

# Michael W. Zhang

+1 (657) 655 0511 • michzhang@chapman.edu • Los Angeles, CA  
[michaelwzhang.com](http://michaelwzhang.com) • [linkedin.com/in/michaelwzhang/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/michaelwzhang/)

## Education

Chapman University, Dodge College of Film and Media Arts, Orange, CA (Aug 2021- May 2025)

- Bachelor of Fine Arts, Film Production: Directing — GPA: 3.5 (Provost List)

Shanghai American School High School - Puxi Campus (Class of 2021)

## Professional Industry Experience

SING! CHINA (Season 8) — Director Intern, Huzhou, China (May 2023 — Present)

- Coordinated and led the production of 10+ brand advertisements and stage blocking over 50+ show contestants with clientele ensuring timely delivery of product and adherence to budget and commercial guidelines.
- Collaborated with a team of 15 directors to lead a 200+ crew team through shooting plans for each episode, resulting in seamless execution and a 20% increase in overall viewer engagement from previous seasons of the show.
- Accomplished implementing innovative strategies for directing contestants during filming, resulting in improved on-screen performances and a 25% increase in show ratings.

PandaPals Video Studio — Production Intern, Shanghai, China (May 2020 — May 2022)

- Created and directed short narrative, documentary, and commercial-style films for six high-profile clients with a budget of over \$300K, resulting in increased customer satisfaction by 40%.
- Optimized production budgets and timelines, resulting in a 27% allocation reduction while maintaining quality standards.
- Facilitated and documented organized discussions between 10+ team members on developing a unified vision for each project, identified potential risk areas, and provided feedback to executives to adjust plans accordingly.

Social Media Content Production - Shanghai American School Activities Council, Shanghai, China (Aug 2018 - Apr 2021)

- Crafted engaging video and poster content for 30+ institutional social media accounts, increasing view count by 250%.
- Scaled and revamped outdated posting schedules, school news, and athlete highlights to a consistent modern visual branding across channels to unite messaging and maximize engagement, resulting in over a 20% conversion boost.
- Orchestrated the design and implementation of social media content production strategy to increase community presence, garnering over 1,000 impressions a week @saspxactivities on Instagram.
- Managed employee training for 15+ new hires, over a period of 12 months offering continuous guidance and mentorship on best practices while providing constructive feedback.

## Film Production Experience

Rap Nation - Game Over - Faze Clan — "The Lab" Season 2 (Apr - May 2022) - Key Grip

- Designed and executed complex setup of light rigging & equipment deployment, facilitating shooting time within specified budget and timeframe while meticulously managed and coordinated up to 15 crew members throughout installation period.
- Optimized the placement of grip equipment for 9 large-scale episodes of The Lab, enabling seamless capture of unique visuals for the entertaining interview published on social media garnering over a combined 1,350,000 audience views.

Chapman Senior Thesis Film — "The Salesman" (Oct - Dec 2021) - 1st Assistant Director

- Supervised scheduling & budgetary planning of 60+ pre-production tasks, resulting in a \$10K reduction in budget & 3 week timeline optimization and successfully coordinated 20 crew members to adhere to project schedule & budget.
- Spearheaded team of 20+ cast & crew members in order for filming to finish 4 hours ahead of schedule, leading to estimated cost savings of over \$5K.

## Hard Skills - Technical

- **Microsoft Office Tools/Google Products:** Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, OneNote, Google Suite
- **Video Pre-production:** Final Draft, Movie Magic Scheduling, Movie Magic Budgeting, Shot Designer
- **Video Post-Production:** Adobe Premiere, Adobe After Effects, Final Cut Pro, DaVinci Resolve, ProTools, Avid Media Composer
- **Photo Editing, Graphic and Product Design:** Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Lightroom, Adobe Illustrator, Unreal Engine
- **Website Building and Design:** Wix, Squarespace, Shopify, Canva, Figma
- **Social Media Management and Content Creation:** Youtube, Instagram, TikTok, Facebook, Twitch, Twitter, LinkedIn
- **Languages:** English (native), Chinese (native), Spanish (working proficiency)

## Interests

Rugby, Basketball, Chess, Street Photography, Body Building, Cooking, Meditation, and Driving Down to Laguna Beach!