



NYTVF LAUNCHES NEW PRODUCTION ARM WITH FOUR INITIAL DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS: A&E NETWORK, FOX, HISTORY AND THE ORCHARD

NYTVF Productions to work with independent artists to help guide their projects deeper into the development process, creating pilots and series for TV and digital platforms

[NEW YORK, NY, October 23, 2014] – The [NYTVF](#) today announced the launch of **NYTVF Productions** – a new arm of the company formed to be a production partner for independent television artists, guiding their work through the development process, with the ultimate goal being series orders for these projects. This announcement was made today, during the 10th annual New York Television Festival, by Founder/Executive Director Terence Gray, who will be taking on the additional role of executive producer for NYTVF Productions.

NYTVF Productions launches with four deals in place. Three of the NYTVF's 2014 development partners have signed on – A&E Network, FOX and The Orchard – with the winning independent artists/projects being announced as part of an awards ceremony taking place Saturday, on closing night of the week-long Festival. Additionally, it is being announced today that HISTORY will be the first 2015 NYTVF development partner as well as part of the NYTVF Productions launch. These four partnerships will result in three pilot presentations and one series order, co-produced by NYTVF Productions in conjunction with the indie artists:

- ***A&E Unscripted Development Pipeline*** – NYTVF Productions will work with the winner of this 2014 initiative to create an unscripted pilot presentation.
- ***FOX Comedy Alumni Program*** – NYTVF Productions will work with the winner of this 2014 initiative to develop a comedy pilot presentation based on the winning comedy script from the FOX Comedy Alumni Program competition. This year, only past finalists of the FOX-NYTVF Comedy Script Contest, which launched as NYTVF's first TV network development partnership in 2008, were qualified to submit work.
- ***HISTORY Unscripted Development Pipeline*** – NYTVF Productions will work with the winner of this 2015 initiative to create an unscripted pilot presentation.
- ***The Orchard GO Project*** – NYTVF Productions will work with the winner of this initiative to create a six-episode series for the indie distributor/multi-channel network. This is the first-time that The Orchard will fund and produce its own original episodic series.

A+E Networks (including A&E and HISTORY) and FOX are some of NYTVF's longest-standing partners, having supported the Festival for the better part of the past decade, as sponsors, creating development initiatives with the NYTVF, and by having executives sit on its board of advisors. The Orchard is a new partner this year, teaming up with NYTVF Productions as part of a strategy to grow its business in the TV area following recent, high-profile film acquisitions out of the Sundance and Tribeca Film Festivals.

"For anyone tracking the impressive growth trajectory and influence of the NYTVF over the years, it's no surprise that development and production partnerships were the next logical step," said The Orchard's SVP of Film & TV, Paul Davidson. "At The Orchard we share their passion for discovering and developing talented new voices and are excited to be doing so as a launch partner for NYTVF Productions."

This builds on the role the NYTVF has established as curator and advocate for the independent television movement, primarily through year-round competitions that culminate at the annual Festival. Over the past 10 years, the NYTVF has focused on identifying and nurturing top independent creative talent and connecting them with networks, studios, digital media companies, agencies and brands. Each year, it partners with top decision-makers in the industry looking to tap into a community of more than 14,000 indie artists, and discover new storytellers and voices. This has resulted in more than 100 development deals guaranteed by NYTVF industry partners over the years, and in 2014 alone, 20 partners – the most in NYTVF history – have committed to offer a record 32 development deals to NYTVF Official Artists based on the work they have submitted to competitions such as the Independent Pilot Competition, as well as networking meetings and pitches that take place at the Festival itself.

"The idea of independent TV has greatly evolved since we created the Festival 10 years ago, as new players have entered the market for original programming; technology has made it easier to produce, edit, fund, promote and self-distribute content; and filmmakers have looked to TV and digital as strong, respected mediums for their art," said Mr. Grey. "We have evolved as well, thanks to trust from our industry partners who now know the NYTVF as a conduit to top indie talent, to creators who look to us as a way to start or grow their careers, win development deals, land jobs on network shows, meet agents, and now with NYTVF Productions, get further opportunities for achieve pilot and series orders."

NYTVF Productions will utilize the experience and connections of the NYTVF executives in an effort to help guide the great work being done by the independent TV creators who are part of the NYTVF community. Outside of this new production arm, the NYTVF will continue to provide the independent production community with year-round services and opportunities, from holding the Festival to helping guide artists through the submission process for its partners' development initiatives and the Independent Pilot Competition. This includes providing the indie TV community with the tools they need to optimize their submissions, and creating events that – through networking, educational discussions and showcases of their work – help artists connect with networks, studios, digital media companies, agencies and other key industry players.

The 10th Annual New York Television Festival runs October 20-25, 2015, in lower Manhattan. It features screenings of 62 Independent Pilot Competition selections all week, as well as Digital Day panels on Friday, Development Day panels on Saturday, keynote conversations with leading showrunners Carlton Cuse (*Bates Motel*, *The Strain*, *Lost*), Jenni Konner (*Girls*) and Beau Willimon (*House of Cards*), and special events from BAFTA, BBC America, BET, FOX, FremantleMedia, MTV and Starz.

The Festival closes with the NYTVF Awards, during which Independent Pilot Competition winners in several categories are announced, including the Audience Choice and Critics Award, along with most recipients of development deals being awarded by NYTVF 2014 partners. This year's development partners include: A&E, Channel 4, Comedy Central, Conde Nast Entertainment, FremantleMedia North America, FOX, FYI, HISTORY, H2, Investigation Discovery, Lifetime, Lionsgate/Sea to Sky, MTV, National Geographic Channels, Red Arrow, SundanceTV, truTV, and WE tv.

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 14,000 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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