

OZZIE ALFONSO
oz@ozziealfonso.com

EDUCATION:

Bachelor of Arts in Theater and Speech Pathology, **Fordham University**
-Air personality at **WFUV-FM**; Vice-president of theater society
-Glasgow Memorial Award for Excellence in Theater Production
Master of Arts in Broadcasting and Theater, **City University of New York- Brooklyn College**

WORK EXPERIENCE:

OZZIE ALFONSO MEDIA—Producer, Writer, Director, and Media Consultant for selected projects. (present)

Adjunct Associate Professor at St. John’s University where I teach Television Production and Writing for TV and Film. (2005 – present)

Adjunct Professor at NYU’s Tisch School for the Arts. (2004-2005)

TERRA MULTIMEDIA LLC – Owner; Director/Writer/Media Consultant (2008- 2010)

President/Executive Producer of Terra Associates, Inc. (1990-2008)—TERRA ASSOCIATES specialized in educational program development for broadcast, the web, and for classroom use. Our clients included: Scholastic, Prentice-Hall, McGraw-Hill, Macmillan, Harcourt, McDougal-Littel, Houghton Mifflin, Pearson/Longman. TERRA co-produced with Harvard University a pilot for a broadcast science series tailored for 8 to 12 year olds titled “Technical Difficulties.” For corporate clients we developed and produced live-action and animated projects on dental hygiene for the Colgate/Palmolive Company; and a video for young teens on the challenges of engineering sponsored by IBM. At TERRA I conceived and produced “SNOOPS”- an interactive direct satellite-to-classroom series for Hughes Communications’ Galaxy Classroom. For Pearson/Longman, we developed, produced and directed “LEO” (Longman English Online)—a soap-opera styled WEB series aimed at teaching English as a foreign language to a world-wide audience. This series was produced in US as well as UK accentuated English with different casts. We were also active in CD-ROM and DVD development. Among TERRA’s multi-media clients were Sunburst, Scholastic, and Simon & Shuster. For Scholastic, we have been the sole developer and producer of the top selling “Read 180”—a DVD based reading intervention series, and the phonics series, “System 44”. Our recent broadcast productions include the “Annual Hispanic Heritage Awards”, aired on NBC from the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C.

PAST EXPERIENCE: (partial list)

3-2-1 CONTACT—Senior Producer, Writer, and the Director of this award-winning science and technology series for eight years. My work took me to Malaysia, Japan, Greece, Borneo, Costa Rica, England, and France. For the last three seasons I was the series principal writer. My work as Director and Writer has been acknowledged by Emmy awards and nominations. "3-2-1 CONTACT" was nominated several times as "Outstanding Children's Series" and was selected as one of the top ten shows of the 80s by "People" magazine.

AMIGOS—Writer of this instructional television series produced by the University of Tennessee, funded by CPB, and aired over PBS. “AMIGOS” teaches Spanish as a second language to a target audience of school children in grades K through 2.

SESAME STREET—During the 1970s I was one of the Directors of this series, both on location and in the studio. Many of the Muppet segments I directed and several short films I produced are still being aired as part of the series.

OTHER CREDITS:

DIRECTOR (selected works)

WHAT KIDS WANT TO KNOW ABOUT SEX & GROWING UP—Director of this 60 minute video for air as well as on DVD for home and school audiences.

THE ROTTEN TRUTH—Director of this PBS prime time special on the garbage problem (1990). Still a best-selling home video.

SHALOM SESAME—Director of comedy segments featuring Joan Rivers, Itzhak Perlman, Alan King, David Brenner, and others of this home video series.

YOU CAN'T GROW HOME AGAIN—Director and field producer of this one hour PBS special on the vanishing rain forests.

SESAME STREET IN PUERTO RICO—Directed this Emmy-nominated PBS primetime special shot entirely on location in Puerto Rico (1979).

THE GAME AND ITS GLORY—Directed Donald Sutherland in this primetime NBC Special about the history of baseball. Winner of a Primetime Emmy as Outstanding Sports Special (1982).

BIG BIRD IN CHINA—Second Unit Director & Associate Director of this ninety minute special for NBC, shot in China. Winner of a Primetime Emmy for Outstanding Children's Program (1983).

NICKELODEON – Produced, wrote, and directed a series of shorts for this cable channel.

CARRASCOLENDAS—Associate Producer and Director of this bilingual PBS series for children (1974). Shot in Austin, Texas.

