



# Act Now!

LA's most exclusive  
Networking company

March  
2009

## Recent Successes!

\*CAPS denotes FILM projects

### BOOKED!

Eden Malyn	Desperate Writers
Jennica Schwartzman	National Commercial
Ryan Schwartzman	National Commercial
Mark Doerr	The Unit
Tara Perry	Jimmy Kimmell Live!
Tracey Leigh	Criminal Minds

### READ FOR!

Michelle Josette	Life
Lauren Kincheloe	National Commercial
Jeff Williams	Brothers and Sisters
Philip Asta	Spec Commercial
Nicole Stanton	House
Crystal Howens	National Commercial
Elaine Loh	The Eleventh Hour
Jeanine Anderson	Desperate Housewives
Eden Malyn	National Commercial
Glenda Morgan Brown	Desperate Housewives
Sean Grenty	Greek
Anne Paul King	5 times for Dan Valez
Kate Martin	Lie to Me
Kelsey Scott	Desperate Writers
Kelsey Scott	Crowns
Jess Raskin	Numbers
Michelle Josette	Extra Credit
Jonathan Aube	Lie to Me
Casey Hendershot	House
Jennifer Lewis	House
David Gunning	Nip/Tuck

### Agency Call-In/ SIGNED!

Kate Huffman signed w/Bobby Ball through Act Now! referral!

## Featured Client of the Month! Jon Paul Burkhardt



Jon Paul Burkhardt

Dear Act Now,

I really don't know what to say here. I am still unsure as to who referred me to Act Now. I think it might have been a casting director friend from North Carolina. Small world, right? Anyway, I moved to L.A. from Dallas, TX and had only been here for two months when I took my first Act Now workshop. I was not sure what to expect going into my first class. I was pleasantly surprised to find very talented performers of every type. And from hearing other actors talk, I gathered this was not the norm in L.A.

My second class was a one-day workshop with Scott David of Criminal Minds. This was on a Saturday...he called me in to read the following Tuesday. I was blown away. It had worked! So I began to watch tons of TV (a perk of being an actor, watching TV is homework...awesome). I find the shows with lots of co-star roles, find out if and when they are

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This is NOT a picture of Daneille Lanninger.

## Interview with Casting Director Daneille Lanninger

By: Kenna Dean,  
Owner of Act Now!

**How long have you been with your current office?**

3 years

**What projects are you currently casting?**

We cast Independent Film: Playing with the Enemy, Lady Luck, The Godmother (and) Soon to follow: Jesus and Momma & Lucifer

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**Do you have a Birthday this month?**

**If so, call your consultant to save 10% off one workshop of your choice.**

(This offer cannot be combined with any other discounts, expires Mar 31st 2009)





## Danielle Lenninger, cont. from pg. 1

### **What are some of your biggest do's and don'ts?**

DO send me a new headshot when you have them or anything has been updated, like your representation  
 DO NOT send me postcards for no reason or just to say going to be on a show, it is wasteful  
 DO constantly study and work your craft  
 DO NOT show up at my office unprepared  
 DO NOT bring in props, mime if necessary  
 DO ask questions about script or character  
 DO NOT push your luck and keep talking and talking

### **How beneficial do you find workshops in your casting process?**

IT is the MOST IMPORTANT tool we use. With Independent film we don't have millions of dollars to hold pre reads with hundreds of people, I have my director and or producer in the room first time, I need the best 30 people I have SEEN. I do pull from electronic from certain agencies then I go right to my books, I have seen these actors I know what they can do, my job depends on how well these actors do, again saves time and money. I love doing workshops and meeting all the people involved, it's nice to be a part of people truly working on their craft.

### **Do you attend theatre? Stand-Up Comedy? Showcases other than workshops?**

LOVE TO! I am fairly new, only 3 years, there are so many actors to see and things for me to learn, when doing a play is the only time I like a post card, especially from someone I have taught, I LOVE to come and support.

