

Emerging filmmaker, Erica Sutherlin, holds a Master of Fine Arts in Film and Television Production from University of Southern California's School of Cinematic Arts. Recently, Ms. Sutherlin was selected for the Lifetime Network's Director Shadow program. Also, she held a Fellowship with the Blackhouse Foundation Sundance Fellows program. As a director/writer, Erica co-wrote and directed her first feature film, *Stratosphere*.

As a writer, during her time at USC, Ms. Sutherlin, in various writer's rooms assisted in development, writing and producing the sitcom, *UnSchooled*; *SUGAR LAND*, a short-form limited series drama and a feature script, *Voodoo Macbeth*, which was produced through USC and sponsored by Warner Brothers.

As a poet and essayist, Ms. Sutherlin has published works in - *Building Womanist Coalitions: Writing and Teaching in the Spirit of Love* and *Hooked on the Art of Love: bell hooks and My Calling for Soul-Work*.

Before entering the world of Film and television, Ms. Sutherlin was a theatrical director, equity actress, writer and arts educator, who has directed, performed and taught nationally and internationally. Ms. Sutherlin has received the Shriram Family Fellowship, Jean & Ruth Negulesco Endowment Fellowship, the Director's Citation and the NHS Noble Educator of Distinction Award. She has been featured in numerous newspapers, magazine, radio shows and digital media source platforms for her performances, writings and directing accolades.