

JOHN KILKENNY

Biography

John Kilkenny is an Executive Vice President at Twentieth Century Fox, heading the studio's visual effects department. His division budgets, produces and oversees all the visual effects – a key component of many of today's blockbuster pictures – on feature films made by the studio's production units, TCF, Fox 2000 Pictures, and Fox Searchlight Pictures.

Mr. Kilkenny oversaw the Academy Award®-winning effects on *Avatar*, written and directed by Academy Award®-winning filmmaker James Cameron (*Titanic*); *Night at the Museum*, *X-Men: The Last Stand*, *Australia*, from acclaimed filmmaker Baz Luhrmann (*Moulin Rouge*), *The Day The Earth Stood Still*, and many other Fox “event” movies. He and his team are hard at work on the upcoming *Gulliver's Travels*, *The Chronicles of Narnia: Voyage of the Dawn Treader*, a prequel to *Planet of the Apes*, an epic film that explains the beginning of the very successful franchise; *X Men Origins*, another tent pole summer release from the X-Men franchise; the Jim Carrey comedy *Mr. Popper's Penguins*; and a sequel to the highly successful live action-CGI comedy *Alvin and the Chipmunks*.

Prior to joining Fox's senior executive ranks, Mr. Kilkenny was an associate producer/visual effects producer on the box-office hits *Garfield* and *I, Robot*, the latter earning an Academy Award® nomination for best achievement in visual effects. Before that, he was a freelance visual effects producer on the films *Dr. Dolittle 2*, *Daredevil*, *Gone in 60 Seconds* and *Star Trek Insurrection*.

Mr. Kilkenny began his career in motion picture visual effects at the renowned effects house Digital Domain, where he became head producer in the company's commercial division. He has also worked as a freelance commercials producer (for clients Budweiser, Toyota, Chevrolet, and many others) and sportscaster at the NBC affiliate in El Paso, Texas.

As a student at the University of Arizona, Mr. Kilkenny, who grew up in Tempe, studied Radio/Television, interned at the NBC affiliate in Tucson, and was a sports producer at the local ABC station. In addition, he headed the Association of Students concert division, booking concerts headlined by superstars like Huey Lewis and the News, Barry Manilow, Kenny Rogers, and Hall and Oates. The University has recognized Mr. Kilkenny for his achievements in the film industry, by awarding him an Honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts during the Spring 2009 Graduation Ceremony.