POWER of WOMEN

TAking Pride, Making Strides

Variety's 2014 Women's Impact Report highlights talented game-changers working to innovate in the entertainment industry

Orly Adelson
PRESIDENT, ITV STUDIOS AMERICA

Since assuming her position as president of ITV Studios America in January, Adelson has launched the company's scripted division, which quickly unveiled two series, "The Good Witch" and "Texas Rising." She has also since grown its nonscripted biz by 30%. On the philanthropic side, Adelson serves on the advisory board of the USO, having been an officer herself in the Israeli army. She is also an active board member of Women in Film, and has mentored a young student who is now on her third year at UC Berkeley. Through her involvement in WiFi, Adelson hopes to "make a significant impact on the ratio of women in the business. ... I want to give back to the business I belong to."

Jessica Alba
ACTOR, ENTREPRENEUR

Between running a company, raising two girls and the many charities she attends to, Alba often finds being on set the most relaxing activity on her schedule. Determined to give children a safe environment, Alba launched the Honest Co. in 2012 with an affordable line of all-natural personal, childcare and household cleaning products. "It's more of a lifestyle we are selling," says Alba, who believes in a holistic approach to the business. While Honest CEO and co-founder Brian Lee steers the business side, Alba is closely involved with the creative aspects of the company, overseeing marketing campaigns and packaging designs. The Honest Co. has reportedly raised $70 million at a valuation of nearly $1 billion in preparation for an IPO, and talks are under way to expand into China.

Stephanie Allain
DIRECTOR, LOS ANGELES FILM FESTIVAL

Allain knows what it's like on both sides of the festival lineup with her work as a producer on films like "Hustle & Flow," "Beyond the Lights" and "Dear White People," as well as her role as director of the Film Independent's Los Angeles Film Festival, which celebrated its 20th anniversary this year. For her, a successful festival celebrates the diverse creative community in L.A. and exposes locals to unique voices working in film. "It's the crossroads of L.A.,” Allain says. "Our mayor ... says L.A. is where creativity lives. And it's true, more creative people live in L.A. than anywhere else in the world. So we're just the festival bringing people together for eight days downtown."

Michele Anthony
EXEC VP, U.S. RECORDED MUSIC, UNIVERSAL MUSIC GROUP

Anthony joined Universal Music Group last November and high on her priority list was working with UMG chair and CEO Lucian Grainge to re-establish Island Records and Def Jam, which were recently split back into separate entities after years under the same umbrella. "It was ironic to me that a brand like Island, who once signed a reggae artist by the name of Bob Marley, was limited to really signing alternative and pop artists because anything urban went to Def Jam, which ironically was started by Rick Rubin, who signed Slayer and the Beastie Boys. So you had this shrinking of what the brands originally stood for," says Anthony.

Bonnie Arnold
PRODUCER

Arnold has spent a big chunk of her professional life around dragons and the Vikings who fear and love them. "How to Train Your Dragon 2" roared in $610 million worldwide two years after "How to Train Your Dragon" grossed close to $500 million. She's just started working on the third "Dragon" epic. Besides dragons, she works with Women in Animation in order to bring more female voices into a male-dominated field. "We're trying to encourage more young girls to develop careers in technology, and get them the knowledge and education and understanding what kind of career paths are out there."

Carolyn G. Bernstein
EXEC VP, SCRIPTED PROGRAMMING, SHINE AMERICA

Learning "The Bridge" won a Peabody Award in May was the highlight of Bernstein's year. But having the series get a second season order from FX was up there, too. "Getting an order for season 2, and having the trust of the network for us to go in a significantly different creative direction was a really, really, happy moment," Bernstein says. Another accomplishment was getting "Gracepoint" made. "It was a two-continental, three-country effort!" Bernstein is working on David Fincher and "Gone Girl" author Gillian Flynn's adaptation of the U.K. drama "Utopia," for HBO. "Working with them is a dream come true," she says.