projects. I offer a robust set of communication strategies and social media skills, media and talent relations expertise, and content creation. As a former 20-year cast member at Disney/ABC Television, I also bring a deep understanding of diverse content segments and an enthusiastic appreciation of Lucasfilm and Disney company culture.

KEY SKILLS

Creative Storytelling and Writing
Building Source Relationships
Organized for Deadlines

Media and Press Relations
On-camera Host/Presenter
Research and Critical Thinking

Translating Complex Topics
Recognizing Trends and Strategy
Panel Moderator

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

National TV Correspondent

Scripps News Jul 2021 - Present

- Pitch, produce, and write television feature and breaking news stories for a national news network.
- Create popular vertical videos for online social media platforms.
- Help translate complex information into relatable stories.
- Build and cultivate a wide variety of sources, often resulting in exclusive story content.
- Produce social media “takeovers” of Scripps News accounts for in-depth reporting on specialty stories.
- Scriptwriting coach and mentor to junior colleagues, helping improve on-camera presence and delivery.
- Official *Star Wars* correspondent for Scripps News.

Co-Author, *Star Wars* Book Projects

Insight Editions Jan 2023 - Oct 2024

- Synthesized research from dozens of sources and original interviews to create new material for two visual archive projects covering films celebrating milestone anniversaries: *Star Wars: Episode I The Phantom Menace* and *Star Wars: Episode VI Return of the Jedi*.
- Closely collaborated with Insight and Lucasfilm editors to ensure adherence to the *Star Wars* IP vision.
- Chosen to craft comprehensive introductions and epilogues.

Co-Author, *Star Wars* Timelines

DK Publishing Sep 2021 - May 2023

- Assembled an in-universe timeline of fictional *Star Wars* events for a 27-spread book chapter.
- Intensive research encompassing hundreds of film, television, book, comic, and video game sources.
- Collaborated with Lucasfilm Story Group and DK editors to ensure accuracy and fidelity to established *Star Wars* lore.

National Correspondent

ABC News Aug 2009 - Feb 2021

- Lead a team of producers, photographers and editors creating stories for top-rated broadcasts.
- Pitched and filed video and text stories for digital and social platforms.
- Reported from dozens of countries for hard news and feature stories.
- Known as ABC's "Star Wars Historian", regularly appearing as a guest on top-rated podcasts.

Producer**ABC News** Sep 2000 - Aug 2009

- Organized and deployed production crews, scheduled interviews, and coordinated graphics and editing for a wide range of stories airing on a nightly national news broadcast.
 - Traveled around the world covering climate change stories for all ABC News platforms.
 - Filed stories for ABC News Radio and affiliate TV stations.
 - Produced *Sam Donaldson: Live in America* daily live radio program and webcast.
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ADDITIONAL PROJECTS**Writer, Industrial Light & Magic / Skywalker Sound Editorial Team** August 2024 - present

- Pitch and write feature stories on current and past ILM and SkySound projects and people.

ILM Panel Host, Star Wars Celebration Europe Apr 2023

- Hosted a panel featuring Lucasfilm Senior Vice President and Executive Design Director Doug Chiang.
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AWARDS**Edward R. Murrow Award - Overall Excellence, ABC News**

2014, 2015, 2016, 2019, 2020

National Emmy Award - Outstanding Coverage of a Current News Story, ABC News2009

EDUCATION**University of California, Riverside**Bachelor of Arts, Major in Political Science
