

# NORTHROP DAVIS

Professor, University of South Carolina School of Visual Arts and Design/Media Arts  
1615 Senate Street, Columbia, SC 29208 [DavisNF@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:DavisNF@mailbox.sc.edu)

Bio: [CLICK HERE](#)

Reference to teaching and research quality on Media Arts 's webpage: [CLICK HERE](#)

Site for his students' manga and career success/Davis's research news: [CLICK HERE](#)

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## EDUCATION

MFA California Institute of the Arts (Major: Live Action Film)

BA Duke University (Major: History; Minor: English)

## UNIVERSITY TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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- Professor, School of Visual Art and Design, University of South Carolina (2019-present)
  - Associate Professor, School of Visual Art and Design, University of South Carolina (2014-2019)
  - Assistant Professor, Department of Art, University of South Carolina (2008-2014)
  - Adjunct Professor, University of California, Irvine (2006-2008)
  - Guest speaker at Duke University, California Institute of the Arts, University of California, Los Angeles, and the University of Southern California (prior to 2006)

## HONORS, AWARDS, AND GRANTS

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### Major Awards:

Michael J. Mungo Distinguished Professor of the Year Award (2023)

- "The University of South Carolina's most prestigious award presented annually to an outstanding teacher of undergraduate studies. "(quote from website) Award amount: \$30,000

Breakthrough Star Award (2015)

- Awarded by the Office of the Vice President of Research "to faculty from a wide variety of disciplines, who show phenomenal commitment to their fields through research and scholarly activity." (quote from award letter)

Michael J. Mungo Undergraduate Teaching Award (2012)

- Annual undergraduate teaching award, given to tenured/t-t faculty at USC. Award amount: \$2,500

### Additional Awards:

- "Career Influencer Award" for mentoring/career advice to students by USC Career Center (2024)

### Titles of Academic Distinction and Honors:

- Invited to speak to the USC New Student Convocation by the office of the provost (2023)
- Invited to walk with the Mace Party by the Trustees Office/President Pastides at commencement (2019)
- Invited by Dean Mary Anne Fitzpatrick to speak at USC Freshman Convocation (2013)
- Selected Scholar of the Month by the USC Office of the Vice President of Research "to recognize our outstanding scholars from across USC." (2010)

### Grants:

College of Arts and Sciences Dean's Grant \$10,000 (2021)

- To fund artists for vol. 3 *The Hole* manga project, written by and creative director N. Davis (sole P.I.).

USC Provost's Creative and Performing Arts Grant, \$18,200 (2017)

- To fund artists for vol. 2 *The Hole: Space Airport* of the manga production project, written by, and creative director Northrop Davis (sole P.I.).

Hoso Bunka Foundation Award, \$4,000 (2015-2017)

- Funded by Japanese public TV broadcast network NHK for research on American anime localization.
- Co-P.I. with Associate Professor Mariko Koizumi of Kyoto Seika University.

USC publication grant for image licenses, etc. approx. \$14,000 (2015)

USC Provost's Creative and Performing Arts Grant, \$14,400 (2012)

- To fund artists for vol.1 of *The Hole* manga production project, written, and artists supervised by (creative director/writer credits) by Northrop Davis (sole P.I.).

Write Brothers, Inc. Software Grant, \$10,945 (2012)

- Software to be utilized by USC SVAD students/faculty (Northrop Davis, sole P.I.).

Write Brothers, Inc. Software Grant, \$28,490 (2010)

- Software to be utilized by USC SVAD students/faculty (Northrop Davis, sole P.I.).

Final Draft Corporation Software Grant, \$8,000 (2009)

- Software to be utilized by USC SVAD students/faculty (Northrop Davis, sole P.I.).

**Total grant money awarded: \$108,035**

## SELECT RESEARCH/SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS

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### **Peer-Reviewed Book (all publications are sole authored):**

*Manga and Anime Go to Hollywood: The Amazing Rapidly Evolving Relationship between Hollywood and Japanese Animation, Manga, Television and Film.* New York: Bloomsbury Academic, 2016. 440 pages, in over 1200 libraries globally on all continents: Sold-out globally in its print and e book versions.

