



Digital Video Productions

Somerset Community College Theatre
Digital Video Productions
48 Hour Film Festival
September 12, 13 & 14 2008

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SCC Theatre's 48 hour Film Festival invites both novice and professional filmmakers to engage in the art and craft of filmmaking in this exciting and challenging two day event.

Film teams are given only two days to conceive, prepare, shoot and produce a short film (no longer than six minutes in length) and present it on SCC Stoner Little Theatre's "big screen" along with short features from other filmmakers entered in the Festival.

The films and performances are adjudicated and the evening culminates with an awards ceremony honoring "Best Cinematography," "Best Editing," "Technical Excellence," "Special Achievement in Creativity," and "Best Film." Performance awards are also given for "Best Ensemble Performance," "Best Featured Performance," and "Best Supporting Performance." "People's Choice Awards" will be given to those films that the audience votes on as most effectively incorporating the required elements into the films.

On the first evening of the Festival, film teams attend an official "kick-off" meeting with the producer of the event. At this time, the special elements of the film projects are assigned. To assure that teams do not engage in significant filmmaking before the official 48 hours of the Festival begins, they will not learn of a number of elements that their film must contain until this meeting. First, each team will draw a different film genre after which their project must be stylized.

Four additional elements (the same for all filmmakers) are also assigned at this initial meeting and must be incorporated into the short film. Those are; a line of dialogue, a prop, a character and a costume element.

After the teams receive their assignments, they have 48 hours to complete their project, with all the assigned elements incorporated, and submitted to the producer of the Festival in DVD form.

Teams that have their films submitted, in proper form, by the deadline on Sunday night will have their projects screened before the festival audience and judged for the categories mentioned above.

Anyone interested in creating a film team for the Festival or individual artists who would like information about how to get included on a team can contact festival producer, Steve Cleberg, at 606 451-6760 or by email at Steve.Cleberg@kctcs.edu.

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RULES

PRE-PRODUCTION:

The designated team representative **must** complete and submit the official registration/participation agreement. The registration fee of \$25 **must** accompany the official documentation in order for the entry to be official.

A film team **may** meet and are **encouraged to** engage in the following logistical activities **prior to** the kick off meeting:

- 1 Make specific team assignments for the 2 days of production.
- 2 Scout potential locations.
- 3 Secure signed releases from location owners and talent. (DVP's releases are attached to serve as examples.)
- 4 Write scenario including potential action and characters.
- 5 Gather potential props, costumes, makeup, location scenery.
- 6 Gather and organize camera, sound and lighting equipment.

A film team **may not** engage in basic creative activities of filmmaking **prior to** the kick off meeting such as:

- 1 Scripting dialogue.
- 2 Preliminary shooting of establishing shots, action or images.
- 3 Rehearse scenes for the project.

KICK-OFF MEETING:

All teams **must** have at least one representative at the "kick-off" meeting to draw the team's genre.

After each team has drawn their genre, the Festival producer will announce the four additional elements that each team must incorporate into their film project. A computer generated copy of the additional elements will be given to the appointed team representative.

A team not wishing to shoot their project with the genre they drew **may** turn their genre drawing back to the Festival producer directly following the announcement of the four additional elements. (The Festival producer must have their drawing in his hand before he draws the "wild card" genre) If any genres are returned, the Festival producer will then draw a "wild card" genre that all teams who turn in their drawn

genre must accept and after which **must** style their film project. A team **may not** return their genre back for the "wildcard" genre once that genre is announced.

In order for a film project to be considered for adjudication, it **must** be shot in the assigned genre and contain all four of the official elements announced at the kick-off meeting. It **must** also be submitted in DVD form to the Festival producer, in the proper format (outlined in the submissions requirements below) by the appointed deadline.

Projects submitted after the appointed deadline or in improper format **will be shown** at the Festival but **will not** be eligible for official adjudication. They **will**, however, be eligible for the "People's Choice" awards.

