# **Rosita Lopez for President** PRESS KIT



# **Rosita Lopez for President** KEY INFORMATION

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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#### **FILM MARKETING INFORMATION**

Websitewww.voterosita.comTwitter@voterositaFacebookhttp://www.facebook.com/rositalopezforpresident

#### **TECHNICAL INFORMATION**

TRT 8:39 NTSC Stereo Sound 16x9 COLOR

# **Rosita Lopez for President**

# LOGLINE

ROSITA LOPEZ FOR PRESIDENT is about a 14-year-old girl who is running for President of the United States of America. As she tries to garner votes, she renews more than just a faith in democracy in the people she meets.

# LONG SYNOPSIS

This short film was created through Film Independent's signature diversity program, Project Involve. Each fellow was given a theme -- democracy and California -- and was asked to create a short film. Sponsored by Panavision, NBC/Universal, Wildfire Post-Production Sound and Color Space Finishing, each team was given a package and a limited amount of time to create a short film.

Starring Daniela Bobadilla (AWAKE, ANGER MANAGEMENT) and Charles Robinson (ANTWONE FISHER, NIGHT COURT), ROSITA LOPEZ FOR PRESIDENT is about Rosita Lopez, a 14-year-old girl scout who is running for President of the United States of America. As she tries to garner votes, she renews more than just a faith in democracy in an older man who has been estranged from his gay son for many years. Despite his insistence that she is too young to run, she manages to convince him that she might just be the right candidate for the job.

# **SHORT SYNOPSIS**

Rosita Lopez, a 14-year-old girl scout, is convinced that if action stars and cowboys can be Governors and Presidents, that she too can be President of the United States of America. She begins a strange campaign to prove it, and along the way helps the people she meets to rediscover more than just their faith in democracy.

# **Rosita Lopez for President** DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

| TAGLINE              | Changing the World One Person at a Time   |
|----------------------|---|
|                      |   |
| CONCEPT              | ROSITA LOPEZ FOR PRESIDENT is an exploration of<br>forgiveness, the power of democracy and redemption. Created<br>through Film Independent's Project: Involve, it is also a<br>celebration of diversity both behind and in front of the camera.   |
| DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT | <ul> <li>ROSITA LOPEZ FOR PRESIDENT was created through Film<br/>Independent's signature diversity program, Project: Involve.</li> <li>Each fellow was given a theme democracy and California<br/>and was asked to create a short film. This theme resonated<br/>with me, because my mother immigrated to America from Iran<br/>where she was persecuted for her religion. And my father has<br/>always fought for what he believed was right, even unionizing<br/>workers in his uncle's factory as a teenage boy. I have always<br/>valued the freedom we have in this country and the power of<br/>democracy. I wanted to create a film that celebrates this power<br/>while exploring the magical landscape of possibility and<br/>diversity that is Los Angeles. But I also wanted to tell a story<br/>that depicts the beauty of unlikely friendships, forgiveness and<br/>the debilitating effects of regret.</li> </ul> |
|                      | <ul> <li>and Charles Robinson (ANTWONE FISHER, NIGHT COURT),<br/>ROSITA LOPEZ FOR PRESIDENT is about a 14-year-old girl<br/>who is running for President of the United States of America.<br/>As she tries to garner votes, she renews more than just a faith<br/>in democracy in the people she meets.</li> <li>I had the great pleasure of collaborating with an amazing team<br/>on this short, including producer Danni Conner (COMING<br/>HOME, CLEAN HOUSE), production designer, Warren Alan</li> </ul>  |
|                      | Young (THE SECRET LIFE OF BEES, HAWTHORNE) and<br>gaffer Christian Epps (MIDDLE OF NOWHERE, CLOCKERS).<br>The film was sponsored by Panavision and NBC/Universal and<br>was Executive Produced by the extremely talented Andre<br>Braugher.   |

# **Rosita Lopez for President** The filmmakers



## **RACHEL GOLDBERG** writer/director

Rachel Goldberg is an award-winning writer/director who was one of 8 women selected to participate in AFI's prestigious Directing Workshop for Women. There, she created her short film, NEIGHBORS. NEIGHBORS has screened at close to twenty film festivals, including Oscar-qualifying fests such as the Palm Springs International ShortFest, the Nashville Film Festival and the Rhode Island International Film Festival where it won First Place for the Alternative Spirit Award. Stephen Nemeth, famed producer of FEAR AND LOATHING IN LAS VEGAS and THE SESSIONS has said of NEIGHBORS, "With the skills of a seasoned film director, Rachel Goldberg served up a balanced/nuanced/serious film with just the right dose of levity to allow you to thoroughly enjoy NEIGHBORS!"