**Most recent scholarly article:** "[Hayao Miyazaki's 'Spirited Away' continues to delight fans and inspire animators 20 years after its US premiere](#)" *The Conversation*.(September 16, 2022)

16,000+ reads globally as of June 19, 2023. Reprinted in *Fast Company*, *Salon* and others.

### **Peer Reviewed Scholarly Papers:**

"Peak TV and Anime: Why It Matters." *International Journal of Comic Art* 19.2 (print version-- March, 2018): 311-341. [12,483 words]

"Legendary Hollywood designer Syd Mead's Important Contributions to Landmark Anime." *International Journal of Comic Art* 20.2 (print version-- 20th Anniversary Issue, March 2019): 536-541.

### **SOME ARTICLES PUBLISHED IN PRINT DURING MANGA AND ANIME GO TO HOLLYWOOD'S RESEARCH PERIOD:**

"Wind from the East, part 2." *Script* (October 2011): 26-31.

"Wind from the East: The growing influence of Japanese manga/anime in Hollywood." *Script* (August 2010): 26-29.

"Coming soon? On bringing anime and manga to Hollywood." *Otaku USA* (August 2010): 106.

**Online Article:** "Pitching a screenplay by a pro." *Act Four Screenplays* (blog). (May 2010)

### **Peer-Reviewed Book Review (by editor's invitation, an Oxford Academic publication):**

*Anime Boom in the United States: Lessons for Global Creative Industries* by Michal Daliot-Bul and Nissim Otmazgin(Harvard University Press, 2017) in *Social Science of Japan Journal* 22.1

### **Manga series review:**

*Barefoot Gen* by Keiji Nakazawa, titled “War...what is it good for? In the aftermath of the U.S. bombing of Hiroshima, young Gen remains optimistic.” *Otaku USA* (December 2011): 106.

### **CREATIVE PRODUCTION INCLUDES**

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#### **As Hollywood screenwriter(sales of his work to major movie studios)**

- *Alien Safari* feature screenplay project purchased by 20<sup>th</sup> Century Fox from Davis based on his orally pitched story and written treatment/story. Davis was then hired as sole screenwriter of the feature screenplay. *Alien Safari* is now owned by Walt Disney Pictures.
- *Cyber Ship* screenplay, purchased by Warner Brothers Studios (\$225,000 paid to him already, against \$450,000 upon production). Subsequent employment of Davis as screenwriter. Producers: **Donners** ("Superman", "Lethal Weapon" & "X Men" series, "Constantine")
- *Madlands* feature screenplay project, purchased by Sony/Columbia studios from Davis from his orally pitched story. Davis was then hired as sole writer of the outline, treatment, and feature screenplay. Producer: **Robert Stigwood** of RSO (whose credits include classics such as "Saturday Night Fever", "Grease", "Gallipoli", "Tommy", "Jesus Christ Superstar", and "Evita").

#### **As manga writer (story/premise/script) and artists' director ("created by"/"creative director" credits):**

- *The Hole* Volume 1 (completed) 120 pages + extras, 2024
- *The Hole* Volume 2 (complete) 180 pages + extras, 2024
- *The Hole* Volume 3 estimated 84 pages + extras (in production), 2025

The first two volumes are being held back so as to be published one after another closer to when volume 3 is published, so as to not leave a long gap between the volumes for the readership.

*The Hole* Volumes 1 and 2 were selected for the Viz Originals (Viz is the top North American manga publisher) portfolio review at Anime Expo on July 2, 2023 and were critiqued by legendary Shonen Jump editor-in-chief **Hisashi Sasaki**, who was the editor of the *Rurouni Kenshin* manga.

#### **Aswriter/director/producer:**

KCRW National Public Radio 35 mm film and TV commercials: "No Speed Limit to the Mind" and "At the Crossroads of your Mind" Voiced by **Harry Shearer** of "The Simpsons").

