

Gail Mancuso

Gail was born and raised in Melrose Park, Illinois. She graduated from Proviso East High School and attended Triton College and graduated with a BA at California State University at Northridge.

Gail is married to Dr. Brian Downs (also a Triton Alumnus) and has two children, JR and Jeremy, Daughter-in-Law Michelle and an awesome grandson, Jax.

Gail began her career while still going to school full time. Starting as an usher on the sound stages for many variety and talk shows, Gail later became a Script Supervisor and then an Associate Director for broadcast situation comedies. She got her big break in 1991 when Gail asked Roseanne Barr if she could direct one of the “*Roseanne*’ episodes. Roseanne immediately said, “Well, go ahead”. After directing that first episode Roseanne made Gail the house Director for the entire next season. In all, she directed over 50 episodes of the iconic television series.

Gail Mancuso has directed over four hundred television episodes including *Modern Family*, *30 Rock*, *Friends*, *Gilmore Girls*, and most recently *The Big Leap* filmed here in the Chicago area.

Gail has received 4 Primetime Emmy Nominations and took home the Emmy Twice for Outstanding Directing for a Comedy in 2013 and 2014 for *Modern Family*.

In 2019, Gail made her Feature film directorial debut with *A Dog’s Journey*.

Gail is an active member of the Directors Guild of America (DGA) and serves on the Western Directors Council. She received three DGA nominations honoring Outstanding Directorial Achievement in a

Comedy Series. She Served as a Television Academy Governor for five years and is presently on the Television Academy Awards Committee

Gail and Brian live in Santa Barbara, California with their three Australian Shepherds.