



PHILEMON M NYANSERA

Brooklyn, NY (929) 373-9552 phil.makini.studio@gmail.com

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Creative, goal-driven Senior Cinematographer with over a decade of experience in film production across a wide range of sectors. Known for high-quality cinematography and creative problem-solving, I excel in delivering industry-standard content using the latest production equipment and software. A strong communicator and leader, I collaborate effectively with directors, producers, and cross-functional teams to bring creative concepts to life. Passionate about innovative lighting, shot composition, and storytelling, I thrive in both independent and team-driven environments.

SKILLS

- Cinematography & Lighting Design
- Project Management & Coordination
- Tech Support & Electrical Troubleshooting
- Drone & Gimbal Operation
- Film Direction & Editing
- AV Support (Zoom/Teams)
- Cross-Functional Team Collaboration
- Color Grading & Post-Production
- Photography & Location Sound
- Multi platform Content Creation

EXPERIENCE

January 2021 - Current

Senior Videographer

VNS Health | New York, USA

- Lead videographer and editor, overseeing video production for VNS Health, serving over 12,000 staff
- Responsible for elevating content quality, training teams, and creating innovative video solutions aligned with the company's brand image and objectives
- Elevated in-house production quality, significantly increasing viewership and engagement across platforms
- Spearheaded training initiatives for staff in lighting and equipment handling, improving overall production standards
- Collaborated with cross-functional teams to produce creative and compliant content within organizational regulations

January 2016 - Current

Video Producer

Bethesda Healing Center | Brooklyn, NY, USA

- Produced creative video campaigns to raise awareness for various initiatives, including safety and community outreach during the COVID-19 pandemic

January 2011 - Current

Director/Cinematographer

Phil.makini Productions | New York/Nairobi

- Founded and managed a successful production company, offering cinematography, directing, and photography services to small businesses and production companies
- Directed over 20 short films and worked on award-winning projects featured across major streaming platforms and news outlets
- Built and maintained strong client relationships, delivering exceptional visual content from concept to completion

August 2022 - September 2024

Freelance Cinematographer

Pivotal Ventures

- Company Overview: Melinda Gates Media Company
- Filming and producing high-impact visual content for Pivotal Ventures, capturing interviews with global leaders and documenting initiatives that promote social change
- Produced compelling visual narratives that reflect the mission and values of Pivotal Ventures
- Collaborated with directors and producers to create content that resonates with a global audience
- Melinda Gates Media Company

October 2016 - March 2020

Sales Representative

Clarins USA | Brooklyn, NY, USA

- Helped achieve a \$20k weekly team sales goal by innovating ways to acquire new customers and boost retention

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Arts - Film Production
City University of New York - Brooklyn College,
Brooklyn, NY

Associate of Arts - Digital Film, Video, and Television
(Cinematography)
Africa Digital Media Institute, Nairobi, KE

NOTABLEPROJECTS

- Black People Who Hike Docuseries, Director of Photography, Filmed and documented a hiking documentary series for BPWH's National Park tour, including locations like Yellowstone, Acadia, and Hawaii Volcanoes National Park.

- Amazon Multi-City Documentary, Camera Operator, Filmed a documentary series across multiple cities for Amazon, showcasing stories of innovation and entrepreneurship.
 - BBC World - African Docs, Director of Photography, Collaborated with BBC Africa correspondent Larry Madowo to produce a series documenting African stories in the U.S.
 - Ready Set Media - Modern Hero Show, Freelance Camera Operator, Camera work for a series highlighting influential global figures in various fields.
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AWARDSRECOGNITION

- Ava digital awards 2024 - VNS Health
 - The communicator awards Silver 2023 - VNS Health
 - The communicator awards Gold 2024 - VNS Health
 - The Telly Awards Bronze 2023 - VNS Health
 - The Telly Awards Gold 2024 - VNS Health
 - Best Short Documentary, International World Film Awards 2023
 - Winner, Impact Docs Award 2023
 - Featured, Think Shorts Film Festival 2021
 - Best Director, DMO Film Festival (2020)
 - Quarantine Film Contest Winner, Shorts Film Festival (2020)
 - 11th Collection Winner, International portrait photography contest (2017)
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LANGUAGE

English
Native

Swahili
Fluent

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Volunteer with the National Park Service.