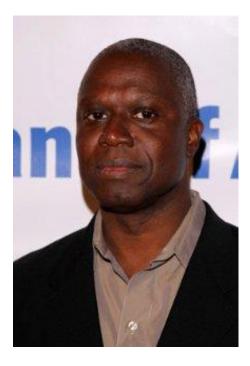
Rachel earned her interdisciplinary MFA in Directing for Theater, Film and Television from the California Institute of the Arts and her BA in Theater and Psychology from the University of Pennsylvania. Upon graduation, she had the great pleasure of working in the editing department of KILL BILL: VOL. 2 with Quentin Tarantino, and was one of 16 international filmmakers chosen to study under David Sacks (THE SIMPSONS) and Jason Venokur (3rd ROCK FROM THE SUN) as a Jewish Impact Films Fellowship Recipient. Since then, Rachel has directed numerous productions for film, theater and television, including BOTTLE ROCKETS, which won Best Pilot at both the Las Vegas International Film Festival and the Indie Gathering Film Festival. Her direction of MAN, WHERE'S MY SHOE?, a short film made in collaboration with a group of at-risk teenage girls through Film Outreach LA, won the Garden State Film Festival's Broader Vision Award, and her theater production of Vern Theissens's APPLE was described as "poetry in motion" by the LA Weekly and "stunning" by the LA Stage Scene. In 2012, she was named one of "30 Emerging Filmmakers to Watch" by Film Independent and was an HBO/DGA Directing Fellowship Finalist the same year.



## **DANNI CONNER** producer

Danni Conner got her first opportunity to produce in Atlanta working on major music videos and commercials. Her video production credits include videos for Usher, New Edition, the Indigo Girls, Joe, Bow Wow, Ludacris, Outkast, DBrat, Mary J. Blige, Joi, Erykah Badu, Goodie Mob, TLC, Michael Jackson and Janet Jackson. Her commercial experience includes heavy-hitters such as Toyota, Apple, Pepsi, Coca Cola, Nike, Tide, and Lexus. Next she entered the movie business as an intern on the film ON PROMISED LAND, written by Ken Sagoes, and produced by veteran producer, Robert Benedetti. Conner continued to work on independent films before relocating to Los Angeles. Upon her arrival, she jumped into reality TV managing, directing and producing shows for CBS, NBC/Universal, The WB, Style, A&E, VH1, BET, Lifetime and E!

Conner is currently developing two feature length films and working as a freelance producer on Lifetime's new reality TV show COMING HOME. Her new focus is developing her own company, **Graffiti Tomboy**, which is currently in preproduction for her upcoming documentary film, THEY SAY I'M DIFFERENT. Conner is a member of The Academy of Arts & Sciences, Film Independent, The Producers Guild and International Documentary Association.



## **ANDRE BRAUGHER** producer

Andre Braugher is best known for his roles as Cassiel in CITY OF ANGELS, Thomas Searles in the film GLORY, as the fiery detective Frank Pembleton on HOMICIDE: LIFE ON THE STREET from 1993 to 1998 and again in the 2000 made-for-TV film, and as Owen Thoreau Jr. on the TNT show MEN OF A CERTAIN AGE. He received Television Critics Association awards for individual achievement in drama in 1997 and 1998. He was also nominated for an <u>Emmy Award</u> for best actor in a drama series in 1996 and 1998, winning in the latter year. He also appeared in the TNT series MEN OF A CERTAIN AGE, for which he was nominated twice as Primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Drama Series. He also voiced the villain Darkseid in the animated film, SUPERMAN/BATMAN: APOCALYPSE. He has a recurring role as defense attorney Bayard Ellis on LAW & ORDER SVU, and appears as the lead character, Capt. Marcus Chaplin, in ABC's military drama TV series LAST RESORT.

Braugher co-starred in the Manhattan Theatre Club's production of *The Whipping Man*, off-Broadway, for a limited run from January–March 2011. He narrated the introduction to the Olympic Games on NBC from 2006 to 2010, succeeding James Earl Jones in the role.



## **ANDREW AHN** associate producer

Andrew Ahn is a Korean-American filmmaker born and raised in Los Angeles. His short film DOL (FIRST BIRTHDAY) premiered at the 2012 Sundance Film Festival and has screened at numerous other festivals and venues around the world, including Outfest, REDCAT, and the Los Angeles Film Festival. The film received the Outfest Grand Jury Award for Outstanding Dramatic Short Film.

His short film ANDY screened at the Slamdance Film Festival, the San Francisco International Asian American Film Festival, and many others. ANDY won Best Narrative Short at the 2011 San Diego Asian Film Festival. He was a 2012 Film Independent Project: Involve fellow. He graduated from Brown University with a degree in English and received an MFA in Film Directing from the California Institute of the Arts.



