



UNITED IN SUSTAINABILITY

THROUGHOUT OUR INDUSTRY, GUILDS AND UNIONS ARE ADDRESSING THE CHALLENGE OF CLIMATE CHANGE WITH INITIATIVES THAT ARE PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES, CREATING SAFER WORKPLACES AND TELLING STORIES THAT MUST BE TOLD.

As catastrophic climate events accelerate due to global warming, union and guild members in the entertainment industry are taking action. The greatest impact is achieved when producers, writers, directors and every department in a production feel empowered to make decisions about sustainable practices based on their training and experience, and to craft narratives that address deeper, more complex climate stories.


Working together, members demonstrate that empowering everyone on a production to decarbonize, whether an independent or studio, is leading to change.

THE POWER OF COLLABORATION

Building on years of inter-guild collaboration, a kickoff meeting in March 2023 hosted by PGA Presidents Stephanie Allain and Donald De Line expanded this work into a national alliance that now regularly convenes members and staff from 16 guilds and unions as part of the Inter-Guild and Union Sustainability Alliance.

The goal of the Alliance is simple: to share knowledge, resources and best practices and to build community around forging climate solutions. Mitigating carbon emissions in our workplace and amplifying climate in culture on screen should be the priority across our industry.

The Inter-Guild and Union Clean Energy



AS EVIDENCED BY THE RECENT FIRES IN LOS ANGELES, THE GLOBAL CLIMATE CRISIS IS ENDANGERING ALL OF OUR LIVES AND OUR LIVELIHOODS. NOW MORE THAN EVER, IT IS TIME FOR OUR INDUSTRY TO TAKE ACTION AND PUSH FOR A CLEAN ENERGY TRANSITION.

Working Group is co-led by the PGA, Teamsters, IATSE, DGA, and DGC, promoting the transition away from fossil fuels and toward innovation and the implementation of clean renewable energy sources.

A partnership between Teamsters Local 817, the PGA, and the Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment with support from studios paved the way toward making renewable diesel (RD)—a much cleaner and safer fuel alternative to regular diesel—available in New York. Through the efforts of this collaboration, the first public fuel station to offer RD was opened in Greenpoint, Brooklyn, in January 2024 and has successfully proved demand for this low-carbon fuel.

In October 2024, a second RD pump opened in the Bronx to serve not just vehicles from the film and TV industry, but fleets from other key industries such as food distribution.

The WGA/PGA Climate Storytelling Working Group promotes education and training around creating deeper climate content for showrunners, creative producers and writers in collaboration with NRDC's Rewrite the Future. Leaders of the group are part of the Climate Storytelling Stakeholders in Entertainment consortium of 60+ organizations involved in research, advocacy, audience engagement, development of the business case, and support for building a pipeline for climate content on screen.

Members from PGA, DGA, IATSE Locals 600 and 728, and ADG IA/Local 800 presented a panel at the 2024 Hollywood Climate Summit titled "Building a Culture of Sustainability on Set." Leaders laid out initiatives and collaborations being undertaken by each group focusing on clean energy, climate storytelling, materials circularity and waste reduction.

A recording of the event can be found on the Hollywood Climate Summit YouTube channel. A Linktree created for the event aggregating resources from around the industry can be found at linktr.ee/sustainablehollywood.

PRODUCERS GUILD OF AMERICA

- producersguild.org/sustainability
- producersguild.org/sustainability-tool-kit
- lgaribay@producersguild.org

Producers provide critical support to departments, empowering them to guide all parts of a production into a

united force for sustainability. To assist in this endeavor, the Guild has launched its Producers Sustainability Tool Kit, which is free to anyone and available at producersguild.org/sustainability. It offers valuable sustainability tips for all members of the producing team in developing projects as well as guidance on production practices from preproduction all

