

Blake Van Curen

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SUMMARY

Writer and filmmaker focused on character-driven stories about identity, grief, and resilience. My psychological thriller *Our Last Trip* earned a Finalist placement at the 2026 New York Script Awards, Semi-Finalist selections at the 2026 Outstanding Screenplays Shorts Competition and 2025 HollyShorts Screenplay Competition, and ranks in the top 7% of 300K+ scripts on Coverfly. I run VanCuren Media, a YouTube channel with 167K+ views documenting the film's development journey. I have written, directed, and collaborated across narrative film, branded content, and immersive experiences, combining structure, empathy, and visual storytelling to move audiences.

SELECTED CREATIVE EXPERIENCE

Independent Film Projects | Writer / Director / Producer | 2017 – Present

- **Our Last Trip (Psychological Thriller)** – *Writer/Director*
 - Wrote and developed the screenplay exploring themes of grief, inherited trauma, and self-deception; currently in feature-length development.
 - **Recognition: Finalist, New York Script Awards 2026; Semi-Finalist, Outstanding Screenplays Shorts Competition 2026; Official Selection, "Hang on to Your Shorts!" Film Festival 2026; Semi-Finalist, HollyShorts Screenplay Competition 2025; Official Selection, Sunny Film Festival 2025.** Recognition: ◦ Ranked in the Top 7% of all projects on Coverfly (300,000+ projects).
- **VanCuren Media – YouTube Channel** – *Creator / Producer* | *Nov 2025 – Present*
 - Develop, produce, and publish weekly video content centered on the development of *Our Last Trip*, growing the channel to 167,000+ views across 92 videos.
 - Create performance-driven thumbnails, titles, and concepts optimized for audience retention across YouTube, TikTok, and Instagram.
 - Utilize AI tools for concept visuals, music, and teasers to document the film's development and build audience ahead of production.
- **Identity (Short Film)** – *Writer/Director*
 - Produced through the Digital Film Academy on a \$5,600 budget, managing a 10-person crew from pre-production through post-production.
 - Oversaw casting, shot planning, visual design, directing performance, and scheduling under tight budgetary constraints.
- **A Very Special High School Show (Pilot)** – *Associate Producer* | *Dir. Justin Miller* | *Oct 2019*
 - Collaborated with the director on creative development including script feedback and casting support.
 - Coordinated on-set production across departments, working closely with talent, camera team, and crew.
- **The Cure Game (Feature Film)** – *Production Assistant* | *Agyapongfilms* | *Dir. Yaw Agyapong* | *May 2019* ◦ Supported on-set logistics and daily operations across a full production day, assisting multiple departments.

Clue Chase Escape Rooms – New York, NY | *Staff Writer, Creative Content* | *Jan 2018 – Sep 2019*

- Collaborated with designers and actors to develop cohesive story arcs, narrative tone, and detailed character backstories for immersive experiences.
- Created concepts used in promotional videos and digital marketing campaigns (available on YouTube).

Bold Global, 171 Spring Street – New York, NY – *Production Assistant Intern* *Oct 2017 – Feb 2018*

- Created storyboards, researched trending video clips, and assisted in the editing room.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Mimeo – Remote

Customer Success Manager | 2022 – Present

- Partner with Fortune 500 organizations (GE, United Airlines, Motorola Solutions) to manage strategic communications and creative print deliverables.
- Known for authentic storytelling and audience-focused messaging across client campaigns and internal training projects.
- Represented Mimeo at national conferences ATD24 and ATD25 to advise on engagement and content strategy.

EDUCATION

Digital Film Academy – New York, NY | Film Production Certificate | 2017

SKILLS

Creative: Screenwriting, Story Development, Directing, Narrative Design, Visual Storytelling

Production: Script Breakdown, Scheduling, Team Coordination, Budget Management, Pre/Post-Production

Content Creation: YouTube (167K+ views), TikTok, Instagram, Thumbnail Design, AI Creative Tools, Video Editing

Technical: Final Draft, Celtx, Adobe Premiere (Basic), Google Workspace

Professional: Client Communication, Collaborative Problem Solving, Strategic Messaging

On-Set: Gear Handling, Release Coordination, Crafty Support, Insured Vehicle, Valid License