

EMERGING FILMMAKERS SELECTED FOR KICK START 2009

Vancouver, BC – October 21, 2008 - *The Directors Guild of Canada, BC District Council*, and *British Columbia Film* are pleased to announce the Kick Start 2009 recipients. Each of the selected applicants will receive financial support in the amount of \$20,000, plus post-production assistance from *Finale Editworks, Post Modern Sound*, and *Sharpe Sound*.

Kick Start provides five emerging filmmakers with an opportunity to further develop their directing careers. Successful applicants will have demonstrated the talent, ability, imagination, resources and requisite craft skills required to meet the challenges of directing a ten-minute dramatic *calling card* film or video. Each director completes his or her project under the guidance of an experienced mentor director, who acts as an industry consultant and resource person.

The 2009 Kick Start recipients are:

Chad Costen – “Death Wish”

Mentor: Dwayne Beaver

Death touches a little girl's soul by granting her fondest wish on Christmas Eve.

Jason Fischer – “Le Premier Etoile”

Mentor: Mike Rohl

As a group of businessmen plot to take over Canada's natural resources and our unique heritage; Canadian hockey legend, Duane Timberlane, arrives to save the day armed only with a stick and some pucks.

Anand Kanna – “Serum 1831”

Mentor: Tom Braidwood

Robert Lee proves that revenge can be oh, so sweet in this morbid tale of greed, lust and karma.

Mark Ratzlaff – “Voodoo”

Mentor: James Genn

It's 1944 and Mr. & Mrs. Decker are thinking about getting a divorce. Only, instead of going to a divorce lawyer, Mrs. Decker proposes voodoo.

Brendan mk Uegama – “Henry's Glasses”

Mentor: Grant Harvey

In a Japanese internment camp in 1945 British Columbia, an eight year old boy has a mystical gift that can make the extraordinary happen. This gift may even hold the power to make the skeptical and obstinate Mr. Yamamoto believe.

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Applicants must be either a graduate from a post-secondary institution or a recognized film school, or possess equivalent experience in the film industry. Projects must be completed within a year and have a maximum cash budget of \$50,000.

Both program partners are excited to support emerging filmmakers in British Columbia by providing them with a calling card film to assist them in developing their directing career. Previous program participants include Mina Shum, Gary Burns, Guy Bennett, Trent Carlson, Nathaniel Geary, Aubrey Nealon, Julia Kwan and Colin Cunningham.

The Directors Guild of Canada, British Columbia

The Directors Guild of Canada, British Columbia, is a labour organization which represents key creative and logistical personnel in the film and television industries. The Guild supports and facilitates member employment opportunities and represents member interests with regard to both immediate work environments and future concerns as a labour force.

British Columbia Film

British Columbia Film is a privately administered, non-profit society established in 1987 by the provincial government with a mandate to expand and diversify the cultural industries of film and video in British Columbia.

Information is available on the Directors Guild of Canada, BC District Council, website at www.dgcbc.com

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