THE INTER-GUILD AND UNION SUSTAINABILITY ALLIANCE

- Directors Guild of America
- Directors Guild of Canada
- IATSE
- IATSE 44 Affiliated Property Craftspersons
- IATSE 52 Motion Picture Studio Mechanics
- IATSE Local 80 Motion Picture Grips, Crafts Service, Marine, First Aid Employees, and Warehouse Workers
- IATSE Local 600 International Cinematographer's Guild
- IATSE Local 705 Motion Picture Costumers
- IATSE Local 728 Studio Electrical Lighting Technicians
- IATSE Local 729 Motion Picture Set Painters & Sign Writers
- IATSE Local 800 Art Directors Guild
- IATSE Local 829 United Scenic Artists
- IATSE Local 892 Costume Designers Guild
- Producers Guild of America
- Teamsters Local 399
- Teamsters Local 817
- Writers Guild of America East
- Writers Guild of America West

the way through to publicity and marketing.

The Producers Guild has been a leading advocate for sustainability in the entertainment industry for more than 15 years. In 2010, it collaborated with studio partners (now known as the Sustainable Entertainment Alliance) to create the Green Production Guide, designed to reduce the film, television and streaming industry's carbon footprint and environmental impact. It includes a worldwide database of vendors that provide sustainable goods and services, all accessible at greenproductionguide.com.

Under the continuing leadership of Lydia Dean Pilcher and Mari Jo Winkler, cochairs of the PGA Sustainability Task Force, the PGA represented in 2015 the entertainment industry efforts in the Paris Agreement at COP21, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) annual global summit. This landmark convening marked the long-term goal of limiting warming to 1.5°C as the global benchmark for climate action.

Leading into COP26 in 2021, the PGA issued a call for the industry to transition to clean energy to reduce emissions by 50% by 2030, emphasizing the need for clean energy and protection of the health and safety of cast and crew.

The PGA also participates in the Entertainment & Culture for Climate Action (ECCA) Film & Television convened by UNFCCC to support international industries' contributions to climate action.

PGA's Producers on Producing Sustainably events have trained a spotlight on how the producers of films and TV shows such as *Everything Everywhere All at Once*, *Joker: Folie à Deux*, *Nope* and *True Detective: Night Country* successfully brought sustainability into their storylines and sets. Recordings of these sessions are available to PGA members.

By the 2023 awards season, the Producers Guild fully eliminated all physical screeners and expanded its collaboration with Indee in creating a dedicated screener platform for its awards submitters and members.

Producers Guild members can attend bimonthly sustainability office hours on Zoom, where they can share questions and ideas about current trends and increasing sustainable practices on their productions.

As evidenced by the recent fires in Los Angeles, the global climate crisis is endangering all of our lives and our livelihoods. Now more than ever, it is time for our industry to take action and push for a clean energy transition, use our climate storytelling voices to educate and inspire, and implement the changes needed for a sustainable future.

DIRECTORS GUILD OF AMERICA

- dga.org/the-guild/committees/special/sustainable-future-committee

Founded in 2022, the Directors Guild of America (DGA)

Sustainable Future Committee works to empower DGA teams with a climate action plan to promote clean energy and decarbonization of their work and workplaces. Reduction of plastic and landfill waste that productions generate is also a priority.

"Filmmaking is the act of focusing a spectrum of efforts toward a single shared goal. In exactly the same way, immense collaboration and coordination are needed to transform our wasteful and polluting business-as-usual into a sustainable production model," says committee cochair Mari Jo Winkler.

The committee has presented member-facing panel events on clean energy, strategies for eliminating paper and plastic, and climate storytelling as a climate solution. It partnered with BAFTA/Albert on a bespoke training for all DGA members.

DGA Pro-Tips for Sustainable Production, available at dga.org, offers tools to support a climate action plan for any production. Tools include the Emissions/Cost Optimizer, a user-friendly Excel doc for calculating the emissions and cost comparison of diesel generators versus clean energy.

Articles in the members area of the DGA site and in the *DGA Quarterly* magazine have covered clean mobile power planning, renewable diesel and climate offsets for travel.

