

## **PRODUCER BIOGRAPHIES**

### **ROGER WEISBERG, PRODUCER/DIRECTOR**

Roger Weisberg joined Thirteen/WNET in 1977 as a producer of the Emmy-winning series, *HELP YOURSELF*. He produced dozens of programs on a broad range of subjects including aging, domestic violence, juvenile justice, consumer fraud, health care, the environment, child welfare, and urban poverty. Since 1980, he wrote, produced, and directed twenty-five PBS documentaries through his independent production company, Public Policy Productions. These documentaries have won over a hundred awards including Peabody, Emmy, and duPont-Columbia awards. Some of Weisberg's films are verite style documentaries with no narration. Others are narrated by prominent actors including Meryl Streep, Helen Hayes, and James Earl Jones, as well as distinguished journalists including Marvin Kalb, Jane Pauley, and Walter Cronkite. While all of Weisberg's documentaries ultimately were broadcast on national public television, his 1993 documentary, *ROAD SCHOLAR*, and his 1999 documentary, *SOUND AND FURY*, had broad theatrical releases before airing on PBS. Weisberg received an Academy Award® nomination in 2001 for *SOUND AND FURY* and in 2003 for *WHY CAN'T WE BE A FAMILY AGAIN?* His current productions are *AGING OUT* about teenagers who must fend for themselves after leaving foster care and *WAGING A LIVING* about the struggles of low-wage workers to lift their families out of poverty.

### **TOD LENDING, PRODUCER/DIRECTOR**

Tod Lending is an Academy Award®-nominated and Emmy award-winning producer, director, and writer whose work has aired nationally on ABC, CBS, NBC, PBS, and HBO. His productions have been screened at national and international festivals and have been televised internationally in Europe and Asia. He is the president and founder of Nomadic Pictures, a film and television production company that is based in Chicago.

Lending's feature documentary, *LEGACY*, which he produced, directed and wrote, was nominated for an Academy Award® in 2000. The film aired on Cinemax/HBO in the summer of 2001 and was a critical success at the Sundance Film Festival 2000. The film was awarded the Reel Screen Innovation in Documentary Award and two IDA awards.

Lending also produced, directed, and wrote the international award winning *NO TIME TO BE A CHILD*, a three-part documentary series that aired nationally on PBS. The series garnered a national Emmy, two Casey Medals for Meritorious Journalism, two New York Festival World Medals, a Gold Apple, two CINE Gold Eagles, two Chris awards, and a National Headliner award. In addition to its national and international television release, programs in the series have been widely distributed to high schools, universities, community groups, and professional organizations throughout the country.