

Excellence in Entertainment and Intellectual Property Law



1st

Entertainment and
Media Law LL.M.
Program in the U.S.

50+

Intellectual Property,
Entertainment, Media
& Sports Law
Courses on Rotation

500+

Members of SW Law's
Entertainment + IP Alumni
Association

Entertainment Institute

Southwestern Law School's Biederman Institute is a leading academic center for the study of entertainment, media, the arts, and sports law. The Institute trains students to become excellent and creative lawyers through rigorous and unique courses, programs, externships, clinical experiences, and other opportunities. Working with a law student population that is more than fifty percent racially and ethnically diverse, the Institute is a pipeline to diversify the legal profession and entertainment industry. The Institute actively seeks opportunities to advance social justice. Institute professors publish in leading journals, write books, and present at conferences around the world.

Entertainment & the Arts Clinic

Through the Entertainment & the Arts Legal Clinic, the Institute serves and advocates for talent, writers, composers, producers, directors, rights-holders, and others who seek legal assistance with their creative projects and affords students unique, hands-on opportunities to develop critical lawyering skills. The Clinic serves approximately 30 clients each semester and has handled hundreds of matters since its 2012 inception. Clinic projects include documentaries such as *Mission Joy* (Tribeca Film Festival/Netflix), *Pay or Die* (SXSW/Paramount+), *Holding Liat* (Berlinale (Winner), Oscars 2026 shortlist), *Barbara Forever* (Sundance 2026), subject of *Soul Patrol* (Sundance 2026), and *How to Sue the Klan* (Pan African Film Festival), numerous scripted fiction films, and a podcast.

The Work We Do

The Clinic works closely with its clients on the following types of development, production, and distribution business affairs and legal matters, among others:

- Clearance work including trademark analysis, privacy torts considerations, and fair use analyses of unauthorized uses of third-party materials
- Development agreements such as shopping/attachment and option purchase agreements
- Above and below-the-line services agreements for cast and crew, (e.g., producer, director, writer, composer, editor, cinematographer)
- Co-production agreements
- Executive Producer agreements including donor and grant agreements
- Master use and sync licenses
- Appearance, location, and materials releases
- Certificates of authorship and assignments
- Non-disclosure agreements
- Distribution agreements
- Quitclaims



SCAN HERE
to access SWLaw.edu/EntClinic
for more info.



The Golden Globe Foundation generously supports Southwestern Law School's Entertainment & the Arts Legal Clinic and A Conversation With podcasts and events.

Southwestern Law School is approved by the American Bar Association (Council of the American Bar Association Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar, 321 North Clark Street, Chicago, IL 60654, 312-988-6738) and is a member of the Association of American Law Schools.

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