The DGA commissioned a Net Zero by 2050 assessment and is now examining the report's tiered action items to meet that goal for its West Coast offices and operations. The guild has also made a commitment to eliminate red meat in awards catering and repurposing unused meals back to the community via Everyday Action (EDA), a nonprofit that distributes leftover food from productions to local people in need. EDA provides an extra layer of liability insurance that fully releases the production of any legal ownership of or responsibility for the excess food.

In the DGA's 2023 negotiations, it won the right to annual meetings with senior studio leadership in production, content and sustainability. The goal is better understanding of each studio's organization and methodologies on sustainable production and climate storytelling to better inform and educate DGA members about studio policies and practices.

DIRECTORS GUILD OF CANADA

- dgcgreen.ca

The Directors Guild of Canada (DGC) National Sustainability & Climate Action Committee was created in 2020 to examine the challenges and opportunities to achieve sustainable productions across all regions in Canada. The work of the committee is guided by the pillars of "lead, empower and advocate" to change the culture of filmmaking and screen production, mobilize DGC membership, and become leaders in climate action.

The committee aims to empower DGC members to progressively adopt sustainable practices on production

sets or in the studio with the goal of making their jobs more efficient and rewarding. A robust set of resources—including the group’s Power Budgeting Tool and Materials Carbon Calculator, Top Tips for Climate Action broken down by production departments, and a list of green vendors—are available on the committee’s website.

Another resource championed by DGC is the Reel Green Production Training program offered by the BC Film Commission. These free online sessions are offered throughout the year for industry professionals no matter where they are. Find out more and sign up at creativebc.com/reel-green.

IATSE & IATSE INTERLOCAL

In October 2024, IATSE members from a number of locals came together for an Interlocal Spooky Swap, an event focused on reallocating kit items to members who need them as well as collections for e-waste, textiles and paint.

The successful event was hosted by Ecoset—a reuse center in Los Angeles where nonprofits, artists, theaters, schools and individuals can receive valuable materials for no cost including sets, flats, furniture, decor, home goods, lumber, art materials and expendables. It was one of the first large-scale collaborations between the interlocal green/sustainability committees.

Materials that were kept out of landfills included paint, textiles, electronics, batteries, cell phones, light bulbs and laptops. Additionally, 41 pounds of screeners were collected to be recycled with GreenDisk, which turns disk plastics into viable polycarbonate for making automotive parts, household appliances and 3D printing filament.

Green/eco committees from various locals have also hosted an eco booth at “IA All-In” mixers attended by thousands of union members. These committees have helped facilitate sustainability panels at events like SXSW, International Production Design Week and Production Designers Gathering.

The IATSE Green Committee is made up of members from a variety of crafts from across the US and Canada. It offers education and advocacy for individuals, productions and locals to promote sustainability in all aspects of the entertainment industry.

IATSE LOCAL 44 AFFILIATED PROPERTY CRAFTSPERSONS

- [instagram.com/iatselocal44sustainability](https://www.instagram.com/iatselocal44sustainability)
- Local44green@gmail.com

The Local 44 Sustainability Committee, led by Sarai Sosa and Amy Wallenberg, was formed in fall 2023 to help members create an environmentally conscious workplace through education and community engagement. Recent initiatives include “greening” Local 44 meetings and industry events by establishing systems to help eliminate single-use plastics and

ensure the practice of recycling and composting.

The committee’s Instagram features videos showcasing waste diversion efforts at events. A Linktree lists industry guides and educational resources that range from practical tips for sustainability at home to best practices for sustainability in the workplace and information about local food pantries. Visit it at linktr.ee/iatsel44sustainability.

“We are inspired and motivated by our ongoing communications with our sister locals and guild’s green committees through quarterly Zoom meetings and active Discord and Slack workspaces,” says Sosa.

Plans for the future include developing a system for the collection of plastic film on set and in prop houses, and helping to implement a sustainability course, possibly through the IATSE Training Trust Fund. “We have a long list of ideas and plans and welcome others to join us in helping do the work needed to achieve all of our goals,” says Wallenberg.

