

## **Film Factory Contest Rules/Agreement/Pledge**

### **OVERVIEW**

The Steeltown Film Factory (SFF), organized by the Steeltown Entertainment Project, is a filmmaking competition developed to encourage and nurture the growth of the entertainment sector of Southwestern Pennsylvania (SWPA). The Film Factory is a year-long filmmaking competition and a series of public workshops, panel discussions, and staged readings all centered on engaging aspiring filmmakers to create and develop projects with Pittsburgh-inspired content while providing audiences of all backgrounds to meet successful entertainment industry professionals and learn about the creative film and media development process.

We anticipate that the benefits of a successful Film Factory will lead to employing and developing our local workforce, development of future projects in the region, and the incubation of talent and intellectual property that can be spun off into for-profit entities that will create permanent jobs, investment opportunities and exportable products. By bringing together local and expatriate resources in Southwestern Pennsylvania, the SFF will help to transform this region's non-profit "Arts" sector into a for-profit "Entertainment Business" sector.

The Film Factory takes filmmakers on a journey, helping them to discover their projects' inner workings, as entrants compete for an opportunity to create the makings of a commercially viable project. The catch: the stories all have to be related to and produced in Southwestern Pennsylvania. The grand-prize: an opportunity to have your short films produced and premiered at the 2010 Three Rivers Film Festival.

### **THE PRIZE**

The total prize package is worth \$30,000. The prize of \$30,000 is available to be used to produce the winning film or films. One to three short films will be chosen and the funds will be divided and awarded at the discretion of the judges.

## GENERAL RULES

1. Projects must be produced in the Southwestern Pennsylvania/Pittsburgh region between June 1, 2011 and October, 31, 2011. The ten-county Southwestern Pennsylvania region is defined by the Allegheny Conference of Community Development, which includes Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, Lawrence, Washington, and Westmoreland:  
[www.alleghenyconference.org/Regions10Counties.asp](http://www.alleghenyconference.org/Regions10Counties.asp).
2. Forms/Formats: Short screenplays, teleplays, and/or other digital media narrative formats will be accepted. No stage plays will be accepted.
3. Length: Scripts must be a maximum of 12 pages, not including the title page.
4. Entries must be in English and should conform to the standard screenplay format. (Please reference Syd Fields for clarification)  
<http://www.amazon.com/Screenplay-Foundations-Screenwriting-step-step/dp/0440576474>
5. Screenplays must be the original work of the applicants; if submission is not original work, Film Factory applicants must have the rights to the work. Adaptations and material based in any way on other media, produced or unproduced, (i.e. short stories, movies, novels, biographies, songs, etc.) for which the applicant does not have the rights are not eligible for entry into this competition.
6. Screenplays that have been previously sold, optioned, are currently under contract, and/or that have been previously produced, are not eligible for entry into this competition.
7. Any co-authored scripts require the permission of all authors to be considered valid entries.
8. If a submission involves two or more writers as applicants, the award will be divided evenly among the authors.

## WAIVERS & RIGHTS

1. Entering this competition will not limit your copyright. Applicants retain the copyright to their work 100%, however it is suggested that all contestants register their work with the Writer's Guild of America (WGA) [www.wga.org/](http://www.wga.org/) or the U.S. Copyright Office [www.copyright.gov/](http://www.copyright.gov/).
2. By entering this contest, you give the Film Factory permission to use your name, likeness, script, logline, synopsis, and/or excerpts in our promotional and informational materials in perpetuity without additional consideration. This includes use on our websites, in print materials, and/or any other media used to chronicle or promote the Film Factory experience, including taping and airing on WQED's "OnQ."
3. By entering this contest, entrants certify that they own the rights to any work they are adapting for submission into the Film Factory competition. Entrants also indemnify the Film Factory, Steeltown Entertainment Project, its agents, judges, affiliates and sponsors from liability if action is brought for copyright violations. This indemnification includes the payment of lawyers fees incurred in the process.
4. Entrants understand that contest judges receive numerous submissions of ideas, stories, and scripts and that your submission may very well be similar or identical to that of materials received and/or developed by judges. Therefore, you agree that you are not entitled to compensation or credit for the use of these other materials by contest judges.
5. I/We agree to hold the Film Factory and Steeltown Entertainment Project, including staff, judges, sponsors, board members, volunteers, contractors, agents, and affiliates harmless from and defend them against all claims, demands, losses, damages, judgments, liabilities (including attorney's fees) arising out of or in connection with any and all claims of third parties, whether groundless, for any screenplay submitted to the Film Factory or any screenplay/film/video developed out of submission to the Film Factory.
6. I /We understand that my participation in all events surrounding the Film Factory, including workshops, competition, production, post-production, and screening is mandatory. The Film Factory reserves the right to revoke and redistribute any

benefits or awards I/we receive for the failure to participate fully in the Film Factory experience.

7. I/We understand that in no way, unless under an expressed agreement, is the Film Factory, Steeltown Entertainment Project, or any of their affiliates responsible for the costs of travel, lodging, or other accommodations while participating in the Film Factory.

**Entrant #1**

Name (printed) \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Entrant #2**

Name (printed) \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Entrant #3**

Name (printed) \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

If submissions include more than three writers, please contact us.

## **PAY IT FORWARD PLEDGE**

The Steeltown Entertainment Project is a nonprofit organization seeking to bring exposure to the small, yet talented entertainment sector in Southwestern Pennsylvania through the programming of the Film Factory. Through the tireless efforts of our staff, volunteers, sponsors, and judges the Film Factory invests its time and funding into developing filmmakers and artists to bring the voices of this region to the nation. However, all of this would not be possible without donations of both time and money. Because funding is such a challenge, we ask that winners always consider participating in our Pay It Forward Pledge.

By signing below, you agree that in the event your project is sold or optioned due to the direct or indirect promotional efforts of the Film Factory and Steeltown Entertainment Project, 3% of the proceeds from the project will be returned to the Film Factory for the continued investment of filmmakers and filmmaking in Southwestern Pennsylvania.

The Pay It Forward Pledge is completely optional and your participation in the program has no bearing on the judgment of your entry.

### **Entrant #1**

Name (printed) \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

### **Entrant #2**

Name (printed) \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

### **Entrant #3**

Name (printed) \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

If submissions include more than three writers, please contact us.