PRODUCTION/SHOOTING:

All creative activity including but not limited to designing, shooting, lighting and editing **must** be done during the 48 hour period only.

The cast and crew of the project **must** be volunteers.

A maximum of two cameras **may** be used during the shoot.

All shooting **should** be done with a 4:3 aspect ratio application. The Festival projector is set for a 4:3 aspect ratio. Any footage shot for other aspect ratio may appear normal on you NLE but will appear Cut off at the sides or "squashed" for the official screening. If you wish for your project to be viewed a widescreen project you **should** apply letter box bars during the editing process.

Teams **may not** use stock footage or footage shot prior to the official 48 hours of the Festival.

All individuals who appear in the project **must** sign a release giving permission to use their image.

The owner of all locations used in the project **must** sign a release approving the use of their properties image in the project.

The team leader **must** submit a signed release stating that he has obtained all the appropriate releases.

These projects are intended for family viewing. They **must not** include inappropriate language or images. The Festival reserves the right to make disclaimers to the public prior to any film it feels does not meet this threshold. The Festival also reserves the right not to screen an entry it views as offensive.

POST-PRODUCTION/EDITING:

Editors **must** create the film projects in the following format:

- 1 Opening with an unanimated title clip, 6 seconds in length, which **must** include team name, title of film, city, date, and genre.
- 2 Followed by 4 seconds of blank (preferably black) screen.
- 3 The film project will follow.
- 4 Final credits **must not** exceed 60 seconds in length.
- 5 The final image of the project must be an unanimated title clip that reads "This film was made as a part of Somerset Community College Theatre's digital Video Productions 48 hour Film Festival."

Teams **are encouraged** to create sound effects and music with local artists to be created during the 48 hour period.

Teams **may** incorporate pre-recorded music by local artists or "royalty-free" sound effects or music with proper releases or documentation of "proof of ownership/license."

All animation and special effects **must** be incorporated into the project within the 48 hours of the Festival.

The final film project **must not** exceed 6 minutes. The timing of the film will begin when the opening official title clip ends and will end when the final official title acknowledging "Somerset Community College digital Video Productions" becomes visible.

SUBMISSION:

Each team **must** have a representative submit the following "official package" in order to be eligible for screening:

- A DVD with the official title clip information written on the surface of the DVD. It is recommended that the team submit 2 DVD's.
- The official "team roster" sheet.
- The official "team leader release" signed by the team leader.

The team leader is responsible for clearing and documenting all music rights, individual rights and location rights.

The Festival is not responsible if the DVD is not compatible with the Projection equipment.

The Festival may add or amend rules any time prior to the Festival.

JUDGING CRITERIA:

Best Supporting Performance

Should go to the best supporting performance in any of the selected projects by either an actor or actress.

Best Performance

Should go to the best leading performance by either an actor or actress.

Best Ensemble Performance

Should go to the film where the entire cast displayed an even and balanced ensemble.

Best Cinematography

Best camera work.

Best Editing

Most creatively edited project.

Technical Excellence

Should go to the film that most effectively displayed excellence in technical achievement. The technical excellence award can only be given to a film that adheres to the assigned genre and incorporates all of the assigned elements.

Best Film

The Best Film must most successfully incorporate the all of the criteria below:

- 1.) **Integrity with respect to the assigned genre.** A film shot in a genre other than the assigned genre should not be considered for this award.
- 2.) **Creative integrating of the assigned elements.**
- 3.) **The most balanced example in excellence in all areas of filmmaking.**

Special Achievement in Creativity

Is designed to recognize a particular moment, scene, special effect, etc both judges feel should get special mention.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Friday, September 12 - 6:00 pm – Preliminary Meeting – Elements assigned
Production begins

Saturday, September 13 – Production continues – Editing process begins

Sunday, September 14 - 6:00 pm – Deadline – DVD's submitted.

Sunday, 7:30 pm – Screening of entries.

Awards Ceremony follows.