IATSE LOCAL 52 MOTION PICTURE STUDIO MECHANICS

- iatselocal52.org
- Local52Green@gmail.com

The Local 52 Green Committee aims to promote a dialogue concerning the waste created within our industry and to further initiatives that help its members to be a part of the solution rather than the problem.

The local’s ongoing efforts include creating a set of practical guides to serve as a template for a sustainable wrap, and directing members to local resources such as Earth Angel, Materials for the Arts, and Build It Green, which aid in greening our sets from preproduction to wrap.

Local 52 is also researching a Green Fund option for its 401(k) plan that is free of fossil fuel investments and laying out a path toward developing a union sustainability position for future contracts.

The Green Committee encourages Local 52 members to participate in collaborations with other locals across inter-guild sustainability efforts such as e-waste recycling events. Committee members are eager to partner with professionals outside of IATSE, especially producers, who are invited to contact them about how to make sets greener.

IATSE LOCAL 80 MOTION PICTURE GRIPS, CRAFTS SERVICE, MARINE, FIRST AID EMPLOYEES, AND WAREHOUSE WORKERS

- iatselocal80.org
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IATSE Local 80—which includes crafts service, grips and set medics—is in a unique position to reduce waste in regard to food service and water bottles on set. Its Green Committee was established in February 2024.



Members of IATSE locals further sustainability through networking, recycling and waste collection, and environmental stewardship.

Sustainability and waste sorting training is available to Local 80 crafts service members semiannually via an in-person skills training class at the local, sponsored by Contract Services. The committee has created a Best Sustainable Practices for Crafts Service (Food Service) Guide and a Plant-Based Foodware Resource Guide.

While these guides are hosted on the members-only side of Local 80's website, committee leaders are happy to share them with producers seeking ideas on how to improve sustainability in their food service on set, according to committee chair Terri Freedman.

Sustainability tips and education regarding state laws and local ordinances are provided in the monthly Local

80 newsletter, which is publicly available at iatselocal80.org. Anyone can sign up for a monthly email that lists sustainability- and entertainment-related Zoom gatherings, webinars and in-person events.

The Local 80 hall and stage is equipped with dedicated blue recycling bins and bins for organic waste recycling. Bins on the stage allow for three-stream waste disposal, and a bucket for discarding liquids keeps the receptacles dry. A water dispenser is provided for general membership meetings and classes. With the supplementation of aluminum canned water, thousands of single-use plastic bottles have been saved.

IATSE LOCAL 600 INTERNATIONAL CINEMATOGRAPHERS GUILD

- icg600.com/my600/member-resources/sustainability-corner
- [instagram.com/600sustainability](https://www.instagram.com/600sustainability)
- 600sustainability@gmail.com

After IATSE’s Education and Training Department presented a webinar titled “The Impact of Climate Change on IATSE Worker Safety and Health,” the Local 600 Sustainability Committee realized that climate change needed to be framed in the context of on-set crew health and safety—a core tenet of the Local 600 mission statement, which states that the union fights effectively for a safe workplace.

The committee, founded in 2019, set out to define a safe workplace as one free from environmental hazards such as air pollution, heat stroke conditions and UV radiation exposure.

Using this new framework, the union’s National Executive Board passed the Local 600 Sustainability Resolution in February 2024, which declares a commitment to the safety of their crews by encouraging and endorsing carbon-neutral productions through sustainable on-set practices.

In the Fall of 2024, Local 600 partnered with Ecoset in Los Angeles to develop a camera expendables reuse program to encourage materials circularity.

“I feel items should have another place to go after they are used, and hopefully that place is somewhere other than a landfill,” says Alex Coyle, a Western Region Member of the Sustainability Committee.

Allison Elvove, Western Region Chair of the Committee, looks at the solution as being both top-down—where decision-makers budget for sustainability—and bottom-up, where crew are empowered to speak up about their wishes to be more sustainable.

