

LOCAL STORIES

## Meet Vanessa Silva & Heather Hentila from Footlight Studios | Film+Media Storytellers



**We had the good  
fortune of connecting  
with Vanessa Silva &  
Heather Hentila from  
Footlight Studios**

**Hi Vanessa Silva & Heather Hentila, what do you attribute your success to?**

Our goal is and always has been to continually evolve as a collective, a network, and as individual artists, consistently aiming to elevate our craft. This, of course, always comes with lessons that catapult us to the next evolution. Along the way, one of the most important things we've learned is that not everyone understands your vision, and that's okay. But as long as you believe in your goals, your passion, and your team, those who were meant to understand your vision will ultimately be a part of it. Fortunately, we've been able to surround ourselves with incredible artists whose passion for making film and media projects mirrors our own. And, as we've grown and evolved, so has our community. So, we absolutely attribute any and all success of Footlight Studios to unyielding teamwork, and imperative and meaningful collaborations.



**Can you open up a bit about your work and career? We're big fans and we'd love for our community to learn more about your work.**

When we met in an acting class, we quickly realized our shared vision of creating characters we not only wanted to portray as actors, but to see more of on screen. Naturally, as female storytellers ourselves, and with a background in production and performance, we aimed to do so by amplifying female storytellers, perspectives, experiences, and voices, thus starting Footlight Entertainment at the end of 2014. As we continued to grow, in projects, scope, and crew, we eventually evolved into Footlight Studios and have produced a wide mix of content from films and series to photography and beyond ever since. As an award-winning in-house team of storytellers, we collaborate with artists and partner with clients to create dynamic, entertaining, and authentic content through film and media production. Our projects span across a multitude of mediums specializing in full-service storytelling from development to delivery, and we're always looking to collaborate!

**If you had a friend visiting you, what are some of the local spots you'd want to take them around to?**

Since we're based in the Temecula Valley, we have the unique opportunity to be nestled in Southern California Wine Country with direct access to San Diego, Inland Empire, OC and LA, so the sky is the limit. Obviously, the wineries here in the Temecula Valley go without saying, but amazing restaurants like Luke's On Front need a huge shoutout. In the Inland Empire, there are so many incredible activities like horseback riding and ATVing, but again, just a stone's throw from San Diego's nightlife, Orange County's Disneyland and LA's Hollywood landmarks.





**Who else deserves some credit and recognition?**

Our efforts and success are highly attributed to our team who has been working with us for the better part of a decade. The dedication, expertise and passion of the team at Footlight Studios is the driving force behind our projects that entertain, inspire, inform, and captivate. Therefore we'd love to shout out Ainsley Nicholson, Chelsea Gray, Dillan Blackwood, Cassie Anderson, Alexandra Flores, and Kevin Elmore. All rockstars and tireless filmmakers. We could not do what we do without them, as well as the extremely talented artists we collaborate with, and the clients that partner with us!

**Website**

[FootlightStudiosLA.com](http://FootlightStudiosLA.com)

**Instagram**

@footlightstudios

**Image Credits**

Dillan Blackwood, Chris McMillan, Cody Cook

