



Frequently Asked Questions

CAMPAIGN TO ORGANIZE NEW MEDIA

Q: What happens on January 1, 2009? I've heard something about Rule 1.

A: On January 1st, 2009, SAG will begin rigorously enforcing Rule 1 in New Media. Rule 1 says that no member can work on a non-signatory production. In the new-year, violating Rule 1 means disciplinary action ranging from fines to suspension. But fear not. SAG will help you to organize non-union New Media productions. Email OrganizingNewMedia@sag.org for more information.

**SAG members may also work in new media under an AFTRA agreement without being in violation of membership rules.*

Q: I'm a professional actor. Should I be working in New Media?

A: Absolutely. New Media is exploding, and opportunities for professional actors are everywhere. Having SAG contracts for all New Media creates the expectation within the industry that actors require union standards.

Q: I heard that SAG has no jurisdiction in New Media. Is this true?

A: No. Producers, casting directors or agents may tell you that SAG doesn't cover new media or that it is too expensive to produce union. It's every SAG member's right and responsibility to work under a union agreement, and SAG makes it easy for both actors and producers with our negotiable rates.

Q: Yeah, but is SAG actually signing New Media projects?

A: SAG has signed over 750 projects with nearly 500 companies, and that number is growing daily. SAG has had contracts covering New Media and SAG members working on all new media platforms for almost a decade.

Q: If the project I worked on under a SAG agreement gets sold or sponsored, will I be compensated?

A: SAG's New Media contract ensures that if the project you work on makes money you and the other actors make money too. If you are working without a SAG contract this protection doesn't apply.

Q: I want to create my own independent project. Will SAG allow me to do this?

A: Absolutely, in fact, we encourage it. If you have a digital camera and a computer, you can produce new media. The opportunity for actors to create and control their own work is real, and SAG is ready to help. We host New Media panels, discussion groups, and signatory workshops regularly. Email move@sag.org to get on the invite list to our next New Media event.

Q: Will I be able to understand the contract?

A: Of course. SAG's New Media contract is easy to understand. It's only a few pages. There's no cost or bond required and our staff is here to help you through the simple process.

Q: How long does it take to become signatory?

A: We ask for a week to process your information.

Q: If I'm just doing a favor for a friend by appearing in their project, do I have to be covered?

A: Yes. SAG members working in new media must be covered by a union agreement even if everyone is working for free. Good relationships in the business are built on mutual, professional respect. This is show *BUSINESS*. And you need to take your business as seriously as you do your craft.

**WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED:
FOR MORE INFORMATION ON SAG NEW MEDIA
CONTRACTS, email organizingnewmedia@sag.org or call (323) 549-6777.**