SCRIPT CONSULTANT/CREATIVE ADVISOR:

THE BASEBALL BUNCH – Developed the original scripts for this weekly half-hour syndicated series for teens, produced by Major League Baseball Productions. Aired for several seasons on CBS.

EDITOR:

SESAME STREET—Post Production Supervisor. Was responsible for the technical quality and pace of this show from 1971 to 1980.

CHRISTMAS EVE ON SESAME STREET—Associate Director/Editor of this Emmy award-winning PBS special, directed by Jon Stone.

INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE

U.S. State Department (USIA) and Member of the Indo-U.S. Sub-commission on Education and Culture. For the USIA I was sent to Lima, Peru, to lecture producers and directors on the techniques of film and television production. For the Indo-U.S. Sub-commission I was participant in a number of workshops aimed at teaching the techniques of science television writing and production to Indian producers and directors.

I have field produced, directed, and written in locations such as: Borneo, Malaysia, Australia, Japan, France, Greece, Deep Sea off Bermuda (underwater archeology), England, Spain, Beirut, India, Luxemburg, China, Mauna Loa-Hawaii, Mexico, Costa Rica, Machu Picchu-Peru, Puerto Rico, and others.

AWARDS

- 1977 Emmy Award—Post Production Supervisor—SESAME STREET
- 1978 Emmy Award—Associate Director/Editor—CHRISTMAS EVE ON SESAME STREET
- 1979 Emmy Award—Participating Director, SESAME STREET
Emmy Nomination—“Outstanding Individual Achievement, Children's Programs”—Director, *SESAME STREET IN PUERTO RICO. (Nighttime Emmys)*
- 1985 Action for Children's Television Award—3-2-1 CONTACT: *Space Tuesday*.
Parents' Choice Award—3-2-1 CONTACT
National Commission on Working Woman - Women at Work Award
National Society for Professional Engineers' Award
Emmy Nomination—"Outstanding Children's Series"- 3-2-1 CONTACT
- 1986 Monitor Award—3-2-1 CONTACT
Ohio State Award
National Educational Film & Video Festival Award
The National Society for Professional Engineers' Award
Guidance Associates Association of Visual Communicators
Cindy Award for "*Space: What's It Like Out There?*"
Emmy Nomination—"Outstanding Children's Series" - 3-2-1 CONTACT
Emmy Nomination—"Writing in a Children's Series"
- 1987 Parents' Choice Award - Special Critics Honor
National Educational Film & Video Festival Award
Ohio State Award
Emmy Award—"Best Cinematography"- 3-2-1 CONTACT
Emmy Award—"Best Film Editing" - 3-2-1 CONTACT
- 1988 Ohio State Award
National Educational Film & Video Award: Golden Apple Award—Life Sciences:"*Japan: Precious Oysters, Rare Salamanders*".
Emmy Nomination—"Writing in a Children's Series"
Emmy Nomination—"Directing in a Children's Series"
- 1989 Ohio State Award
Chicago Film Festival—Certificate of Merit for "*Boy Under the Ice*" (PBS special).
Peabody Award—"I Have AIDS: A Teenager's Story" (PBS special)
Emmy Award—"Outstanding Directing in a Children's Series"- 3-2-1 CONTACT
Emmy Award—"Outstanding Cinematography in a Children's Series"- 3-2-1 CONTACT
- 1990 Gabriel Award—"The Rotten Truth" (PBS special)
- 1991 New York International Television and Film Festival Award - "*The Rotten Truth*"
Ohio State Award—"You Can't Grow Home Again"(PBS special)
The Japan Prize—"The Rotten Truth"—The Minister of Education Prize for Outstanding Excellence
- 1992 Center for Population Options – Nancy Susan Reynolds Award – "*What Kids Want to Know About Sex and Growing Up*" (PBS Special) – Ozzie Alfonso - Director
- 1995 New York International Television and Film Award – "*Dr. Rabbit's Incredible Ride*"—Animation—
Writer/Director –TERRA ASSOCIATES for Colgate/Palmolive

Memberships:

- Directors Guild of America
- Writers Guild of America
- Academy of Television Arts and Sciences
- Peer Panel Reviewer for the NSF and NIH

Skills:

Fluent in English and Spanish
PADY Open Water Diver Certified
Private Pilot – IFR Certified – Co-own a single engine plane

[\[References and videos furnished upon request\]](#)