

THE SOUND TEAM

Who They Are, What They Do, and What They're Called

PRODUCTION

Sound Mixer: the person who determines the recording strategy, and chooses the necessary tools – microphones of course, and if needed, mixers and wireless transmitters/receivers. The **Sound Mixer** is responsible for the quality of the sound that is delivered to post-production.

Boom Operator: the person who gets a boom mic into the position that gets the best sound for the shot. This often involves moving the mic from character to character or walking "silently" (while keeping the mic properly aimed) if a character moves. This is a vitally important position. It's like the camera operator, focus puller, and dolly grips all rolled into one. It is *not* the place for your 14-year-old cousin who thinks it would be neat to help out on a film. If wireless mics are used, the **Boom Op** is often responsible for placing the mics and transmitters on the talent.

Sound Utility (aka Cable Person): assists the **mixer** and the **boom op** with running and connecting cables, helps guide the boom op when he/she is moving, and keeps cables from interfering with his/her movement. The **Sound Utility** will act as a second **boom op** if a second boom is needed to properly cover a shot.