#### **Wemakemanga and The Hole websites**

- Founder, director, and faculty advisor of WEMAKEMANGA.COM. For production of creative and scholarly work by his students and Davis, the site ties together Davis's teaching and research. The site, currently being rebuilt/expanded, displays [hundreds of pages of student manga created in Davis's manga classes](#) and [presents summaries of his and his students research and their career achievements](#). The *Wemakemanga* site has attracted worldwide press and invitations for Davis to present in China and Japan. The international reputation of Davis's manga teaching and research was demonstrated when Osaka Arts University (OAU) sent their professor Nobukio Hosada to USC/SVAD to observe Davis's classes in 2013 (accompanied by an executive from Sunrise, the most successful anime studio in the world --Nobuo Masuda) to Columbia to observe Davis's manga class, Wemakemanga Club, and to discuss collaborations. This was reciprocated when Davis was invited to

OAU and Kyoto Seika University to present his research and study their teaching methods in 2015. In fall 2015, Davis started a collaboration with the USC theatre (Prof. Tobolski) and music departments (Francis) faculty and three MART/Computer Science double-major students to, along with theater majors, record voice-acting performances for some manga on the site. This has evolved to also include table reads with student actors for screenplays and T.V. pilots written in his classes to make them readier for production and sale, and for his manga *The Hole*. This flourishing cross-departmental collaboration continues to the present. He is designing a research website for "The Hole" manga and submitting grant applications.

- **TEACHING** 1800+ students taught at USC -- Advanced Screen writing (MART 521A, B), TV Writing (521D), Art and Business of Manga and Anime (521C) and Media Writing (321).

- **SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED LECTURES WHILE EMPLOYED AT USC (60 total)**

**Invited International Presentations (in all these presentations below, travel, lodging and per. diem costs were funded entirely or partially by the inviting institution/event, etc.):**

- “[Japan Pop Goes Global: Japanese Pop Culture on Aesthetics and Creativity.](#)” **Keynote Speaker** and Book Talk at symposium. Aoyama Gakuin University, Tokyo, Japan. Airfare/10 days lodging/per.diem paid by inviting professor’s grant, which also paid for Davis’s research there on anime/manga and led to his resulting paper’s publication in the *International Journal of Comic Art*. (2017)
- Received an invitation from Prof. Mariko Koizumi to present his research at [Kyoto Seika University, in Kyoto, Japan-- the top manga university in the world](#). Invited to speak about his book, and also observed their classes and teaching methods; and this appearance led to discussions of future collaboration and sharing of students between USC and their university. Kyoto Seika University, Kyoto, Japan. Honorarium paid by Kyoto Seika University. (2015)
- Invited to present his book’s research at Osaka Arts University, another top manga/anime university in Japan, and alma mater of Masamune Shirow the manga creator of "Ghost in the Shell"-- in the Character Creative Arts Department in Osaka. Observed classes and teaching methods and attended a lecture by top mangaka Kazuo Koike (*Lone Wolf and Cub*). (2015) Professor Hosoda, of OAU, visited Davis's classes and Wemakemanga student club at USC.
- “The history of manga and anime, their key traits that must be understood to create them and original English language manga story-telling and production techniques at Professor Davis’s Department of Art, University of South Carolina manga class and [wemakemanga.com](#) website.” Gave four paper presentations and one week of lectures at the Department of Art and Design, College of Art, North China University of Technology (NCUT), Beijing, China. All trip expenses plus honorarium paid by NCUT. (2011)
- “Chinese artistic and cultural influences on American animation, movies and television and the future of Chinese comics, animation, live action movies and TV and how they can be improved by studying and comparing anime/manga to the American forms.” Keynote presentation at the Beijing Language and Culture University (BLCU), Beijing, China. Honorarium paid by BLCU. (2011)

**RECENT INTERNATIONAL PAPER PRESENTATIONS:**

- "Manga and Anime’s Global Adaptations-How to Make them Well." PEER REVIEWED/JURIED JURIED AND ACCEPTED on 1/17/2022 for the 14th Screenwriting Research Network's annual academic conference-University of Vienna. Vienna, Austria. September 24, 2022. **PROGRAM**
- "[Successfully teaching students skills to enter the Hollywood screenwriting and tv writing industries.](#)" Invited paper presentation. HSS Seminar Series. Liverpool University-Suzhou, China May 17, 2021 (virtual, with honorarium)

