

creativescreenwriting

VOLUME 13, # 2 ▶ WWW.CREATIVESCREENWRITING.COM

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The Shield's Shawn Ryan
and Delta Force's Eric Haney
on Their New Military TV Show

THE UNIT

Rian Johnson Takes Film
Noir to School in His
Amazing Feature Debut

BRICK

Paul Weitz Takes on
Pop Culture and Politics in

AMERICAN DREAMZ

Nicholl Winner

AKEELAH AND THE BEE

Robert Towne's
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Showrunner
Tim Minear Shows You

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Jason Reitman Wants to

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ALSO IN THIS ISSUE: THE SUNDANCE REPORT,
DIRTY, HARD CANDY, Roger Avary on SILENT HILL

SCRIPT P.I.M.P. SCREENWRITING COMPETITION

8033 W. Sunset Boulevard, Suite 3000
Hollywood, CA 90046
Phone: 310.401.1155
Fax: 323.650.6711

E-mail: competition@scriptpimp.com
Web: www.scriptpimp.com/writing
competition/home.cfm

Deadline: May 1, 2006

Entry fee: \$40

Prizes: Four Grand Prize winners receive \$2,500 cash each, plus over \$12,000 in additional prizes. Twenty finalists receive gift certificates, subscriptions and other prizes.

Now heading into its third year, the Script P.I.M.P. (Pipeline Into Motion Pictures) Screenwriting Competition sprung out of a recurring complaint Chadwick Clough was hearing in his online community.

"Our writer clients continued to express their frustration with smaller screenplay competitions and we set out to do it right," says Clough, who also writes CS's "Production Co. Spotlight" column (see page 12). Clough's experience with script consulting and production companies, along with his management position at Script P.I.M.P., convinced him he could also be a contest director.

"Before launching the Script P.I.M.P. Screenwriting Competition, I entered dozens of 'screenwriting contests' as a test of the entire process," he explains. "We approached A-level production compa-

nies and agencies to not only consider the finalists but become involved in the judging process of the competition. Each of the last three years, Script P.I.M.P. has had over twenty A-level companies reviewing submissions. Few other contests provide this much exposure to this many writers."

Recognized as a cutting-edge competition, Script P.I.M.P. allows for online submissions and guarantees that each script will receive at least two reads from a judging panel of agents, development directors, and managers. All finalists become part of the extensive Script P.I.M.P. online community and get a free, five-year membership to their Writer's Database (a massive collection of contact information, production company listings, and general industry facts). A Writer's Workshop is also available to help develop scripts even further.

Script P.I.M.P. winners have been doing as well as the contest itself. One of 2003's winning scripts, *Slammin'*, by Aaron Metchik and Joseph Garner, was purchased less than six months later by Warner Bros. for six figures. Over the past two years, another half-dozen finalist scripts have been optioned. "If you look at our winners over the past three years, the material has been diverse, eclectic, and, in our eyes, fresh and original. We are not simply looking for the big commercial movie script that we can peddle to the studios," says Clough. "In a nutshell, good writing is good writing."

UPCOMING CONTEST DEADLINES

NICHOLL SCREENWRITING FELLOWSHIP

1313 N. Vine Street
Hollywood, CA 90028
Phone: 310.247.3010

E-mail: nicholl@oscars.org

Web: www.oscars.org/nicholl

Deadline: May 1, 2006

Entry fee: \$50

Prizes: The writers of up to five winning scripts receive a \$30,000 fellowship.

The brass ring of screenwriting contests, this is the Nicholl's first year doing online applications. See CS Vol. 12, #2 for an interview with program coordinator Greg Beal.

SCRIPTAPALOOZA COMPETITION

7775 Sunset Boulevard, Suite 200
Hollywood, CA 90046

Phone: 323.654.5809

E-mail: info@scriptapalooza.com

Web: www.scriptapalooza.com

Deadline: April 14, 2006

Entry fee: \$50

Prizes: First Prize is \$10,000 cash, software, subscriptions, agent/producer consideration.

In their eighth year, and endorsed by the WGA, Scriptapalooza is one of the bigger and more influential contests out there. See president Mark Andrushko's interview in CS Vol. 12, #2. ☐



PETER CLINES (peterclineswritescreenwriting.com) got an open door to pitch at Star Trek: Deep Space Nine and Star Trek: Voyager after submitting the first script he'd ever written. A simplicity among the Creative Screenwriting staff, he is beginning his second novel and is just working on a screenplay.