## MARLENA STEINER director of photography

Marlena Steiner is a freelance cinematographer who seeks projects that challenge her to try something new on a technical level. She was born and raised in Northern New Jersey where she discovered her passion for filmmaking and photography. She attended the University of the Arts in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and later transferred to Lovola Marymount University where she earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Film and Television Production. While studying at LMU, Steiner was awarded the Entertainment Industry Scholarship and worked on over 50 student and professional films. In the spring of 2010 she wrote, directed, and photographed a short film that later went on to win her an award for "Best Director Honorable Mention" and a nomination for "Best Cinematography" at Film Outside the Frame. As a camera enthusiast, Steiner worked at the Student Camera Department and the Burns Photography Lab. During her final year, she was the teacher's assistant for the introduction and advanced level cinematography classes and interned at The Camera House in North Hollywood. Before graduating from LMU with honors, Steiner was awarded the Ian Connor Cinematography Award, which exemplifies her passion for the cinematic image. She believes that it is an important part of filmmaking to learn and have fun on every job.



## SUSUMU KIMURA editor

In Japan where Susumu Kimura was born and raised, he saw a movie called The Untouchables that changed his life forever. That decision led him to study film at Emerson College, where he caught the editing bug. He started editing commercials in Japan until he moved to Los Angeles to further his career. From then on he has been cutting independent movies, documentaries, studio promos and entertainment news shows. Though working on different formats, his passion and mission remain the same: "to discover stories and tell it in a best possible way". He lives with his wife and a son who looks just like him.



# **GREG NICOLETT** original music

Greg's music has enlivened the drama in some of today's most popular television shows, commercials, and indie films. For the 2011 mobster feature CHICAGO OVERCOAT (starring Frank Vincent, Katherine Narducci, Armand Assante) Greg uniquely combines elements of spaghetti westerns and noir, while his scores for the CW's web spin offs SMALLVILLE: THE VENGEANCE CHRONICLES (2007) and THE VAMPIRE DIARIES: A DARKER TRUTH (2009) preserve the tone of the series while expanding on the thematic content. In 2010, Greg's music was heard nationally for several Old Navy and Microsoft ad campaigns. His score for Keegan Wilcox's PORCELAIN UNICORN helped it win "Grand Prize" in Ridley Scott's Parallel Lines competition. In 2004. Greg composed an electronica driven score for Rene Alberta's short film ABOVE AND BENEATH, which screened at the 2005 Sundance and Toronto film festivals. Other recent projects include additional music for the romantic comedy BARRY MUNDAY (with Chloë Sevigny, Patrick Wilson, Judy Greer) orchestrations for the horror feature 30 DAYS OF NIGHT: DARK DAY, and a live orchestral score for a new adaptation of Ray Bradbury's chilling thriller THE SMALL ASSASSIN. In his spare time, Greg plays trombone with the LA based band Killsonic and is a proud member of the Young Winos LA Chapter.

# **Rosita Lopez for President**

# THE CAST



# DANIELA BOBADILLA (Rosita)

Daniela Bobadilla is a Mexican-born Canadian actress who most recently was featured in MR.TROOP MOM(2009) with George Lopez, portraying his daughter, Naomi, as well as in an episode of SMALLVILLE. She is currently appearing in her most high-profile role to date as Sam Goodson, the daughter of Dr. Charlie Goodson played by Charlie Sheen in the new TV sitcom, ANGER MANAGEMENT.



## **CHARLES ROBINSON** (Thomas)

Charles Robinson a critically acclaimed American theater and television actor. He is best known for his role as Mac Robinson in the NBC sitcom NIGHT COURT. Robinson was cast as Mac Robinson after the first season in 1984, and played the role until NIGHT COURT ended in 1992; he also directed three episodes of the series. He has also been performing since the 1960s, is a member of the Actors Studio, and is considered by Playwright Lyle Kessler to be "one of the great American Actors. Robinson's credits include appearances in BLACK GESTAPO, THE WHITE SHADOW, FLAMINGO ROAD, THE FRESH PRINCE OF BEL AIR, TOUCHED BY AN ANGEL, and ANTWONE FISHER. Robinson played recurrent character Bud Harper in *Home Improvement*, and continues to appear on shows including HOUSE, THE BERNIE MAC SHOW, MY WIFE AND KIDS, SOUL FOOD, CHARMED, HOW I MET YOUR MOTHER and MY NAME IS EARL.

