

PROFILE | Frank Batavick

Senior Producer



Frank S. Batavick is an award-winning senior producer whose career at Maryland Public Television spans nearly three decades.

Mr. Batavick began his career at MPT in 1990 after graduating from Towson University with a bachelor's degree in Mass Communication (Radio, Film and Television). He initially worked on a variety of PBS series, including *Mini-Dragons*, *Pierre Franey's Cooking in America*, and *To The Contrary*. He then joined the MPT regional magazine series *Maryland State of Mind*.

By 2002, Mr. Batavick produced local and national segments for the PBS children's program *ZOOM*. He also created segments and specials for MPT children's host *Bob the Vid Tech* and produced segments for the series *Outdoors Maryland*.

Several years later Mr. Batavick produced the national cooking series *Coastal Cooking with John Shields*. He produced the American host wraps and managed delivery of the 2006 and 2008 Volvo Ocean Race weekly series, and produced the documentary *The Transformation Age: Surviving a Technology Revolution*, hosted by technology writer Robert X. Cringely. He also collaborated with George Washington University to produce the PBS special *Planet Forward* (2011) and produced *Distinctive Homes of the Chesapeake* (2013), a documentary for MPT's annual *Chesapeake Bay Week*[®]. Mr. Batavick also oversaw production of the *Star Spangled Sailabration* (2012) and *Star Spangled Spectacular: Baltimore Celebrates* (2014).

During this time he spearheaded a new version of MPT's long-running special *You Can Afford College*, renamed *Ways to Pay for College*, an annual production aimed at helping students and families find money for higher education, and also produced the live-action sequences for the animated children's series *Space Racers*.

Today, Mr. Batavick serves as executive producer of *Steve Raichlen's Project Smoke*, an MPT cooking series on smoking and grilling carried by more than 90 percent of public television stations nationally.

Mr. Batavick has earned 10 regional Emmy[®] Awards, three Telly Awards, and four CINE Golden Eagle Awards for his work at MPT. He also volunteers his time as a member of the board of governors for the National Capital Chesapeake Bay Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences.