

Director's Bio:

Michael Patrei is a first time Independent Filmmaker originally from Ilion, NY. Michael was a philosophy major at Buffalo State University, NY, with associate's degree in film and video production and has always had a passion for filmmaking. Michael is among the



new generation of independent self-made filmmakers. He has been making short films on his own for most of his life as a hobby. Some of his short films include *Amiko Blue*, *The Eulogy of Dickie Nail*, and *Dream Jennifer Williams*. The current advances in affordable digital filmmaking technology have allowed imaginative filmmakers such as Michael to excel and reach new levels. Michael comes from a large family that remains very close. It is that instinct that enabled Michael to become part of the Ballou

Marching Band during the creation of his first feature film. His unique rapport with the band shines throughout the final production.

Producer's Bio:

Casey Callister is a certified program manager and community activist originally from Ilion, NY and now residing in Washington DC. Casey holds a Masters of Science degree in Community Service from Michigan State University and has studied community and



Mr. Watson (left) & Casey Callister (right) at the White House

family ecology for years. As a community activist he is the founding father of a Washington DC based non-profit Sports and Recreation association. He also is a member of the founding board of directors of "Docs in Progress" promoting education via documentary films. Casey is a foreign war veteran and has received medals for participation and contributions to the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

After serving his term as a Major in the US Air Force, he became focused on making his home in the Nation's Capital a better place to live. He realized that film was a powerful way to make change quickly and focused on projects like "Ballou" a documentary film and "Docs in Progress" to further this endeavor. Casey is also the chief operating officer of "Garden Thieves Pictures" which now produces, represents and distributes documentary films in North America including 2008 Silver Docs Documentary "Kalinovki Square". Additionally, Casey has teamed up with Hollywood writer Michael Gozzard [Pride 2007] to co-produce a Hollywood film based on the documentary "Ballou".