

Sheila R. Brown Executive Director CineCares Foundation

Sheila R. Brown is the Executive Director of the CineCares Foundation at Cinespace Chicago Film Studios. There, she developed the Mirkopoulos Internship Program. The program allows young adults from traditionally-underserved communities (with little to no production experience) to obtain paid job training opportunities on network television shows. Her former interns are working on TV shows and motion pictures like Chicago Fire, Chicago P.D., Chicago Med, Empire, The Chi, Batwoman, HBO's Lovecraft Country, Spike Lee's She's Gotta Have it, Jordan Peele's Candyman, and more.

Sheila began her career in broadcast television in 1991. She had impeccable timing as this allowed her to work alongside the Chicago Bulls during their six championship seasons. At age 26, Sheila became the youngest person appointed to the broadcast advisory board for a professional sporting league - the NBA. A year later, she founded Freedom Entertainment, Inc. and enjoyed a diverse list of clients in broadcast television, event management, and marketing/public relations. Her clients included some of the country's most recognizable brands, including the National Basketball Association (NBA), National Hockey League (NHL), Major League Baseball (MLB), TNT, ESPN, MSNBC, Lifetime Television, The Oprah Winfrey Show, People Magazine, Proctor and Gamble/Gillette, and Motown Records.

Sheila's current role as Executive Director of the CineCares Foundation allows her to combine her decades of working in entertainment with her many years of working with charitable foundations to now lead CineCares' organizational strategy and vision, programming, fundraising, and external relations.