

David Steinberg

Partner



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Toronto

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Overview

David Steinberg is a partner in the Media, Entertainment and Sports group.

David's practice focuses on the areas of entertainment and media law, specifically in the film, television and music industries. He acts for film and television producers, distributors, broadcasters, music publishers, creators and recording artists. He advises his clients in both Canada and the United States on film and television financing, production and distribution matters, as well as the licensing of intellectual property, and the sale and acquisition of rights. David combines superior legal skills, industry experience and an adaptable approach to communicating and negotiating in all types of business transactions.

Prior to becoming a lawyer, David was a professional musician and recording artist who toured extensively throughout North America as a drummer in various rock bands. His experience as a professional musician gives him a unique perspective into the entertainment industry, making him a dynamic advisor who consistently applies a pragmatic approach to his practice. He is also a frequent speaker and lecturer on various media and entertainment law related topics in Canada and the United States.

Recognition

David has been commended for his extensive knowledge and experience in a variety of respected publications, including:

- *The Legal 500 Canada*: Media and entertainment
- *Chambers Canada*: Media & Entertainment
- *The Best Lawyers in Canada*: Entertainment Law
- *The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory*: Entertainment Law
- *The Lexpert/American Lawyer Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada*: Entertainment Law
- *The Lexpert Guide to US/Canada Cross-Border Lawyers in Canada*: IP & Media

- *Who's Who Legal Canada: Sports & Entertainment*
- *Who's Who Legal: Sports & Entertainment: Entertainment*
- *Expert Guides: Technology, Media and Telecommunications: Media*
- *Guide to the World's Leading Technology, Media and Telecommunications Lawyers: Media Law*

Insights

- Author, "Solid Shades of Gray," Music Copyright Infringement, Expertguides, March 31, 2015
- Co-author, "Comparison of Canadian Content, Production Services, Co-Ventures and Treaty Co-Productions", March 2015
- Author, "Hollywood's Dirty Little Secret," *Emmy Magazine*, Volume XXVI #6, November/December 2004, 79, and *Playback Magazine*, January 31, 2005, 14
- Author, "When Two Worlds Collide... Music in Film," Paper for a presentation at the Financing Workshop, Atlas Information, March 22, 2004 (California)
- Author, "Are We Closed Yet? Tips on Production Financing," Paper for a presentation at the Financing Workshop, Atlas Information Group, June 23, 2003 (New York)
- Author, "Recent Changes in Independent Production and Interim Financing of Film and Television Projects," Entertainment Law Section / Recent Developments of Importance, *2003 Lexpert Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada*
- Author, "Recent Changes in Independent Production and Interim Financing of Film and Television Projects," Entertainment Law Section/Recent Developments of Importance, *2002 Lexpert Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada*

Activities and Affiliations

Presentations

- Summit Leader, Film Production & Finance Summit, Los Angeles, CA, March 12, 2018
- Presenter, The Osgoode Certificate in Entertainment Law, Osgoode Hall Law School, January 23, 2018
- Presenter, The Osgoode Certificate in Entertainment Law, Osgoode Hall Law School, February 7, 2017
- Summit Leader, Film Production & Finance Summit, Los Angeles, CA, February 13, 2017
- Summit Leader, Film Production & Finance Summit, Los Angeles, CA, April 11, 2016
- Presenter, The Osgoode Certificate in Entertainment Law, Osgoode Hall Law School, January 25–29, 2016
- Summit Leader, Film Production & Finance Summit, Los Angeles, CA, May 5, 2014
- Presenter, "What is Chain of Title' Osgoode Hall Conference on Entertainment Law, Toronto, ON., February 26, 2014
- Summit Leader, Film Production & Finance Summit, Los Angeles, CA, May, 2013
- Presenter, Interactive Advertising Bureau of Canada, X-Series; 9x9x9 re Music, Toronto, ON, November 12, 2013
- Moderator, "Innovations in Funding: Crowdfunding Models for Entertainment Projects", Hot Topics & Ethical

Dilemmas in Entertainment, Media & Communication Law, Ontario Bar Association, Toronto, ON, September 26, 2013

