

NYTVF ANNOUNCES RECIPIENTS OF 20 DEVELOPMENT DEALS FROM TV NETWORK, STUDIO AND DIGITAL PARTNERS

A&E, BET, Channel 4, CW Seed, FOX, HISTORY, IFC, MTV, truTV and VH1, along with NYTVF Pitch Partners BIO Channel, Gannett Broadcasting, National Geographic Channel, and Sundance Channel unveil winners, and Lifetime awards development deals to five finalists

Ninth Annual New York Television Festival wraps up with NYTVF Awards, including Independent Pilot Competition winners in 11 categories, and “Re:Verse” winning “Best of the Fest”

[NEW YORK, NY, October 26, 2013] – At an awards ceremony at the SVA Theatre in Manhattan this evening, NYTVF (www.nytvf.com) announced the winners of its [Independent Pilot Competition](#) (IPC) in 11 categories, including “Best of the Fest” and NYTVF Critics Award honors to “Re:Verse” and “Killer Moves,” respectively. Additionally, NYTVF announced the winners of 20 development deals from its network, studio and digital partners. Along with its partners, NYTVF has brought a record 31 development deals to independent television creators in 2013, including 11 which were announced earlier this year.

Tonight's development deal recipients include winners of the sixth annual [FOX-NYTVF Comedy Script Contest](#) and the [A&E](#) and [HISTORY Unscripted Development Pipelines](#), finalists in the [Lifetime Unscripted Development Pipeline](#), and deals from BET, BIO Channel, Channel 4, CW Seed, Gannett Broadcasting, HISTORY, IFC, MTV, National Geographic Channel, Sundance Channel, truTV and VH1.

As the ninth annual New York Television Festival wrapped on Saturday night, the NYTVF and its industry partners celebrated the independent television movement by also recognizing the winner of the [MSN Short-Form Storytellers Challenge](#), “Coolest Thing I've Ever Made,” created by Guy Georgeson, which was announced during MSN's Live Pitch event on Friday evening and is receiving a \$75,000 production budget from MSN to create an original short-form series for the Microsoft video platform.

“We launched our first 2013 development initiatives during the 2012 Festival and in the year since, we've seen growth across the board – from the number of industry participants attending the Festival and partners committing to development options, to a jump in both submission opportunities offered and artists creating projects for our competitions,” said NYTVF Founder and Executive Director Terence Gray. “It's been a banner year for the organization and we are indebted to our terrific partners and extremely talented creative community for their commitment to the independent television movement.”

The total number of 2013 development deals offered through NYTVF via its year-round initiatives was up from 26 in 2012, 15 in 2011, four in 2010 and one or two in earlier years. Of the more than 3000 submissions received this year, 201 projects were selected for the Independent Pilot Competition or as finalists/semi-finalists in other development initiatives, with more than 350 Official Artists attending the Festival. These artists participated in hundreds of networking and pitch meetings with industry executives, while more than 15,000 artists, fans and industry attendees took advantage of the 60-plus free events, including screenings, premieres, panels and parties that took place at Tribeca Cinemas, Tribeca Three Sixty, and the SVA Theatre from October 21 - 26.

2013 Development Deals

[MSN Short-Form Storytellers Challenge](#)

Announced on Friday, October 25 following a live pitch event featuring five finalists, the winner of the first-ever MSN Short-Storytellers Challenge received a \$75,000 production budget from MSN to create an original short-form series for the Microsoft video platform.

- “Coolest Thing I’ve Ever Made” by Guy Georgeson (Toronto, ON, Canada)

Other Previously-Announced 2013 Development Deal Winners

Earlier in 2013, the NYTVF announced winners of the [Comedy Central Short Pilot Competition](#) and the [NBC Voice and Vision Drama Challenge](#), as well as finalists in the A&E and HISTORY Unscripted Development Pipelines, with each receiving a development deal from the network.

NYTVF Pitch – Announced Today

In 2013, the third installment of this initiative welcomed back Pitch Partners, Sundance Channel and BIO Channel, along with new additions Gannett Broadcasting and National Geographic Channel. Each partner provided a creative brief, which was shared with NYTVF's Official Artists. Artists were invited to submit specific pitches for 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:

- BIO Channel: Anre Garrett (Miami, FL)
- Gannett Broadcasting: David Guthrie and Nick Nelson (Toronto, ON, Canada)
- National Geographic Channel: Justin Lamb (New York, NY)
- Sundance Channel: Alex J. Mann (New York, NY)

FOX-NYTVF Comedy Script Contest – Announced Today

For the sixth 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 the network. Twenty-five finalists were selected to be evaluated by FOX, and the winner is:

- “We’re Not Your Parents” by Erin Cardillo and Richard Keith (Los Angeles, CA)

A&E, HISTORY and Lifetime Unscripted Development Pipelines – Announced Today

Launched in 2011 with A&E, adding Lifetime in 2012 and HISTORY in 2013, these programs sought original unscripted television concepts (including a short video and treatment) focused on individuals or small groups that represent unique points of view for each network. In each initiative, a selection of semi-finalists advanced to the corresponding network for consideration with five finalists receiving development deals. Winning producers received \$10,000 and the opportunity for future development with the partnering network.

