

# GARY CIFRA, SCREENWRITER

**Disabled Screenwriter, WGA Writers with Disability Committee Member,  
Lowbrow Art and Comic Book Collector, Mid-Century Aficionado,  
Founder/Director of LINES ON PAPER and KIDS ON PAPER (501c3 nonprofit),  
Former Rock Climber, Union Ironworker, Vintage Clothing Store Owner,  
Animal and Disabled Rights Activist**



I'm in a wheelchair and legally blind, yet I'm able to write using Dragon software and a voice recorder.

Cinema has been a big part of my life. Early on I dreamed of becoming a screenwriter. Years ago I had a Hollywood agent and was a co-writer on a made-for-TV drama that ended up in turnaround. Discouraged, I almost gave up on my writing career, but my wife persuaded me to submit my screenplay "RAININ' IN MY HEART" to several competitions, and I scored in the top 10%!

"RAININ'" is an emotionally gripping Coming of Age interracial romance set in 1966. It won an American Screenwriters Association Award. I have two other screenplays in development, "SAFE AT HOME" (a suspense thriller), and "THE ABILITIES CLUB" (a dramedy featuring disabled characters) in the works.

I care deeply about providing guidance to young people and tell them the choices they make today can have life-altering consequences. I made some poor choices along the way and learned some valuable life lessons about finding discipline and determination from within to overcome obstacles, through my experiences as a rock climber, iron worker, activist, and now a disabled person. I put everything I've learned in life into my work, and feel very passionately about my writing.

I'm also passionate about "Lowbrow" art (inspired by pop culture) and sequential art (comic books and graphic novels). Through the years I've amassed a nifty collection of both. My collection was documented in a short film by award-winning documentary filmmaker Robin Scovill, entitled "GARY'S HOUSE".

In 2002, I founded LINES ON PAPER, a sequential art/comic book appreciation society. In 2005, I started a 501c3 nonprofit called KIDS ON PAPER that promotes literacy, fosters artistic development and inspires kids to explore their imaginations through reading, writing and drawing comics.

***"Though I've lost much in life,  
I now greatly appreciate things I once took for granted."  
– Gary Cifra***

To read my writing samples and view "Gary's House", visit: [www.linesonpaper.com/info](http://www.linesonpaper.com/info)

To learn about my nonprofit, visit: [www.kidsonpaper.org](http://www.kidsonpaper.org)