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Walt Disney Television Studios + ABC Entertainment: Dana Walden

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Dana Walden

By: Cornasia Sandford

Who Is She?

- Chairman of Walt Disney Television Studios + ABC Entertainment
- Born Oct. 13, 1964 Los Angeles, CA
- Married to Matt Walden
- 2 daughters

*Board member of LA Zoo

*Board member of Jonsson Cancer Center Foundation

*Board member of Saban Free Clinic

Education & Early Career

- BA in Communication (USC)
- PR Firm: Bender, Goldman, & Helper
- Managed marketing and communication for Arsenio Hall at Paramount Studios

Fox

- 1992: Recruited to work in PR for 20th Century Fox Television
- 1999: Made Co-chairs & CEO's of Fox Studios with Gary Newman
- 2014: Promoted to Chairman CEO of Fox Television Group

Disney

- 2017: Disney & Fox announced agreement to 52.4 billion dollar deal
- 2019: Disney & 21 Century Fox Merger (71 billion dollar deal)
- Walden became chairman after merger

Management Philosophy + Leadership Style

- “Chain of Excellence”

- Leader excellence

- Cast excellence

- Cast Satisfaction

- Financial result/Repeat Business

- Transformational Leader

- Serves as role model to younger women and inspires valuable and positive change to the community around her

Awards/Acknowledgements

- Brandon Tartikoff Legacy Award
- Showmanship Award
- USC's President Leadership Council

Milestones

- 1980s: Assistant to Vice President of Bender, Goldman, & Helper Pr Firm
- Early 1990s: Marketing and Communication for Arsenio Hall
- 1992: Recruited to work in PR for 20th Century Fox Television
- 1999: Made Co-chairs & CEO's of Fox Studios with Gary Newman
- 2014: Promoted to Chairman CEO of Fox Television Group
- 2018: Elected to Board of Directors at Live Nation Entertainment
- 2019/: Chairman of Walt Disney Studios & ABC Entertainment

Quote

“What differentiates leaders is the ability to recover following a mistake. I make mistakes all the time, but I cop to them, apologize, and move on. Contrition is powerful.” -Dana Walden

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