The winner of the first-annual HISTORY Unscripted Development Pipeline, which was selected from the five finalists announced earlier this year:

- Rick Dobbis for his project, “Fire Bombers” (New York, NY)

The winner of the third-annual A&E Unscripted Development Pipeline, which was selected from the five finalists announced earlier this year:

- Nathan Stoll for his project, “Dirt Track Outlaws” (New York, NY)

Finalists in the second-annual Lifetime Unscripted Development Pipeline (winner to be announced at a later date):

- Jake Greene for “JR - Style by Fire” (Los Angeles, CA)
- Sue Mowris for “LumberJill” (Madison, WI)
- Harold Abrams for “Miss Vivian - the Funeral Lady” (Virginia Beach, VA)

- Bill Herndon and Brett Gay for “Sisters of the Game” (Baltimore, MD and Fresno, CA)
- Soreyrith Um for “Wrestling Hollywood” (Nashville, TN)

2013 Festival Development Awards – Announced Today

In 2013, seven NYTVF Festival Development Partners offered guaranteed development options to the NYTVF community. Festival Development Awards go to producers and content creators from among the New York Television Festival's 2013 class of Official Artists. (Official Artists are those who either had their pilot named an Official Selection of the Independent Pilot Competition (IPC) or was a semi-finalist or finalist in any other NYTVF initiatives.)

- BET Networks Development Deal: Joseph Gerbino (West Palm Beach, FL)
- Channel 4 Development Deal: Scott Eckert (Brooklyn, NY)
- CW Seed Digital Development Deals (2): John Thibodeaux and Kevin Walsh (Chicago, IL) and Jim Garvey and Stian Hafstad (Los Angeles, CA and Bergen, Norway)
- MTV Comedy Development Deal: Sydney Nikols and Julia Mattison (New York, NY)
- truTV Development Deal: Ramiro Castro Jr., Andrew Rollins Dewitt and Mike Bridenstine (Los Angeles, CA)
- VH1 Development Deal: Brona C. Titley and Tony Cooke (London, England)

Additionally, for the fifth consecutive year, IFC is awarding the “Out of the Box” Award to the pilot that the network identifies as the most innovative or genre-expanding pilot in competition.

- IFC “Out of the Box” Award: “Incognito” created by Alison Rich and Andrew Law (New York, NY)

Independent Pilot Competition – Announced Today

- Best Comedy Pilot: “Animals” created by Phil Matarese and Mike Luciano (New York, NY)
- Best Drama or Dramedy Pilot: “Hereafter” created by Johnny Kenton (London, England)
- Best Web Series Pilot: “Escape from Brooklyn” created by Sue Galloway and Megan Neuringer (New York, NY)
- Best Unscripted Pilot: “Anything You Can Do” created by Omar Kenawi and Martina Kabelkova (London, England)
- Best Actress: Alison Rich for “Incognito” (New York, NY)
- Best Actor: (tie) Peyton Brown, Brian Hurwitz, Josh Segovia, and Tyler Smith for “Exquisite Corpse” (Chicago, IL)
- Best Directing: Todd Bieber for “Engaged” (New York, NY)
- Best Writing: “Disenchanted” written by Justin Neufeld, Mark Spacek, Galen Church and Bill Wise (Austin, TX)
- NYTVF Critics Award: “Killer Moves” created by Ben Hillyar, David Mayes, and Tim Partridge

(Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire, England)

- NYTVF Audience Award: “Re:Verse” created by Stephen Soroka and Nic Rad (New York, NY)
- NYTVF “Best of the Fest”: “Re:Verse” created by Stephen Soroka and Nic Rad (New York, NY)

Descriptions and trailers for these and all IPC selections can be found at:

http://www.nytvf.com/2013_ipc_selections.html

About the NYTVF

Established in 2005, the NYTVF constructs new and innovative paths of development and talent identification, while simultaneously complementing the traditional television development model. By partnering directly with networks, studios, production companies, digital platforms and brands, the NYTVF provides its Industry Partners with a streamlined development model, leveraging its vast creative community of over 12,000 independent producers and production companies, to create content with specific partners in mind. During the annual New York Television Festival – held each fall in New York City – the NYTVF brings together its top artists and industry decision-makers for a series of events designed to foster networking, collaboration and education. The Festival also marks the culmination of the organization’s yearly development efforts and features screenings of top independent content, educational panels, fan events, red carpet premieres, and more. For more information on the NYTVF and the annual Festival, visit www.nytvf.com, and to learn about opportunities to submit for its year-round competitions, visit <http://www.nytvf.com/submit.html>.

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