



Bill Viola Jr.

12421 St Nikolai Drive N. Huntingdon, PA 15642 • (724) 640-2111 • Bill@kumiteclassic.com

» Profile

Bill Viola Jr. is a Western Pennsylvania based entrepreneur, producer, author and Master Martial Arts instructor. He operates Allegheny Shotokan Karate Inc., established in 1969 by his father, and is the President of Kumite Classic Entertainment Corp.

» Education

- University of Pittsburgh, Summa Cum Laude
 - BS Political Science, 1999
 - University Scholar
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» Work Experience

Allegheny Shotokan Karate Inc., North Huntingdon, Pennsylvania

Master Instructor, 1995-Present

- Recognized as World Champion by Arnold Schwarzenegger, 1998
- Creator of the Norwin Ninjas program and curriculum

Kumite Classic Entertainment Corp., Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

President & Founder, 1999-Present

- Established 18th Annual Pittsburgh Fitness Expo
- Film producer and writer

Author

Non-Fiction, 2003-Present: Notable work

- *Go Ask Your Dad* (2016) Debuted on Amazon Best Seller List
- *Godfathers of MMA* (2015) Inspiration of the documentary film *Tough Guys* (2016)

Kumite Quarterly Magazine., Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Publisher, 2003-2007

Eckert Seamans Law Firm, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

KI Scholarship Program Director, 2001-2007

Congressman Ron Klink (PA 4th District), North Huntingdon, Pennsylvania

Congressional Intern, 1997

» Associations

Western Pennsylvania Police Athletic League Martial Arts Chairman, Union member of the Screen Actors Guild and American Federation of Television and Radio, USA Karate National Federation (member United States Olympic Committee).

» Honors

- Inducted into The Martial Arts Hall of Fame, 2003
- Recipient of The Lifetime Achievement Award, Sport Karate Museum, 2005
- Honored with The Willie Stargell “MVP Award” for community service, 2011
- Named to *Pittsburgh Magazine* “40 under 40” list of influential individuals, 2016



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Bill Viola Jr. is a Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania based producer, Amazon bestselling author, and international martial arts champion who experienced the “Golden Era” of MMA firsthand as his father; Bill Sr. is credited as the co-creator of the sport (a decade before the UFC) by the Heinz History Center, in conjunction with the Smithsonian Institute.

Bill graduated Summa Cum Laude from the University of Pittsburgh in 1999 with a bachelor’s degree in Political Science and immediately moved to Hollywood, California to gain hands-on experience in the entertainment industry. Subsequently, he earned acceptance into the Screen Actors Guild (SAG) and American Federation of Television and Radio (AFTRA) en route to establishing his own production company, Kumite Classic Entertainment in 1999. The company’s signature event, the self-titled “Kumite Classic,” is regarded as the mecca for martial arts in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The company also hosts the annual Pittsburgh Fitness Expo, regarded as the largest and most established multi-sport convention in Western Pennsylvania.

Viola Jr. established *Kumite Quarterly* magazine in 2003, serving as publisher and overseeing distribution throughout North America until 2007. The magazine with a project of *Kumite International* a scholarship foundation (a first of its kind) established by Viola Jr. in partnership with Eckert Seamans Law Firm. Viola is an accomplished freelance journalist, contracted by such publications as *Sport Karate Magazine* (covering the Sport Karate World Games on location across North America) and *Sport Karate Illustrated*.

In 2014, Viola Jr. published the critically acclaimed non-fiction book *Godfathers of MMA* inspired by the life of his father. The book is the subject of the upcoming documentary film *Tough Guys* (2016). Viola has also served as an independent consultant for number major motion pictures including the mixed martial arts movie *Warrior* (2011) and as an Associate Producer for the film *Tapped Out* (2014) starring former UFC champions Lyoto Machida and Anderson “Spider” Silva. In 2016, he co-authored *Go Ask Your Dad*, an inspirational book about fatherhood which debuted on the Amazon best sellers list.

Viola Jr. was one of the most consistent sport karate competitors in the country recognized as a multiple United States of America Karate Federation (USAKF) national champion and All American Athlete. In 1998 he was recognized by Arnold Schwarzenegger as a World Champion at The Arnold Sports Festival, Columbus, Ohio. “Sensei” Bill is the head coach of “Team Kumite,” an all-star travel team that represents Pittsburgh on a global scale and continues to teach martial arts at the same school his father established in 1969 (Allegheny Shotokan). He is part of a growing Pittsburgh karate legacy that that now includes all four of his sisters and now his daughter, Gabriella Capri Viola.

Further reading on Bill Viola Jr:

- Wikipedia: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bill_Viola_Jr
- Facebook: www.facebook.com/billviolajr
- Website: www.billviolajr.com