- Co-chair of panel. Screenwriting Research Network Annual Conference (2021, virtual)

#### **Other International Conferences attended:**

- "Illustration & Adaptation." Université de Bourgogne- Dijon, France. (2019)
- "12th Screenwriting Research Network (SRN) International Conference: Fractured Narratives." Universidade Católica Portuguesa- Porto, Portugal. (2019)

#### **Invited National Presentations (where trip was funded by inviting institution/event):**

- "*Manga and Anime Go to Hollywood* book/research talk." Special Guest Speaker. S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications. Syracuse University. Airfare/lodging and all expenses paid by Newhouse. (2018)
- "Anime and Manga come to Hollywood—and what happens Next." Special Guest Speaker, Anime Expo. Anime and Manga Studies Symposium. Presented the scholarship of his book and current research to approximately 300 people. (Davis's lodging costs in L.A. funded by the Society for the Promotion of Japanese Animation.) Los Angeles, CA. (2016) This was Davis's ninth invitation to speak at **AX attendance 100,000**.

#### **Most recent invited national book talk/research presentations (virtual):**

- Sony Pictures Entertainment, Fireside Chat, talk about his academic research on manga and anime to The Anime Fan Collective, a diversity Sony employee educational group (June 15, 2023)
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology, to an anime class that uses "Manga and Anime Go to Hollywood" as their textbook (December 13, 2022).
- Nanyang Technological University, Singapore (March, 28, 2023)[compensated/honorarium]

#### **Invited National Paper Presentations (Juried):**

- "Accidental Diversity: Part of Manga and Anime's Appeal to Non-Japanese Cultures" University Film and Video Association annual conference, virtual, PEER REVIEWED AND ACCEPTED. (2021)
- "'The Hole': Manga Hybridity--A Creatively Satisfying, Academically Funded Storytelling Project." University Film and Video Association annual conference, Augsburg University, Minneapolis, MN. PEER REVIEWED AND ACCEPTED. (2019)
- "Peak TV and Anime: Why It Matters." University Film and Video Association annual conference, Cal State L.A., Los Angeles, CA. PEER REVIEWED AND ACCEPTED. (2017)
- "How I taught Over 1,100 Writing Students in 7.5 Years with Excellence and Still Received Tenure at R-1 University." University Film and Video Association annual conference, Cal State L.A., Los Angeles, CA. PEER REVIEWED/ACCEPTED. (2017)
- "Super Limited Anime." University Film and Video Association annual conference, Las Vegas, NV. PEER REVIEWED/ACCEPTED. (2016)
- "Character Development Methods of Long-Running Japanese Anime Television Series." University Film and Video Association annual conference, Washington, D.C. PEER REVIEWED/ACCEPTED. (2015)
- "Hybridity and Transmedia Storytelling Methods between Japan and America." University Film and Video Association annual conference, Orange, CA. PEER REVIEWED/ACCEPTED. (2013)
- "Creating Fully Realized Characters." University Film and Video Association annual conference, Orange, CA. PEER REVIEWED/ACCEPTED. (2013)

