



DISNEY/ABC TELEVISION GROUP

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Paul Lee

President, ABC Entertainment Group

Paul Lee was named president, ABC Entertainment Group in July 2010. In his new role, Lee has oversight of all creative and business operations for ABC Studios as well as all development, programming, marketing and scheduling operations for ABC Entertainment.

Lee reports to Anne Sweeney, co-chair of Disney Media Networks and president, Disney/ABC Television Group.

Prior to becoming president of ABC Entertainment Group, Lee led ABC Family from 2004-2010, where he revitalized the cable channel with an ambitious slate of original and acquired programs. In conceiving the mission of the network, he launched a plan to target the young adult Millennial audience on multiple platforms with relatable programming like “Kyle XY,” “The Secret Life of the American Teenager,” “Pretty Little Liars,” “Greek,” “Make It Or Break It” and “Huge.” The network is also home to the biggest programming event on cable with “25 Days of Christmas.”

Under Lee, ABC Family has had an amazing six-plus years of consecutive growth. 2010-to-date, ABC Family ranks among the Top 5 cable networks in Prime in W18-49 (No. 5), W18-34 (No. 4), F12-34 (No. 2), Teens (No. 3) and Female Teens (No. 3), and among the Top 10 in Total Viewers (No. 10), A18-49 (No. 10), A18-34 (No. 8) and V12-34 (No. 7). ABC Family has also grown its Prime audience by impressive margins: +74% in Total Viewers, +70% in A18-49 and +75% in W18-49. In addition, among the network’s core younger demo sets, the network’s Prime delivery has more than doubled over the past six+ years: +111% in A18-34, +115% in W18-34, +111% in V12-34.

ABC Family also made the most of new platforms to connect viewers with content. The industry recognized this push for creativity and innovation on this front by awarding ABC Family a 2007 Emmy for Outstanding Achievement in Interactive Television as well as an Emmy nomination for Outstanding Creative Achievement in Interactive Media the following year.

Prior to joining ABC Family, Lee was chief executive officer and founder of BBC America, and was responsible for the development and launch of the company in March 1998, starting as general manager and then chief operating officer. During his tenure, the hit comedy series “The Office” (British version) garnered two Golden Globes®. Other shows under his supervision included the BBC’s “Changing Rooms,” which formatted into TLC’s signature show, “Trading Spaces,” “What Not to Wear” and the “Graham Norton Show.”

Before arriving stateside, Lee spent several years at the BBC, ultimately serving as channel editor for BBC Prime, the company’s 24-hour entertainment channel.