



The Power of Choice

The Life and Ideas of Milton Friedman

Production Biographies

BOB CHITESTER

Executive Producer

Bob Chitester has more than forty years of experience in television management, program development and production. He serves as President and CEO of Free to Choose Media and izzit.org (formerly In the Classroom Media) operating divisions of the *Palmer R. Chitester Fund*, a 501-c-3 public organization. Chitester conceived and led the development of “Free to Choose”, Milton Friedman’s award-winning PBS television series and the best-selling book derived from the series. Along with Milton and Rose Friedman, Chitester is the managing partner of Free to Choose Enterprise, which manages licensing and sales of “Free to Choose”.

Chitester initiated educational television at Buena Vista High School in Saginaw, Michigan and Edinboro State University in Pennsylvania. In 1966, he became the founding General Manager of the Erie, Pennsylvania PBS and NPR stations (WQLN and WQLN-FM), for which he served as president until 1982. He founded and is CEO of The Idea Channel and Chitester Creative Associates. Creatively, Bob Chitester also serves as Executive Producer of programs and series for Free to Choose Media, most recently for “The Power of Choice: The Life and Ideas of Milton Friedman”.

Chitester holds a B.A. and M.A. degrees from the University of Michigan, and received an honorary Doctor of Literature degree from Allegheny College.

TOM SKINNER

Executive Producer

Tom Skinner is an award-winning television and film executive with over 35 years of experience in public and commercial television. He has extensive national production credentials on PBS, A&E, Discovery, and Turner Broadcasting. He is Executive Producer of all Free to Choose Media productions where he also served as developer and co-writer of “The Power of Choice: The Life and Ideas of Milton Friedman”.

From 1970 through 1993, Skinner was Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of QED Communications in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania where he supervised all documentary production for PBS. While at WQED he was also Executive Producer of the Emmy Award-winning “National Geographic Specials”, and “Planet Earth”. In 1993, he joined Resolution Productions of Burlington Vermont as Vice President of Programming. At Resolution Productions he created several series for TBS, A&E and Discovery networks, including “Pirate Tales”, “Floating Palaces”, “California and the Dream Seekers”, “The Story of Money”, “Battleship”, and “The Secret World of Air Freight”.

“There are very few people over the generations who have ideas that are sufficiently original to materially alter the direction of civilization. Milton is one of those very few people.”

Alan Greenspan,
Former Chairman,
Federal Reserve



Previously, Skinner taught at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor and at San Diego State University. He is the recipient of numerous honors and awards, including four Emmy Awards, three Peabody Awards and a duPont/Columbia Award. He also served as director of the Academy Award-winning film "Journey Into Self".

Skinner holds a B.A. in speech and education from the State University of New York, Fredonia and a M.A. and Ph.D. in communications and theatre from the University of Michigan.

KATHERINE ANDERSON

Producer, Writer

Katherine Anderson is the producer and writer of "The Power of Choice: The Life and Ideas of Milton Friedman". Her previous producer and writer credits include "Marriage, Just a Piece of Paper" for PBS and its companion book of the same title. Currently she is producing another documentary, "The Ultimate Resource", for PBS. Anderson holds a masters degree from Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism and was a William Benton Fellow at the University of Chicago, where she also served as news director for three years. She was a futures editor for ABC Network News, developing stories for such shows as "World News Tonight with Peter Jennings", "Nightline", and "Good Morning America", and she was the planning editor for ABC-7 in Chicago, developing stories for all local broadcasts.