## Invited National Presentations (Non-Juried):

- “Manga and Anime Go to Hollywood book talk.” Special Guest Speaker. Presented the scholarship in his book to prominent Anime/manga scholars and professors including Helen McCarthy, who issued the invitation. Fans Conference and Academic Symposium. Dallas, TX. (2016)
- "Manga and Anime Go to Hollywood book talk." Anime Expo (Society for the Promotion of Japanese Animation). Anime and Manga Studies Symposium, Los Angeles, CA.(2015)“Hollywood Turns to Anime: What Was and What’s to Come.” Anime Expo (Society for the Promotion of Japanese Animation). Anime and Manga Studies Symposium, Los Angeles, CA. (2014)
- “The Best of Wemakemanga.” Anime Expo (Society for the Promotion of Japanese Animation). Anime and Manga Studies Symposium, Los Angeles, CA. (2013)
- “Research theories and creative production derived from the development of the manga/student website: wemakemanga.com.” Anime Expo (Society for the Promotion of Japanese Animation). Anime and Manga Studies Symposium. (2012)
- “Wind from the East.” Anime Expo (Society for the Promotion of Japanese Animation). Anime and Manga Studies Symposium. (2012)
- “Manga and anime in academia and Hollywood: development of the manga/student website, wemakemanga.com.” Anime Expo (Society for the Promotion of Japanese Animation). Anime and Manga Studies Symposium, Los Angeles, CA. (2011)
- “Adapting Anime.” Writers Guild of America, West (Education Committee). Additional roles: keynote presenter, moderator, and chair. Los Angeles, CA. (2010)
- “Japanese Manga, Anime and TV Remakes Meet Hollywood—How can you the writer benefit?” Screenwriting Expo. Los Angeles, CA. (2010)
- “Creating Manga in Universities.” Anime Expo (Society for the Promotion of Japanese Animation). Los Angeles, CA. (2010)
- *Manga and Anime Come to Hollywood.* Anime Expo (Society for the Promotion of Japanese Animation). Los Angeles, CA. (2010)
- “The Future of Original English Language Manga (OEL).” Anime Expo (Society for the Promotion of Japanese Animation). Los Angeles, CA. (2009)
- “Influences of America and the west upon Yoshitaka Amano and influences from Japan upon Northrop Davis” at grand opening of [the J-pop Cultural Center and Museum in Japantown](#) on [festival keynote panel along with anime artist Yoshitaka Amano](#) (*Final Fantasy, Vampire Hunter D*). San Francisco, CA. (2009)
- “Can Manga Be Created in the USA and Become Commercially Successful?” Anime Expo (Society for the Promotion of Japanese Animation). Los Angeles, CA. (2009)
- “Manga in Academia.” Anime Expo (Society for the Promotion of Japanese Animation). Los Angeles, CA. (2009)

## Other National Paper Presentations:

- "[Can universities be incubators for manga production? A case study of a new manga funded by the University of South Carolina.](#)" Anime Expo. Los Angeles, CA (July 4, 2024)
- "[The Hole: A Space Family Adventure](#)" Anime Expo. Los Angeles, CA (July 6, 2024)
- "Differences between Manga & American Comics (insights into the history, cultural and artistic influences, storytelling techniques, and visual styles of both mediums)." Anime Expo (Society for the Promotion of Japanese Animation). Los Angeles, CA. (2023)
- "Manga/Anime and Hollywood—An Intense Interaction From The Birth Of The Japanese Forms." University Film and Video Association annual conference, Chicago, IL. (2012)
- “Wind From The East.” University Film and Video Association annual conference, Chicago, IL. (2012)
- “Hollywood Studios Travel Abroad to Invest in Local Production (including anime).” University Film and Video Association annual conference, Boston, MA. (2011)

- “Japanese Anime and Manga's Influences on Modern Characters of Western Narratives.” University Film and Video Association annual conference, Burlington, VT. (2010)
- “We Make Manga.” University Film and Video Association annual conference, Burlington, VT. (2010)
- “Manga and Anime—Japan Dreaming: Imagination on the Edge Meets Commercial and Artistic Success.” University Film and Video Association annual conference, New Orleans, LA. (2009)
- “How to Develop Great Characters (including by using anime/manga techniques).” University Film and Video Association annual conference, New Orleans, LA. (2009)
- “Incorporating the Business of Screenwriting into the Classroom.” University Film and Video Association annual conference, New Orleans, LA. (2009)

### **Invited National Guest Lectures and Caucuses:**

- Entertainment Industry Caucus. At multiple UFVA annual conferences between 2010-2017.
- “TV and manga writing, serialization similarities.” Point Park University. Guest lecture (via conference call), Pittsburgh, PA. Compensated. (2012)
- “Manga/writing, story creation methods, how they inter-connect and serialization.” Point Park University. Pittsburgh, PA. Compensated. (2011)
- “Pitching methods for feature screenwriters that also help hone your story.” Guest lecture at Howard University Washington, DC. (2010)
- “Screenwriting, TV and manga writing/creation methods.” Full Sail University. Guest lecture (via conference call), Orlando, FL. (2010)
- “Feature/manga and TV/writing, character development methods.” Point Park University. Guest lecture (via conference call), Pittsburgh, PA. Compensated. (2009)

