JERRY BRYANT

Chicago music legend and founder of JBTV, Jerry Bryant, has produced and aired over 3,600 episodes of the television music showcase since its inception in 1985. His love for music, respect for talent, and determination to introduce overlooked artists to his loyal viewers have twice garnered him the coveted Billboard Music Video Award for Best Local/Regional Alternative Modern Rock Show and multiple Chicago/Midwest Emmy® Awards for production.

Jerry’s music history began in the mid-1960s with the formation of Studio Enterprises, a student radio training ground with Junior Achievement. He produced radio specials with The Supremes, The Beatles, Rolling Stones and other new acts at the time. In 1967, Jerry produced Studio 68, a local Milwaukee TV program featuring high school students doing comedy skits and reporting music news. From 1971 to 1973, Jerry was General Manager, Program Director and on-air personality at WQFM in Milwaukee.

In 1973, Jerry co-founded SuperSpots, a company developed to produce creative television advertising for the entertainment and leisure industry. SuperSpots moved to Chicago in 1979 to take advantage of the growing television market to include cable advertising. The company continues today and Jerry has developed Emmy® Award-winning spots for national and local advertising campaigns like WLIT-FM.

Jerry developed JBTV to show artistic music videos on TV. An all-volunteer student staff gets a once in a lifetime opportunity to do all aspects of television production. Every year, more than 20 interns graduate from JBTV into professional industry jobs.

Throughout his career, Jerry generously welcomed new artists and promoted their work when major channels presented barriers to new music talent. He has launched the careers of hundreds of artists — many have gone on to worldwide acclaim. The big names in modern rock history who owe their success, in part, to JBTV include Joey Ramone, Green Day, Smashing Pumpkins, Moby, No Doubt and Henry Rollins. As a result, Chicago's JBTV has become the longest running resource of modern-music television programming in the world and Jerry Bryant has become an icon in the rock 'n roll community.

CAROLE B. CARTWRIGHT

Carole B. Cartwright embraced the influential broadcast world from the moment she was first hired at WMAQ-TV (NBC) Chicago in 1962. Armed with a recent B.S. Degree in Commerce from DePaul University, Carole (then Carole B. Davis), began her career as clerical and production support to the managers of Public Affairs for WMAQ Radio & Television, a position that would define the rest of her professional career.

Degrees in broadcasting, other than journalism, were not the norm at that time nor were African-American producers in local television. So it took a few years of on-the-job learning and dues paying before there was an opportunity for Carole. In the early 1970s, the advent of videotape as a format for Sunday morning public affairs programming led to that opportunity.

Carole (now Cartwright), along with a talented technical crew and creative TV directors became pioneers in videotape production using film techniques. They traveled the Chicago area producing community stories. This led to the production of the first videotaped on-location special, which went on to air in prime time on the five NBC Owned Stations, as part of the nation’s Bicentennial Celebration of 1976. Listen To The Land won three Chicago Emmy® Awards.

After years as a producer, Carole pursued management; first, at WTTW Channel 11 as Executive Producer of the government-funded series As We See It 2, which received a Peabody Award. She then returned to WMAQ-TV in a new position of managing the station’s community outreach efforts along with serving as Executive Producer and “on air” talent for ON Q, a weekly television program promoting positive community stories. Her next move was a promotion to Director of Programming and Production at KNBC-TV Los Angeles, where her efforts won Emmy® Awards and the NAACP Image Award. And finally, Carole achieved the top job of General Manager of Chicago’s WYCC-Channel 20 Educational Television. Her leadership developed a new structure for the station and creative new local programming.

Cartwright has served on the boards of many community organizations and is currently dedicated to promoting the Chicago/Midwest Chapter’s high school and college scholarships as President of the NATAS Chicago Foundation.