

feature on Lee Mendelson (*Silver Circle, 1988*) in October.)

This month, to honor the memory of **Dr. Stuart Hyde**, who passed away last month, *Off Camera* is featuring more about his life and career.

Hyde, who was inducted into the *Silver Circle* in 1996, and the *Gold Circle* in 2012, of the San



Francisco/Northern California Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, was chair of San Francisco State University's Broadcast Electronic Communication Arts (BECA) department from 1958 to 1981, and was the primary driver behind BECA's rise to national prominence as a pre-eminent electronic media degree program.

Hyde grew up in Fresno and was drawn to not only radio and film, but also the theatre, creating and performing in radio plays throughout high school. During World War II, he enlisted in the Navy, serving stints at Iwo Jima and taking part in the invasion of Okinawa. After the war, Hyde earned degrees from UCLA and Stanford, and he then began teaching.

He taught drama and broadcasting courses at City College of San Francisco, University of Southern California, and Stanford, before finally landing at San Francisco State as head of what would become the BECA department.

In addition to college, Hyde taught media performance courses pro-bono at San Quentin Prison for eleven years, and he says he learned from his students at San Quentin about the potential of audio and video as tools of change.

Through the years, students say Hyde genuinely enjoyed teaching, cared about his students, and was dedicated to their learning. Even in retirement, Hyde kept in touch with former students to advise and counsel them.

In 1959, Hyde wrote his first book, *Television and Radio Announcing*, which sold more than 150,000 copies and has undergone several updates and revisions. It continues to be a pivotal and important book in today's learning environment. He also wrote *Idea to Script*, focused on writing for radio and television.

Hyde was a member of the Broadcast Legends and was also inducted in to the Bay Area Radio Hall of Fame.