

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



**NYTVF ANNOUNCES AWARD WINNERS, INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT DEALS FROM  
A&E, FOX, FX, IFC, MTV, SYFY AND INAUGURAL NYTVF PITCH PARTNERS  
SUNDANCE CHANNEL, MSN AND SEVENONE INTERNATIONAL**

*Seventh Annual New York Television Festival Wraps Up with NYTVF Awards at 92Y Tribeca, with  
Rob Michael Hugel's "I Hate Being Single" Taking Home the Bing Audience Award*

*In 2011, NYTVF's Industry Partners Have Recognized Independent Television Artists with 15  
Development Deals, Including 13 New Deals Announced Tonight*

[NEW YORK, NY, September 24, 2011] – The [NYTVF](#) today announced the winners of its [Independent Pilot Competition](#) (IPC) in 20 categories, including the Audience Award, sponsored by Bing, the first NYTVF Critics Award, and four sponsored awards tied to development deals from FX, IFC, MTV and Syfy. Additionally, NYTVF announced the winner of the fourth annual FOX-NYTVF Comedy Script Contest, five finalists in the first A&E Unscripted Development Pipeline, and the recipients of development deals from Sundance Channel, MSN and SevenOne International as part of the inaugural NYTVF Pitch competition. As the seventh annual New York Television Festival wrapped on Saturday night, the NYTVF and its industry partners celebrated a record 15 guaranteed deals offered to the independent television community during the organization's 2011 development season.

“This was a watershed year for the NYTVF and one that showed the independent television movement to not only be alive and well, but thriving,” said NYTVF Founder and Executive Director Terence Gray. “Thanks to the support of our many industry partners and the talents of our creative community, we had a very successful Festival and we look forward to building upon it for years to come.”

**New Development Deals**

**NYTVF Pitch**

In 2011, this new initiative was launched with [inaugural Pitch Partners, Sundance Channel, MSN and SevenOne International](#), to allow Official Artists to create and pitch additional projects during the Festival. Artists were invited to submit pitches based on creative briefs provided by each partner and the top ideas were identified by the NYTVF for the chance to pitch during the Festival.

Each Pitch Partner guaranteed one development deal for an artist participating in NYTVF Pitch, with the following coming out on top:

- Sundance Channel: “Party Doctor” from Jake Greene (Nashville, TN)
- MSN and Eyeboogie: “Carlos and the Games of Seduction” from Greg Burke and Lou Perez (New York, NY)
- SevenOne International and Red Arrow Entertainment Group: “A Week With My Father” from Giacomo Knox (Los Angeles, CA)

### **FOX-NYTVF Comedy Script Contest**

For the fourth consecutive year, FOX partnered with the NYTVF on the annual [FOX-NYTVF Comedy Script Contest](#), inviting aspiring television writers to enter their scripts for original half-hour comedy TV pilots for the opportunity to win \$25,000 and a development deal with network. Twenty-five Finalists were selected to be evaluated by FOX, and the winner is:

- “Adulthood for Beginners” written by Robby O'Connor (New York, NY)

### **A&E Unscripted Development Pipeline Finalists**

The new [A&E Unscripted Development Pipeline](#) sought original unscripted television concepts (including a short video and treatment) focused on individuals or small groups that represent unique points of view. Five finalists were chosen from a field of 25 semi-finalists, with each of the five to receive notes on their projects from A&E development executives as well as a cash prize of \$2,500. Finalists will also receive \$1,500 to shoot additional tape to further enhance their projects, with updated projects to be submitted to A&E by October 24 for final consideration. The winning project will be announced later this year with the producer to receive \$10,000 and the opportunity to participate in the creation of a network pilot based on their concept.