### **Are there any tips you can give an actor who is just starting out in the LA market?**

Work hard everyday, make things happen don't wait for it to come to you. TAKE CLASS!!! DO WORKSHOPS!! It's the only way to get your face and name out there.

### **Talk about headshots. This seems to always be a big challenge for an actor. What advice can you give them about getting the "right" shot?**

Be yourself, if your hair is straight do NOT put curlers in and sweep it up, you want it to look as much like you as possible, one time I called a guy in from just his head shot, I thought I was getting "Broke back" and got "Capote" NO GOOD!! You WILL upset the casting director and waste everyone's time. One smile, one serious is all you need, theatrically, commercially .....Go wild do what you want, but theatrically less is more, no black, white, or red, no symbols or background distractions, and your HEAD, it is a HEAD shot for a reason, no need for full body, save it for commercial or Barbizon. Also age appropriate, don't give me a head shot from 5/ 10 years ago, YOU DON'T LOOK LIKE THAT ANYMORE!!! You will waste your own time, will get called in for the wrong part, won't get it, and upset casting and never be seen by them again.



**Danielle Lenninger, cont. from pg. 2**

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**Let's say an actor has the right look for a role, however doesn't necessarily have the credits you are looking for, how much can good training play into the equation of whether or not you'll bring them in?**

I care about credits for sure, but if I have seen them in a workshop and know they are awesome without the credits, FOR SURE I bring them in, the right look, at the right time, will help if I am having a big pre-read; but in my office I would have had to see you work prior, with me or at a showcase.

**Do you respond to actors whose work you have not seen when they submit directly to you with a headshot/resume or postcard?**

ABSOLUTELY NOT, we do NOT take unsolicited mail!!!!!!

**What is the best way for an actor to keep in touch with you?**

Keep sending me updated headshots, or invite me to something they are a part of.

**When do you watch reels? For which roles?**

When I request them or if posted on breakdowns with headshot, super easy to click on link and check them out. When looking at electronic submissions if I see someone and I like their look but they don't have the credits I look at the reel to see what they can do or if the look is close but other pictures are so different I want to see what they really look like and how they come across on screen. If sent in the mail not by request, I save the cover and the reel goes right in the garbage.

**Thank you for your time and honesty, Danielle. We look forward to seeing you on April 1st for your next workshop!**

**Kenna Dean  
Owner, Act Now**

**Jon Paul Burkhart, cont. from pg. 1**

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coming to Act Now and sign up! Also, the lovely Act Now consultants pick up the phone and call when they have workshops geared toward your talents and strengths...not to mention the emails! Let's face it, email makes you feel important.

If you are just starting with Act Now and have not been called in yet, don't get frustrated. I took a workshop over 7 months ago and was just called in to read last week! In some cases I've been called in immediately, then not again for several months. Casting directors can't bring you in for every role, so be patient, but diligent.

Now...on to the Act Now consultants. I was first called in and started working with Helon Lampe, who is just wonderful. A few months down the line, Helon took a leave of absence and Glenda Morgan Brown became my new consultant. I remember the day we met. I called Act Now in a frantic state,





### Jon Paul Burkhart, cont. from pg 3

needing to put myself on tape for a feature and get it to the casting office before 5pm. Glenda agreed to take time out of her day and read with me, and even offered some very helpful direction! These ladies are not just selling workshops...they are our friends and care about us. It is actors helping other actors.

I have been fortunate with my career in the past year, due in large part to Act Now. I have read for and been called back for some really terrific shows and also made some very good friends in the process.

Act Now is a “networking tool,” this is true. However, it’s also a place to grow as an artist, discover new talents and make friends.

I appreciate you more than words can say.

Thank you,

Jon Paul Burkhart

**WOW Jon! Just goes to show you that if you combine a positive attitude with pro-activity, good things happen. We are proud of you and wish you continued success!  
Love, The Act Now gals!**



**Happy St. Patrick’s Day  
Love, The Act Now Gals!**