# **Rosita Lopez for President** Screen Credits

Director Written By **Producers Executive Producers** Associate Producer **CAST** (in order of appearance) Rosita Lopez Thomas Hamilton Sandra Hamiltion Maria Lopez Herman Alex Hamilton **Filipe Santos Beggar** Girl Old Man Young Man Veteran Nurse Homeless Teens

Director of Photography

Editor

**Casting Director** 

Script Supervisor

**Rachel Goldberg** 

Rachel Goldberg

Danni Conner

Andre and Ami Braugher Lauri Conner Josh Goldberg Bela and Jonah Goldberg

Andrew Ahn

Daniela Bobadilla Charles Robinson Elavn J. Taylor Alandra T. Ortis Mike Muscat **Rich Pierrelouis** Alex Paez Mikaela Euro **Christian Epps** Brendan Hainer Kevin Lino Ellie Wen Jayme Foremaster Filip Milenkovic Alessandro Nori Nell Nakkan Victoria Ortiz

Marlena P. Steiner Susumu Kimura Robin Lippin, CSA Mary Shellogg **Production Designer** 

Art Director

Set Decorator

Warren Alan Young

Elizabeth Ryan

Tara Bopp Brandy Rhea Melissa Ficociello Toi Whitaker

Michelle Truong

Property Assistant/ On Set Dresser

**Costume Designer** 

Hair/Make-Up Costume Assistant

Unit Production Manager

1st Assistant Director 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Director

**Property Master** 

Assistant Production Designer

Production Sound Additional Production Sound Supervising Sound Editor/ Sound Designer Re-recording Mixer Sound Recordist

Visual Effects Artist

1st Assistant Camera 2nd Assistant Camera

Gaffer

Key Grip DIT Grip Hellin Kay

Jada Styles Hanni Fox

Jason Fracaro

Andrew Ahn Art Helterbran,Jr

Travis Prow Victoria Cloyes Brandon Cater

Thomas Curley, CSA Yancey "Pon" Franco Robert C. Jackson

Leslie Shatz Tim Limer

William J. Meyer

Amir Rakib Kevin Boot Ashe Coburn Joseph DiBartolomeo

Demian Barba Christian Epps

Kevin Boot Susumu Kimaru Takashi Matsuo Michael Meehan Final Colorist Transportation Coordinator Location Manager

Stand-in

Assistant: Ms. Goldberg Production Assistant Still Photography

Title Designer Caterer

Music by Music Supervisor

SOUNDTRACK

Danni Conner Tara Bopp Sarah Kapp William J Meyer Mark Nager Savannah Schoenecker Tucker Jason Fracaro Katie Bard

Peter Swartz

Brian Allen

Rosie Djibinian Cooper Bates William J. Meyer Grace Lee

Greg Nicolett Jen Malone

"Periodic Snip Flute" Performed by Bart Hopkin Written by Bart Hopkin Musical instruments designed & built by Bart Hopkin Published by Experimental Musical Instruments

"Cat's Face" Performed by Bart Hopkin Written by Bart Hopkin Musical instruments designed & built by Bart Hopkin Published by Experimental Musical Instruments

#### VIDEO CLIPS

"Homeless Americans forced to live in tents" Used in courtesy of RTAmerica Under Creative Commons License Atributed 3.0 Unported (CC By 3.0)

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#### EXTRA SPECIAL THANKS

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#### SPECIAL THANKS

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#### **Sponsors**

Hey What's Your Face Lighting and Grip Hollywood Short Films Film Independent Ascap Cal Humanities Color Space Finishing Hollywood Rentals Panavision

#### **Special Thanks To:**

Film Independent ASCAP Color Space Finishing Hollywood Rentals Panavision Rudy's Babershop Universal Studios Wexler Wildfire Post Production

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#### Location

American Academy of Dramatic Arts Olde Goode Things

# **Rosita Lopez for President** PRODUCTION STILLS



"Daniela Bobadilla as the young Rosita Lopez."



"Behind the scenes at Olde Good Things."



"Production sound guru, Tom Curley, adjusts a mic on the talented Elayn J. Taylor."



"Rachel directs the talented Charlie Robinson in his role of Thomas Hamilton."

# **Rosita Lopez for President** Awards & Festivals & Reviews

### **FESTIVALS**

2014 WINNER BEST OVERALL SHORT FILM River Bend Film Festival

2014 HBO JURY PRIZE RUNNER-UP BEST SHORT FILM Miami GLBT Film Festival

2014 Cleveland International Film Festival

2014 Athens Film + Video Film Festival

2014 Gasparilla International Film Festival

2014 Capital City Film Festival

2014 Boston LGBT Film Festival

2014 San Francisco Black Film Festival

2014 LA Diversity Film Festival

2014 SHOUT Birmingham GLBT Film Festival

2104 Queen City Black Film Festival

2013 Rhode Island Film Festival – World Premiere

2013 BET/HBO Urbanworld Film Festival – NY Premier

2013 Chinese American Film Festival

### **REVIEWS**

"Rosita Lopes is a wonderfully quirky, well executed, dynamic and stylized short filmwhich highlights the talent of the capable and unique storytelling that is of director, Rachel Goldberg. A strong female visionary- brava!"

-Lauren Avinoam (Producer, Undiscovered Gyrl)