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CITY of CALABASAS

The Method Fest film festival is organized by Method Fest Inc., a 501 (c) (3) not for profit organization (EIN 55-0852939) dedicated to support the work of those who produce, make and work in independent film, and to provide educational opportunities in independent filmmaking and arts education.

An overview of The Method Fest Youth Education Program:

The 2010 Method Fest Film Festival Youth Program Short Film & Short Screenplay Competition

Our Mission

Our mission in this competition is to provide an outlet for young filmmakers, writers and actors to share their work in a professional environment. Films are to be no longer than 12 minutes, give or take a minute or few, screenplays no longer than 10 pages in length.

The Work

In keeping with the focus of The Method Fest, short films and screenplays should highlight the strengths of the actor and have a great story. We encourage simple character-driven stories about life from the point of view of youth. Just send something great. Short films will be considered for the Best Screenplay Competition with or without a written screenplay.

Guidelines for Films and Scripts

- Tell a personal story.
- Keep your locations limited.
- Find resources (people, places, things) available in your daily life.
- Limit the number of actors to only a few, or just one or two.

Eligibility

Given the mission of the Method Fest Youth Program, All contestants **must** be in grades six to twelve (6-12, or their respective equivalents) in the school year 2009-10 and live in Los Angeles or Ventura counties.

REMEMBER, THERE IS NO ENTRY FEE!

Deadlines

Preliminary Deadline - **February 1, 2010**

The preliminary deadline gives diligent filmmakers a chance to enter their films for review before the bulk of the entries arrive, the idea being that filmmakers who enter their work by February 1 will have even more personal input from Method Fest staff.

General Entry Deadline - **March 1, 2010**

The Divisions and Awards

- Division I (Grades 6 to 8)
- Division II (Grades 9 to 12)

In each division: Best Short Screenplay, Best Actor, and Best Short Film. We reserve the right to give other awards too! Winners from past years have included Best Method Film.

The Process for Short Films

- Filmmakers submit an application and a copy of their film on DVD only.
- A panel of youth and professional filmmakers will narrow down the entries to finalists in each division.
- These movies will be screened at the festival.
- A panel from filmmaking industry will evaluate those movies and choose winners to be announced at an Awards Ceremony during the festival.
- Awards from past years have included copies of Final Draft Screenwriting Software and Professional and Consumer Video Cameras from Sony.

The Process for Short Screenplays

- Screenwriters submit an application and a copy of their script, **no more than 10 pages long.** We recommend the industry standard screenplay format.
- A panel of industry writers will select the best scripts.
- Awards from past years have included copies of Final Draft Screenwriting Software and professional assistance in realizing the script on film.

Film Screenings

We will screen several youth films during the festival, as many as we can, you know, all the great ones.

Actor Awards

A panel of industry filmmakers and agents will select the best actor in each division from the pool of submitted short films. Actors in past competitions have won professional acting classes, Final Draft Screenwriting software, and agent representation.

Clinics & Helpful Information

During the festival we will have a variety of clinics for filmmaking, writing and acting. A complete schedule will be available on the festival website (www.methodfest.com), so please check back.

Contact

Feel free to contact us with questions or comments via email at youth@methodfest.com

Educators & Industry

If you wish to involve yourself with the Youth Program or would like an industry professional/educator to visit your classroom, please email our Youth Outreach Coordinator, at youth@methodfest.com

The Method Fest Film Festival: Youth Programs 2010

Short Film Entry Form

Please complete a separate entry form for each film submitted.
(Scripts may also be submitted online at www.methodfest.com)

Film/Script
Title _____ Genre _____

Completion Date Month/Year _____ Budget: _____ Running Time _____

Screenwriter(s) _____

Synopsis (25 words or
less) _____

School _____ Teacher _____

Previous Festivals and/or
Awards _____

Producer _____ Phone _____ E-mail _____

Director _____ Phone _____ E-mail _____

Actors you want to brag about _____

Screening Format: DVD _____

(Circle all that apply as of festival date:) **First Time:** Director Writer

Name of youth submitting application _____ Date _____

Parent's Name(s) _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (h) _____ Cellular _____ Fax _____

Web site URL: _____ Email _____

CERTIFICATION OF ENTRANT

I, the undersigned, acknowledge and agree as follows: 1) I am duly authorized to submit this film or screenplay to the festival; 2) This film or screenplay is not subject to any litigation nor is threatened by any litigation; 3) I hold The Method Fest film festival harmless from damages to the print en route or otherwise during the course of the Festival's possession of the film. 4) The festival is further authorized to use up to 3 minutes of a film for promotional purposes. 5) To the best of my knowledge, all of the statements in this document are true. 6) I have music/festival clearances for the music in my film. 7) By submitting your film or screenplay to The Method Fest, you understand that they may potentially be shown in a public venue.

Signature of Student

_____ Date _____

Signature of Parent or Guardian (if under 18)

_____ Date _____

Mail Entries To:

Don Franken
The Method Fest: Youth Program
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El Segundo, CA 90245