- “Tough Girl” from Tim Smyth (New York, NY)
- “American Genius” from Phillip Hullquist (Nashville, TN)
- “Pushing the Limits” from Javier Bermudez (Los Angeles, CA)
- “Surviving the Burn” from Paul Lima (Burbank, CA)
- “Racetrack Dads” from Donald Mann (Van Nuys, CA)

### **2011 Independent Pilot Competition (IPC) Sponsored Awards**

- FX “There Is No Box” Comedy Award: “Josh Jennings for Congress” from Nathan Gotsch (Los Angeles, CA)
- IFC “Out of the Box” Award: “St. James St. James Presents: Delirium Cinema” from Ross Patterson (Los Angeles, CA)

- MTV “Voice and Vision” Animation Awards for Writing and Animation: “Pound Dogs” from Mike Salva (Nashville, TN)
- Syfy Digital Studio “Imagine Greater” Award: “Odessa” from Al Thompson (New York, NY)

### **Additional IPC Award Winners**

- NYTVF Critics Award: “Redesigning Your Life with Lainey Chase” from Eric Cyphers (Los Angeles, CA)
- Bing Audience Award: “I Hate Being Single” from Rob Michael Hugel (Brooklyn, NY)
- Best Comedy Pilot: “Duder” from Matt Kirsch (Brooklyn, NY)
- Best Drama Pilot: “Finding Hope” from Diane Namm (Malibu, CA)
- Best Animation Pilot: “Cafe Bloodbath” from Matt Cook and Carlo Johnson (Brooklyn, NY)
- Best Dramedy Pilot: “15 Minutes” from Bobby Salomon (Los Angeles, CA)
- Best Family Programming Pilot: “Ruby Skye P.I.” from Jill Golick (Toronto, Ontario)
- Best Web Series Pilot: “Vice, Inc.” from Sean Skelton (Brooklyn, NY)
- Best Nonscripted Pilot: “Dinner Party Crashers” from Bo Vongsakoun (Denver, CO)
- Actress in a Comedy: Jackie Debatin in “Redesigning Your Life with Lainey Chase”
- Actress in a Drama or Dramedy: Rene Ashton in “MILF Money”
- Actor in a Comedy: (tie) Chris O'Neill and Paul Valenti in “The Chris and Paul Show”
- Actor in a Drama or Dramedy: Al Thompson in “Odessa”
- Nonscripted Character or Host: Christophe for “Heavy Metal Nanny” (Los Angeles, CA)
- Best Directing: Mark Gray and Scotty Weil for “Meter Men” (Los Angeles, CA)
- Best Writing: Joseph Saroufim and Debbie Singer for “OB/GY Anne” (Santa Monica, CA)

Descriptions of the IPC selections can be found at [http://nytvf.com/2011\\_ipc\\_selections.htm](http://nytvf.com/2011_ipc_selections.htm), with video trailers available at the NYTVF's official YouTube channel (<http://www.youtube.com/nytvf>).

Earlier in 2011, the NYTVF announced winners and/or finalists of two additional development deals as part of the [Bing Decisions Project](#) and [Sony Format Competition](#). During the week-long Festival, they joined those from all other 2011 NYTVF contests and competitions, as well as the artists responsible for the 48 IPC Official Selections, as 200-plus Official Artists granted exclusive access to key industry influencers throughout the week.

Additionally, over 15,000 independent artists, industry executives and television fans attended red carpet premieres, exclusive screenings, panels and other special events taking place at the SVA Theatre, Tribeca Cinemas and 92YTribeca from September 20-24.

#### **About the NYTVF**

Established in 2005, the NYTVF is a pioneer of the independent television movement, constructing new and innovative paths of development and talent identification, while simultaneously complementing the traditional television development model. Its annual New York Television Festival – held each fall in New York City – is recognized as the industry’s first independent television festival which provides a platform to elevate the work of artists creating for the small screen. Through the Festival and other year-round activities, the NYTVF’s mission is to connect its community of over 8,500 independent creative artists with leading networks, studios and brands by cultivating relationships that lead to new opportunities. For more information on the NYTVF, the annual Festival and these competitions, visit [www.nytvf.com](http://www.nytvf.com).

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