

# USC School of Cinematic Arts ranked #1 in the nation

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Marvel Studios chief Kevin Feige with *Captain America: The Winter Soldier* screenwriters Stephen McFeely and Christopher Markus at USC.

## 1. University of Southern California

When USC School of Cinematic Arts production design professor **Alex McDowell** unveiled the Leviathan project at the 2014 Consumer Electronics Show, it appeared as if a real whale was floating over viewers' heads. Think of USC SCA as the uncatchable Moby Dick of film schools. Says one envious educator, "It is the patriarch: passionate, perennial, always turning out the best films." It also pulls in the most millions from supporters like

**George Lucas**. In June, it opened the Michelle and Kevin Douglas IMAX Theatre and Immersive Lab, donated by IMAX's largest shareholders, with a screening room and research lab capable of streaming events from all over the globe in real time. And if you want to see the next generation of Hollywood winners, just glance around campus. "I always tell new students, 'Look to your right and your left, because you're going to be working with these people for the rest of your lives,'" says USC SCA dean **Elizabeth M. Daley**,

who notes that hers is the first major school to offer a minor in comedy. From **James Gray's** *The Immigrant* to *Godzilla* (edited by alum **Bob Ducsay**) to the Marvel empire, over which alum **Kevin Feige** presides, USC grads make entertainment happen.

- **Tuition:** \$47,562 undergraduate; \$74,976 to \$88,608 graduate (program cost)
- **Notable Alumni:** Judd Apatow, Stacey Sher, Ron Howard