For instance, camera assistants are trained to have many battery backups and to continuously charge. This can often lead to overpreparation, such as requesting a generator too big for maximum efficiency or charging batteries all weekend when turning on the truck the day before shooting might suffice.

“It’s really important that we promote a culture of open communication surrounding sustainability on set,” says Elvove. “If every department talks more with each other, then Transpo will not need to go on multiple runs for a single cable or one lens. Preproduction planning and proper wrap-out time are key to decreasing waste generation.”

LOCAL 705 MOTION PICTURE COSTUMERS

- [instagram.com/local705greenroom](https://www.instagram.com/local705greenroom)
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Local 705 works closely on sustainability efforts with the Costume Designers Guild (whose sustainability initiatives are listed later in this article). An effort benefiting members of both unions—and the productions they work on—is the Green Room, founded in 2022 by 705 Green Committee Chair Georgina Curtis as a space for reusing and

IF WE CAN SAVE PRODUCTION MONEY THROUGH REUSING MATERIALS, ASKING FOR AND FINDING BUYBACK PROGRAMS, REDUCING OUR TRASH AND CARBON FOOTPRINT, AND FINDING MORE SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTS, IT MIGHT NOT JUST BE THE CLIMATE WE ARE SAVING, BUT OUR JOBS, TOO.”

Amanda Smith, chair of the Local 729 Sustainability Committee



A diagram by Local 829 depicting sustainability touchpoints on a typical film or TV production.

recycling costume kit items.

“The Green Room saves money for producers. If reuse of more items was encouraged in our community and on sets, we would have less waste and we would spend less by not continuously buying the same items,” says Curtis.

While the Green Room—located at 705’s Los Angeles office—is only open to members of 705 and 892, Curtis invites producers to reach out to discuss ways that costuming can be more environmentally and financially sustainable on their productions.



LOCAL 728 STUDIO ELECTRICAL LIGHTING TECHNICIANS

- iatse728.org

The Eco Committee of IATSE Local 728 identifies energy solutions that reduce climate impact and improve crew health and safety.

During a panel on sustainable production at the 2024 Hollywood Climate Summit, committee chair Max Schwartz explained how on-set generators, which can be as loud as 90 decibels, threaten hearing and impact production. Silent, emissionless generators are not only safer for crew ears, they are more suitable for tunnels, residential streets or national parks, where dripping oil and fumes are major concerns.

Newer technology can also help reduce injury. “There’s less toll on your back when you’re not laying down 60- to 70-pound cable for hundreds of feet,” Schwartz said.

In 2023, Local 728 presented a showcase of sustainable power solutions for sets, including portable power stations, an electric camera car and large zero-emission batteries. Demos proved how these products are able to power the largest lights for many hours, and how fast setup can go when lengths of cable aren’t needed. A small electric generator can be planted right next to video village. Overnight trucks and entire base camps can be powered with clean energy.

The Eco Committee is also working to alleviate concerns about jobs being usurped. Systems have to be built around these energy sources to keep power consistent. And for that, expert handling is still required.

“We have rigorous classes to make the most proficient set lighting technicians in the world, and we’re working on creating classes around this technology,” said Schwartz.

With education, the Eco Committee is hoping that Local 728 members will feel more comfortable asking producers to invest in this equipment because they can clearly explain the benefits. New tech may be pricier, but it also mitigates costs—for example, saving thousands of dollars in diesel fuel while safeguarding the well-being of the people who work with it.

LOCAL 729 SET PAINTERS & SIGN WRITERS

- [instagram.com/sustainablehollywoodpainters](https://www.instagram.com/sustainablehollywoodpainters)
- sustainability@ialocal729.org

“If we can save production money through reusing materials, asking for and finding buyback programs, reducing our trash and carbon footprint, and finding more sustainable products, it might not just be the climate we are saving, but our jobs, too,” says Amanda Smith, chair of the Local 729 Sustainability Committee.