### **Invited Regional and Local Paper Presentations:**

- “*Manga & Anime Go to Hollywood* book talk.” Soda City Comic Con. Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center. Columbia, SC. (2017)
- “We Make Manga: USC’s Manga Production Class.” Presentation at Nashi Con anime and manga annual convention. Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center. Columbia, SC. (2017)
- “We Make Manga: USC’s Manga Production Class.” Presentation at Nashi Con anime and manga annual convention. Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center. Columbia, SC. (2016)
- “*Manga and Anime Go to Hollywood* book talk.” Presentation at Nashi Con anime and manga annual convention. Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center. Columbia, SC. (2016)
- “Teaching Comics in Carolina.” USC Comics Studies Symposium pedagogy roundtable. Thomas Cooper Library, USC. Columbia, SC. (2013)
- “‘God of Manga’: Osamu Tezuka’s relationship with Hollywood.” South Carolina Book Festival. Columbia, SC. (2012)
- “*Battle Angel Alita* manga and its evolution into the Hollywood project.” Paper presented at Nashi Con anime and manga annual convention. Columbia, SC. (2010)
- “*Train Man*.” Presentation at Nashi-con. Columbia, SC. (2009)
- “*Train Man*” (*Densha Otoku*): A Heartwarming Story Originating in a Digital Blog and Manifesting into Mass Entertainment in Various Digital Forms. Presentation at "Ideas for the Future" panel. International Digital Media and Arts Association National Conference. Savannah, GA. (2008)

## International Press and International Television:

- Sumire Kunieda, "'A Boy and the Crane' Why did it win (the animation OSCAR) from a U.S. expert (Northrop Davis)?" *Mainichi Newspaper (Japan)*, March 11, 2024
- Lisa Eadicicco, "Pokémon. The Games. The Shows. The Evolution, 25 years of Pokémon in America (Special Edition)." *Time Magazine*, February 9, 2024 [USA and Canada]
- Catherine Pacary, "[Manga, in perpetual \(r\)evolution. In five films and a documentary, Canal+ offers a joyful overview of a cultural phenomenon, via Tokyo, Hollywood and Paris.](#)" *Le Monde*, January 24th, 2020.
- Yvette Tan, "[How a demon-slaying film is drawing Japan back to the cinemas](#)" *BBC News Asia*, October 30, 2020
- Canal + Film and TV studio of France [flew Davis to Los Angeles to interview him for a documentary on manga and anime adaptations to Hollywood movies/TV, 2019](#). It aired in France and in various countries in Europe, including on Canal+ Cinéma on January 24th 2020. It then aired on Canal+ Séries and in Belgium and elsewhere. **PHOTO**
- Was [interviewed by prominent Hollywood movie studio Lionsgate Entertainment for a featurette for the 25th Anniversary Special Edition of the legendary anime franchise Ghost in the Shell on May 29, 2020](#). 4k Blu-ray and Steelbook were released globally Sept. 8.
- Manuel Hernandez-Perez, "Book Review: *Manga and Anime Go To Hollywood* by Northrop Davis" *Sage Journals Premiere 2021*, November 19, 2018 (U.K.)
- Morgane Tual, "['Ghost in the Shell', 'Death Note,' 'Battle Angel Alita' ... Why Hollywood is so interested in manga.](#)"(English translation) *Le Monde*. March 29, 2017.
- Morgane Tual, "['The Knights of the Zodiac', 'Castlevania,' How Netflix Enters Anime.](#)" *Le Monde*, August 8, 2017.
- "[Episode 95: Peak TV and Anime with Northrop Davis.](#)" Animation for Adults: The Podcast. 2018. (U.K.)  
"Review of *Manga and Anime Go to Hollywood*, by Northrop Davis."  
AnimeBlurayUK Book Review. September 3, 2016.
- Yu Yurong, Interview and feature article on Davis. [Note: this was a cover story, but its Chinese title does not translate well into English] *Outlook Weekly* (May 2013). Beijing, China. (*Outlook Weekly* has an estimated worldwide circulation of 400,000-500,000. It is comparable to *Time Magazine* of China and the government officials' prime publication.)

