

Biography



Kile Ozier

Born in Los Angeles and raised in the mountains of Oregon; educated in Southern California and Italy before graduating from **Georgetown University** with a B.S. in Foreign Service. Kile Ozier has built a career that spans two decades and crosses four continents.

After college, he worked for **World Campus Afloat/ Semester at Sea** in the waters off and between Central America, Asia and the South Pacific; arranging in-port programs for the traveling student body and as fly-ahead for these programs during the semester. Following this, he returned to Washington, D.C. as National Youth Director for **President Ford** in his 1976 election campaign. The campaign over, Mr. Ozier worked at the **U.S. Department of State (U.S. Youth Council)**, directing International Conferences of young political leaders in Western Europe and the United States.

Moving to San Francisco in 1978 and going to work for **Levi Strauss & Co.** marked the first, most direct manifestation of Mr. Ozier's social consciousness, as well. Founding and chairing the first home office **Community Involvement Team** in the history of Levi Strauss, Ozier initiated fundraising campaigns and events in support of institutions such as San Francisco's Recreation Center for the Handicapped, evolving to involve several other San Francisco-based corporations in the process.

From Levi, Mr. Ozier spent a year as Publications Director for the **San Francisco Chamber of Commerce**: leaving that to freelance as a writer and political consultant before returning to the corporate world as staff writer for **Pacific Bell's** External Affairs Division a year later. Once his talent for production and organizational skills came to the attention of those above him and at City Hall, Kile soon found himself being "loaned" by the company to the **City of San Francisco** to produce **Mayor Feinstein's 1984 Inaugural**.

This arrangement grew to the point that Ozier was repeatedly "assigned" to the City Hall office of Protocol to produce ceremonies such as those for the **President of France**, the **Premier of China**, and the spectacular Rotunda Reception kick-off for 10,000 as part of the **1984 Democratic Convention** in San Francisco.

Ensuing years saw Ozier producing scores of Civic ceremonies and celebrations on his own for the Mayors of San Francisco, including the Agnos **Mayoral Inaugural** in 1988, several **Fleet Week** Celebrations (receiving a **Letter of Commendation** from

the **Secretary of the Navy** for "Best US Navy Event in 1987"), the visits of several Foreign Heads of State and the San Francisco-hosted **NFL Super Bowl** events. During this period, Mr. Ozier left the telephone company to join **FM Productions** for a stint before opening his own office as **Ozier Production** in San Francisco's Financial District.

Under the auspices of **Ozier Production**, Kile continued to produce civic and corporate ceremonies along with an appreciable amount of writing and industrial video production. Most significant during this time was the concept development and production of **Stanford University's National Centennial Celebration Tour** (1987-1990); conceiving, creating and taking a 360°, ballroom-sized replica of Stanford's most well-known feature, The Quad, to eleven cities over three years and Producing and Directing a pair of full-length musical productions as part of that context.

Concurrent with this, Mr. Ozier initiated a fundraising effort in his living room that has grown to become one of San Francisco's most significant annual AIDS Events. Recognizing it's twentieth anniversary in 2000, **Academy of Friends** (re-named from **Friends of Oscar** in 1990) has set new standards in charity event production and structure. Completely underwritten through personal and corporate contributions and in-kind donation, the organization can guarantee **100%** of the ticket price goes directly to each year's beneficiary AIDS direct-care agencies, which change annually to respond to areas of greatest need.

This unique event continues with an integrity and screening process so sophisticated that **AT&T** has Academy of Friends administer its corporate AIDS contributions in Northern California.

With production values that surpass any other event of it's kind, **Academy of Friends** has grown to become the largest annual Academy Awards event outside Los Angeles and the third-largest AIDS funding institution in Northern California; distributing over \$4.5 million by 2003..

Retiring from the Chair and Board in 1990, Mr. Ozier moved to Los Angeles to expand his work into theme parks and film while continuing to produce large-scale ceremonies. Most significant to Kile is the production of the **Candle Light Vigil** for 250,000 at the Lincoln Memorial for the International AIDS Memorial Quilt Display in Washington, D.C. in October of 1992.

1993 was spent in the concept development and writing of a business plan for a proposed **Virgin Megatropolis** urban theme park network.

His major project for 1994 was Producer and Director of the Opening and Closing Ceremonies for **Gay Games IV** at Yankee Stadium in New York City. At that time, the largest gathering of athletes of that century; it surpassed even the Los Angeles or Barcelona Olympic Games in number of athletic participants.

Late 1994 and 1995 saw Kile busy developing concepts at **Universal Studios Hollywood**, including the writing of original live show concepts for the new **Islands of Adventure** project in Orlando, as well as **Directing Concept Development** for a separate, entirely new theme park; then planned for Hollywood.

Maintaining a presence in New York City, Mr. Ozier conducted and wrote a viability study of the **1996 Goodwill Games** for **Chase Manhattan Bank** . He continued to manage several projects, taking him from the UK to Australia during breaks from his work for Universal in Hollywood.

In April of 1996, Mr. Ozier was persuaded to move to Orlando and create the position of Director of Creative Development at **Universal Studios Florida** .

Mr. Ozier has remained active in community and AIDS-related work; having served on the Board of Directors of the **AIDS Memorial Grove in Golden Gate Park** in San Francisco and as Vice-Chair of the **Los Angeles Shanti Foundation** .

A landmark project in the arena of non-profit and community work was the production of the first **Halloween San Francisco Spectacular** ; five hours of entertainment for 200,000 revelers gathered in San Francisco's Civic Center and hosted by **Mayor Willie Brown** under the auspices of **Community United Against Violence** . This kept him shuttling back and forth from Orlando to San Francisco on several weekends during 1996.

Mr. Ozier relocated to New York in April of 1997 and is currently at work writing and developing theatrical projects under the auspices of his **Handshake Production** banner and the development of unique and wonderful, stirring spectacles under the aegis of his **Buckle Up! Production** flag.

Ozier was elected to the Board of Directors of the Themed Entertainment Association (T.E.A.) in November of 1998.

In 1999, as a consultant to the international Federation of Gay Games, he created their **Guidelines for Protocol and Ceremonies** . The multinational body at the 1999 Annual Meeting in Berlin unanimously ratified this document.

On March 23, 2000, **Mayor Willie Brown** proclaimed **Kile Ozier Day** in San Francisco, "to recognize and honor his creative vision..." and for his dedication to that community.

From early 2000, through to June of 2002, Ozier developed concept, directed and produced the "Think Again!" Experience for **Stanford University** . This centerpiece of a \$1billion Campaign for Undergraduate Education had the over-arching mission of creating "...a national network of alumni, re-connected to the University." In leaving "rooms full of weeping millionaires" in each of the 12 Cities toured by this spectacular multi-media experience before it wrapped in June of 2002; this mission was unassailably accomplished.

Subsequent to the Stanford Project, **Harvard Law School** approached Kile and, in the Spring of 2003, he created the launch experience for that institution's \$500 million development campaign, "Setting the Standard." Though it was more daunting to attempt to bring a roomful of lawyers to wistful tears; Ozier came as close as possible to that goal.

During this time, Ozier has been presenting seminars on applications of his theories of Creative Disorientation and Successive Discovery to professionals in the fields of entertainment, marketing and branding, museums and retail.