Smith explains that the committee has been focused on alternatives to hazmat disposal, which is typical for leftover paint, such as paint recycling through state-run

“WE FEEL WE ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR OUR WASTE, SO WE SEE IT AS OUR DUTY TO ENSURE THAT OUR WASTE IS REUSED IN THE MOST RESPONSIBLE WAY POSSIBLE.”

Julia Chase, cochair of the CDG Sustainability Committee



Edward T. Morris (Local USA 829) used recycled or repurposed materials for a stage production of *School House Rock Live*.

programs like PaintCare. While the group has identified more-sustainable products to use, additional progress could be made if several productions did trial runs with these alternatives to provide data regarding savings on costs and materials. Sometimes extra space is all that's necessary for paint to be stored until wrap, so that it can go to a recycler versus hazmat waste disposal.

"It would be great to have producers' support from the top to do this in a more sustainable way and say, 'Let us help you find someplace to hold the thing until you can get it to the recycler, rather than pour it down the drain,'" says Todd Moore, a sustainable production professional and former IATSE 729 member.

Moore hosted a tour for Art Directors Guild Sustainability Committee members to examine and learn about new sustainable materials and print processes that he helped source for the Universal Sign Shop.

"We found cost-comparable products that were 100% recycled vinyl, non-PVC print vinyl, and 100% recycled acrylic sheets," says Moore. "We've found replacements for gator foam that are paper-based and recyclable, rather than foam-based. People now know that they can request those at sign shops."

Front Porch Sessions presented by the committee help educate peers by bringing experienced paint leads to demonstrate finishing techniques with nontoxic materials.

The committee has compiled a "Ten Simple Things" list that can be posted in paint shops to remind crew that basic habits can go a long way. These include reducing and reusing rags, buckets, brushes, roller sleeves and solvents, and following proper disposal procedures (including recycling when offered) for paint and solvent waste.

LOCAL 800 ART DIRECTORS GUILD

- adg.org
- adg800green@gmail.com

The ADG Green Committee was formed after the ADG Education Department and a group of green-minded members hosted their first Sustainability Symposium in 2023. The committee is committed to making positive and lasting changes in the film, television and entertainment industry, and promoting a more sustainable art department by providing resources, education, eco-friendly solutions and partnerships among a multitude of industry crafts, vendors and producers.

The committee is developing a go-to database of materials that have been vetted for eco-friendliness and usability by art departments and such departments as construction, paint, props and set dec. It is also creating a guide for its 800 members to utilize on the ground when searching for recycling/buyback vendors for wrap.

Connecting with vendors and organizations that promote

circularity is also a focus to ensure that resources end up in the hands of professionals who need them, rather than in a landfill. Representatives from green-minded companies such as Urbanjacks, The Good Plastic Company and Lifecycle Building Center have presented during the local's monthly meetings.

Believing that it is important to visualize the impact our industry has on the environment, the committee is collecting and presenting information in an easy-to-digest format for bolstering conversations about ways to improve sustainability.

The committee is also working to connect with producers and the studios' environmental teams to empower art departments' green efforts and align them with company green goals.

As part of a commitment to coordinating green efforts with the green committees of other locals, Local 800 intends to present a resolution at the next IATSE District 2 convention calling for the creation of a director of sustainability. The union is also making plans to host another Sustainability Symposium for the public this year.

LOCAL USA 829 UNITED SCENIC ARTISTS

- usa829.org/safety-and-education/sustainability-resources
- sustainability@usa829.org

The Local United Scenic Artists (USA) 829 Sustainability Committee was formed in 2021 after a chapter on sustainable design was written into a handbook compiled by the union's best practices committee.

In 2023, the Local Union Executive Board hired consulting firm Green Spark Group to conduct an environmental impact study on its members in the workplace, out of which key metrics and recommendations were outlined in an educational tool available to anyone on the Local 829 website.

In 2024, Committee Chair Anu Schwartz represented USA 829 at the Production Designers Gathering, where he served as a panelist for a seminar on sustainable design. An international coalition of sustainable designers was formed out of that event.