## National Press--Selected reviews of his book and interviews in USA journalistic podcasts:

- C.B. Cannon, "[Review of \*Manga and Anime Go To Hollywood\* by Northrop Davis.](#)" *Choice Book Review* [American Library Association]. July 2016. (recommended for all ages) **LINK HERE**
- Mikhail Koulikov, "[Highlighting New Publications – Manga & Anime Go to Hollywood.](#)" Review of *Manga and Anime Go to Hollywood*, by Northrop Davis." *Anime and Manga Studies: New Books*. March 24, 2016
- "[Prof. Northrop Davis—Univ. of South Carolina—WeMakeManga.com.](#)" The Weekly Villain Podcast. April 13, 2014.
- Zac Bertschy and Justin Sevakis, "[North by Northrop.](#)" Anime News Network (the top journalistic anime/manga site globally). June 11, 2010.

## **Regional Press:**

- Megan Sexton, "[Northrop Davis: Mungo Distinguished Professor of the Year](#)" (2023)
- Bryan Gentry, "[Cast of creators: Media arts professor inspires and motivates students to land their dream jobs.](#)" *In Focus* USC Alumni magazine cover story (Fall 2020)
- Bryan Gentry, "[Amazon Prime Video adds a show by a UofSC senior.](#)"



- Gerry Melendez, "NashiCon brings the anime convention fun to Columbia." April 15, 2015. <https://www.thestate.com/entertainment/local-events/article18577694.html>.
- "Voice Acting Students Bring Comic Art to Life." Department of Theatre and Dance. University of South Carolina.
- Chris Horn. "Don't Be Boring." *Carolynian* (Spring 2015): 16-18. Retrieved on 11/24/2022
- Chris Horn. "Making manga: Media arts prof uses cartoon-style medium as teaching tool." October 14, 2012. *USC Times*. Retrieved on 9/3/2013 from: <http://www.sc.edu/news/newsarticle.php?nid=4966>.

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

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- Member of the Writers Guild of America, West (WGA—lifetime-vested member status)
- Member of WGA Asian, Latino, and Educational Committees.
- Member of the University Film and Video Association (UFVA)
- Member of UFVA Entertainment Industry Caucus (EIC)

## SERVICE

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### National Service:

- Served as peer reviewer for a scholarly paper "Small Is Beautiful: Japanese Aesthetic Consciousness in the Animated Adaptation of *The Borrowers*" (*Critical Arts Journal*) (2023)
- Member of UFVA Officers Nomination Committee, appointed by UFVA President Norman Hollyn. (2013)
- Chair, moderator, presenter and co-organizer of Adapting Anime presentation/panel at the Writers Guild of America, West (WGA Writers Education Committee). (2010)
- Judge of Cine student film awards along with Dr. Walt Hanclosky. (2009-2012)

### Community Service:

- Participated in Richland County school system interface with high school faculty 2021-2022
- Presented about manga to local high school students (Ben Lippen School) January 2021
- Presented about manga to the National Art Honors Society—a high school group for students who plan to study art in college. Columbia Museum of Art and McMaster Hall multiple times through 2018 (up until pandemic)
- Presented with Wemakemanga club students at multiple Columbia SC anime and comics conventions (Nashi Con, Cola Con, etc.) through 2018 (up until pandemic)

### University Service:

- Michael J. Mungo Distinguished Professor Award selection committee (lifetime, 2024-onward)
- Mungo Teaching Award q and a event for Oktoberfest/Center for Teaching Excellence (2023)
- [Comics at USC committee](#) (multiple professors/staff across the university) (2020 to present)
- TWIST teaching committee -- invited by Dean Ford due to Davis's excellent teaching (2017)
- Michael J. Mungo Teaching Award selection committee (2012-2015)
- [Mungo Teaching Award Panel, Center for Teaching Excellence](#) (2012)
- Faculty Senator (fall semester 2021) [sat in for Professor Valdes due to his medical issues]
- Faculty Senator (2010-2013) [sat in for Dr. Lydia Brandt due to her scheduling conflict, as well as serving a full term prior to that]
- Freshman Convocation speaker invited by Dean Fitzpatrick: "How extracurricular activities enrich classroom learning and expand employment horizons." (2012)
- Magellan Scholarship selection committee (2012)
- Faculty Advisor for student organizations:
  - USC Anime Club (Nashi) 5+ years
  - USC Wemakemanga Productions Club 9 + year, founded by Davis

