

### JVC Takes a Walk Down Memory Lane for *Idol Chat*

January 2022

#### The Customer:

Television docuseries *Idol Chat*, airing on Retro TV and The Family Channel, reunites some of America's favorite film and television ensembles and variety show acts. The show's production was led by Director of Photography Steve Wargo, owner of SWAT HD Productions.



*SWAT HD Productions Director of Photography employs a combination of CONNECTED CAM™ camcorders to secure close-ups and wide angle shots for docuseries, *Idol Chat**

#### The Challenge:

As an award-winning video production veteran, Wargo takes pride in delivering top-notch video production services for all of his clients' needs. He was specifically looking for a camera that would deliver high-quality video and make color correction in post-production a breeze.

#### The Solution:

Wargo selected JVC's GY-HC500 and GY-HC550 CONNECTED CAM™ handheld 4K camcorders. A pair of GY-HC500 camcorders were set up for the guests and wide shots, and the GY-HC550 was used to film series host Susan Anton.

"We recorded 4K in the cameras onto an M.2 SSD drive in the onboard KA-MR100G Media Adapter and ran output cables to an Atmos Shogun 7 for external HD recordings," says Wargo. "The nice thing about recording this way is that I was able to frame the shot to allow myself some room. Then, I could go back into the 4K footage to get isolated, close-up shots. The switches on the side are all amazingly easy to get to and all the important settings are right on top in the menus."

## Page 2: JVC Takes a Walk Down Memory Lane for *Idol Chat*

---

### The Result:

The 4K abilities of the cameras were a crucial requirement for Wargo, and the JVC GY-HC500 and GY-HC550 camcorders did not disappoint. "Recording 4K in the cameras and for external HD recordings was just a lifesaver, and it's something that we have wanted to do for a long time. With the JVC 4K cameras, we can achieve this with ease, and it looks great."

Since purchasing the cameras, Wargo has also been especially impressed with the camera's color. "The producers had planned to do color correction after we were done filming, but we didn't have to do any at all. It was broadcast-ready immediately without going through thousands of dollars in color correcting or color grading. There were a couple of spots where the lighting changed and I had to increase or decrease brightness and contrast a little bit, but we did nothing with the color. What you see on TV is what we shot, and the producers were amazed by it. Some people can't believe that's possible, but with JVC cameras it is."

Though the pandemic initially delayed his opportunity to use his new CONNECTED CAMs, Wargo has been happy to have them for his recent productions. "I could have purchased any cameras I wanted, and I made the right choice with JVC. JVC got it right with this camera; it just blows away others that I own. One of the things that impressed me the most about the cameras is the ability to go straight to the internet and stream. I've owned a lot of cameras over the years and JVC has never let me down. My JVC equipment has always been incredibly dependable."