Over the years, the committee has conducted training seminars on sustainable design in both live performance and motion pictures. A suite of resources on sustainable production best practices is freely available on the group's website. These resources include case studies, research papers, green vendor lists, and organizations offering materials exchange and recycling, with breakout sections for live performance, sound, lighting and projection.

LOCAL 892 COSTUME DESIGNERS GUILD

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The mission of the Costume Designers Guild Sustainability Committee is to inspire members to make informed choices

and to continually evolve their design process with interconnectedness in mind.

To this end, the CDG textile recycling program gathers material from members to send to specialty recyclers in North America. Because the textile recycling industry is still in its early stages, fiber-to-fiber recycling is limited to a few fiber types. The rest is broken down into “shoddy,” which is used in a variety of applications including stuffing and insulation.

Until there is a robust recycled-fiber market, there isn’t enough profit to cover the cost of recycling. It can cost between 30 cents and \$3 per pound for sorting, shipping and processing textiles into fiber. CDG pays to cover these costs as part of its program.

“We feel we are responsible for our waste, so we see it as our duty to ensure that our waste is reused in the most responsible way possible,” says Julia Chase, cochair of the CDG Sustainability Committee. “Supporting textile circularity, especially in these early stages, reduces the impact of the consumption necessary to do our work and paves the way for greater changes outside of the industry.”

The CDG maintains a textile recycling guide for designers to help them make informed purchasing decisions based on what is currently recyclable. The committee is eager to foster more engagement on circularity by consulting with designers and expanding industry connections with local resources.

“We plan to do much more, and we’re going to need the assistance of producers to transform our practices toward a brighter future with deeply meaningful change,” Chase adds. “We are happy to consult with producers and designers to learn what has or has not worked in the past. Sustainability is an industrywide collaborative effort.”

WGA EAST

- wgaeast.org
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The Writers Guild of America East offers briefings to members from climate storytellers and organizations such as the NRDC, the Norman Lear Center at USC and the World Wildlife Fund to inspire and educate members.

The guild also offers specialized training at the annual Showrunner Academy to instruct executive producers on TV/streaming projects with regard to greening their sets and reducing their overall carbon footprint.

The WGA East website offers anyone access to a research guide with trusted references for creators to consult when developing and writing projects. The “Science” section of the guide lists contact information for organizations that can help writers and producers who want to tell stories about climate change and the environment.

Operationally, the guild’s GreenerScreen program has drastically reduced waste associated with FYC materials that



The first public fuel station to offer renewable diesel opened in Greenpoint, Brooklyn, in January 2024.

are mailed to WGA East members.

“I’m proud of the bridge WGAE and the PGA have cocreated for climate storytellers in both of our professional communities,” says Dana Weissman, director of programs and education. “I look forward to offering more opportunities for connection and resources for inspiration and accuracy.”

WGA WEST

- www.wga.org/writers-room/on-the-web/guilds-organizations/climate-crisis-take-action

The WGA West Climate Action group began its work in spring of 2022. Before then, WGAW members had been interested in both climate storytelling and sustainable production, but hadn’t been formally organized. WGAW members Jessica Potter, Jenny Lynn and Dorothy Fortenberry currently lead the group. They invite guild members to engage with them about climate change.

“We host periodic collaborative workshops with climate storytelling initiatives like Good Energy, the NRDC, and the behavioral scientists at RARE, while also promoting green practices in the room and on-set with companies like Scriptation,” says Fortenberry.

During the 2023 WGA writers strike, the Climate Action group worked with the guild to ensure water coolers were available at strike locations so that members could bring reusable bottles from home and minimize plastic waste.

The group also worked to add green production and climate storytelling to the WGA Showrunner Training Program, allowing new showrunners concerned about the climate to hit the ground running. Resources are available on the WGA website to inform guild members and nonmembers alike about ways that climate-friendly themes and practices can be incorporated into storytelling and the workplace. ■