- Cocky Screenwriters (5+ years, unofficial club, founded at supervised by Davis)
- USC Debate Club (previous)
- USC Kendo Club (previous)
- USC Comedy Club (previous)
- USC Chess Club (previous)

Departmental service (partial list):

Area Coordinator, Media Arts, 2022-2023 (included making f2023 s2024 faculty schedule)  
 Conducted Dinner Dialogues events for benefit of his students, sponsored by USC Office of Parents every semester, and for all summer courses he has taught, since his USC hire-- 23 times so far. Sponsored by USC's Office Of Parent and Family Programs  
 SVAD and Department of Art recruiting committee (multiple years, including as chair)  
 SVAD Curricular committee (3 years)  
 SVAD and Art Awards committee (multiple years)  
 SVAD and Art Scholarship committee(multiple years to present & committee chair in 2022)  
 SVAD teaching committee (multiple years)  
 Administered and then co-administered the Walt Hanclosky Social Issue for Media Arts Production Award (2017 - spring 2022)  
 Post Tenure review committee (2022 to present)  
 Media Arts adjunct review committee (2022)  
 On search committee for the SVAD Art Studio area tenure track hire (2018-2019)  
 Committee to evaluate MART adjuncts teaching (Spring semester, 2022)  
 Maintains student manga cases in McMaster for promotion of student work  
 Maintains a list of successful Media Arts grads and reports them to SVAD and USC publicity including communicating with the graduates, visiting them in L.A.-- to give them advice and with the goal of helping them with their careers. A wonderful byproduct has been them reciprocating to help current students, including through approximately ten q and a presentations per. year by them to Davis's classes and them helping recent grads.  
 Organizes and updates the blog on the Wemakemanga.com website to highlight MART students' research and career successes as well as their manga art  
 Uploads new student manga to the site  
 Oversees current refresh/update and repair/rebuild of the site (2021-present)

Interdisciplinary Activities:

English Department-- [Comics at USC committee](#)/project with faculty and staff  
 Theater Department -- Professor Erica Tobolski and Davis conduct actor table reads with his writing students each year and have also done so with the manga students.  
 Music Department-- Jeff Francis (joined Davis the aforementioned collaborative manga voice acting project with Prof. Tobolski and their students) [SEE ARTICLE](#)

1. Please note: that the *Le Monde* ([France's national newspaper of record, equivalent to the New York Times of France](#)) articles are in French (although one is translated)
2. Each year I also train several interns. I supervised 22 from 2022 through the spring of 2023. Students that I teach, mentor, and my interns, have gone onto all kinds of success. For example, Jarad Greene sold multiple graphic novels-- [HERE](#) and [HERE](#). [Ashley Poston](#) is a best selling author. Greg Goetz, who I introduced to my contacts in the industry who hired him for his first studio job at Fox, is currently a writer on both Apple TV's "[Foundation](#)" and Netflix's season two of "[The Sandman](#)". [Tyler Spaid](#) wrote his script in my TV writing class, with a polish by another of my students, Holly Kuldell, and then filmed it with a theater professor, Dustin Whitehead, and then Amazon Prime picked it up as a show. [Brook Driver](#) sold his scripts to the "[Harry Potter](#)" producer, "[Downton Abbey](#)" team and won South by Southwest top screenwriting award in 2021 for his first produced film that received several rave reviews. He is now directing. Louise Wang is the lead artist on my manga project.
3. I invite 10 prominent movie industry figures from my career to speak annually, [such as](#).
4. Additional reviews of "[Manga and Anime Go to Hollywood](#)" available upon request. 10