- Moderator, TIFF Filmmaker Boot Camp, Toronto, ON, August 8, 2013
- Moderator, “Practising Entertainment Law – When It’s Not So Entertaining”, Entertainment & Media Law Symposium, Law Society of Upper Canada, Toronto, ON, April 26-27, 2013
- Panellist, TIFF Industry Studio Programme – Adapt This!; Toronto, ON, April 15, 16 & 20, 2013
- Presenter, The Osgoode Certificate in Entertainment Law, Toronto, ON. February 28-March 1, 2013
- Summit Leader, Film Production & Finance Summit, Los Angeles, CA, May 7, 2012
- Co-Chair and Moderator, 5th Edition Entertainment Law, Best Practices and Lessons Learned (Insight), Toronto, ON, March 5-6, 2012
- Panellist, “The Acquisition of Underlying Rights for Film and Television Productions”, Entertainment Law – Primers, Developments & Strategies Conference (The Commons Institute), Toronto, ON, October 28, 2011
- Summit Leader – Film Production & Finance Summit, New York, NY, October 24, 2011
- Moderator, Film Production & Finance Summit, Los Angeles, CA, June 13, 2011
- Steering Committee – The Law Society of Upper Canada Entertainment & Media Law Symposium 2011, Toronto, ON, April 15-16, 2011; Moderator – “Practice Management – Convergence and Conflicts”
- Panellist, Documentary Organization of Canada’s National Fair Dealing Road Show aiming to introduce potential users from across the country to DOC’s Copyright and Fair Dealing Guidelines for Documentary Filmmakers, Ottawa, ON, February 16, 2011
- Co-Chair, Networking Seminars Third Annual Film Finance Summit, Santa Monica, CA, February 8-10, 2010
- Moderator, “New Trends and Best Practices in Errors and Omissions Insurance”, Entertainment, Advertising & Media Law Symposium, Law Society of Upper Canada, Toronto, ON, April 17-18, 2009
- Co-Leader, Music in Films: Rights Licensing & Soundtracks, Networking Seminars, Santa Monica, CA, June 23, 2008
- Co-Chair and Moderator – “Banking & Motion Picture Transactions” and “Country Production Incentives,” Film/TV Production & Finance Summit, Networking Seminars, Los Angeles, CA, April 10-11, 2008
- Co-Leader, Music in Films: Rights Licensing & Soundtracks, Networking Seminars, New York, NY, December 17, 2007
- Co-Chair and Moderator, “Workshop: Anatomy of Motion Picture Finance Transaction” and “U.S. State Incentives for Film & Television Production,” Film/TV Production & Finance Summit, Networking Seminars, New York, NY, October 22-23, 2007
- Moderator, “Bargaining in the Shadow of the Internet,” Entertainment, Advertising & Media Law Symposium, Law Society of Upper Canada, Toronto, ON, April 27-28, 2007
- Co-Chair, Protecting Digital Content Rights and Investments, The Canadian Institute Conference, Toronto, ON, March 22 - 23, 2007
- Co-Chair and Workshop Leader, “Taking a Film Finance Transaction from Start to Finish,” 7th Annual International Film and TV Finance Summit, Atlas Information Group, Los Angeles, CA, February 5 - 7, 2007
- Panellist, “Content Across Multi-Platforms; Financing, Developing and Exploiting Content in the New Media Environment,” Entertainment Industries Summit: New Distribution Channels, New Business Models, Regulatory Update, Insight Information, Toronto, ON, October 26-27, 2006
- Workshop Leader, “Interactive Workshop: From Wall Street to the Silver Screen – Everything You Must Know

About Film Finance,” National Investment Community’s Forum on Entertainment Finance: Legal and business strategies for optimizing media transactions, American Conference Institute, New York, NY, October 23, 2006

- Instructor, “Succeeding in the New Multimedia Environment” – “Alternate Revenue Options,” Executive Management Program, Women in Film and Television – Toronto and Telefilm Canada, Toronto, ON, June 29, 2006
- Panellist, “Music for the Screen: Music for Commercials,” Canadian Music Week, Toronto, March 3, 2006
- Co-Chair, Atlas Information Group, 6th Annual International Film and TV Finance Summit; Workshop Leader: “Financing a Film - The Interim Finance Project from Start to Finish”, Los Angeles, CA, January 30 - February 2, 2006
- Moderator, “Film Financing Alternatives,” The Canadian Solution Filmmaker Conference, Independent Film Week, New York, NY, September 21, 2005
- Co-Chair – Panel, “A Survey of Transnational Entertainment and Media Law Issues,” Section of International Law, American Bar Association, Washington, D.C., April 14, 2005
- Moderator, “Record Company and Artist Relations,” Entertainment, Advertising and Media Law Symposium, Law Society of Upper Canada, Toronto, April 8-9, 2005
- Co-Chair, 5th Annual International Film and TV Finance Summit, Atlas Information Group; Workshop Leader, “Taking a Film Finance Transaction from Start to Finish,” New York, NY, March 7-9, 2005
- Panellist, “The Changing Roles of Managers and Lawyers in the Music Industry,” Osgoode Music Law Association, Osgoode Hall, Toronto, February 5, 2005
- Workshop Leader – Pre-Summit Workshop, “Taking a Film Financing Transaction from Start to Finish,” 2004 International Film and Television Finance Summit, Atlas Information Group, Beverly Hills, CA, March 22, 2004
- Workshop Leader – Pre-Conference Workshop, “The Anatomy of a Film Finance Deal: A Comprehensive Look at How to Put One Together,” 7th Annual Film & Television Summit, Insight Information Co., Toronto, October 28-29, 2003
- Moderator, “Focus on Music Industry, Understanding the Business of Copyright,” Intellectual Property Institute of Canada and McGill University, Montreal, August 25-29, 2003
- Workshop Leader – Pre-Summit Workshop, “Taking a Film Financing Transaction from Start to Finish,” 2003 International Film & Television Finance Summit, Atlas Information Group, New York, NY, June 23, 2003
- Workshop Leader – Pre-Summit Workshop, “Taking a Film Financing Transaction from Start to Finish,” 2002 International Film & Television Finance Summit, Atlas Information Group, Toronto, November 18, 2002
- Panellist, “‘Extreme Financing’ - Do Not Try This at Home!”, Film & TV Finance Forum, Insight Information Co., Toronto, October 28, 2002
- Panellist, “Music Workshop, Understanding the Business of Copyright,” Intellectual Property Institute of Canada and McGill University, Montreal, August 26-30, 2002
- Workshop Leader, Pre-Summit Workshop – “Taking a Film Financing Transaction from Start to Finish,” 2001 International Film and Television Finance Summit, Atlas Information Group, Toronto, October 10, 2001
- Panellist, “International Entertainment Issues,” International Association of Entertainment Lawyers (IELA), Los Angeles, CA, February 26, 2001
- Speaker, “Creative Financing: Cutting the Deal for Film,” TV & New Media, Los Angeles, CA, November 27-28, 2000

Areas of focus

Practices

- Copyright
- Corporate
- Intellectual Property and Technology

Industry sectors

- Film & Television
- Media, Entertainment and Sports
- Music

Education

- University of Western Ontario, 1989, LLB

Admissions and qualifications

- Ontario, 1991

Languages

- English