



## Film Genesis Launches the First Script-to-Film Screenwriting Contest and Puts Writers in the Director's Chair

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**FilmGenesis.com's "Script-to-Film" Screenwriting Contest gives screenwriters a chance to turn their short script into film festival fodder.**

Los Angeles, CA (PRWEB) March 14, 2005 -- Film Genesis (FG) launches it's "Script-to-Film" Screenwriting Contest via its website, [www.FilmGenesis.com](http://www.FilmGenesis.com). Now, screenwriters as far away as Maine can get a taste of Hollywood... from the director's chair.

A well-known fact about becoming a filmmaker in Hollywood is that new filmmakers must have a history of making films. These films are their calling cards. They demonstrate the filmmaker's ability to write, direct and produce quality films. In other words, these films show that the high demands of studio executives will be met.

As more and more aspiring filmmakers embark on the journey of acceptance into Hollywood's mainstream most ultimately discover that independent filmmaking can be a tremendous challenge. Securing funding to turn 'indie film' dreams into a reality can be daunting. Even so-called low-budget films can be terribly expensive. Most new directors turn to short films but they soon discover that film stock costs money; production crews cost money; scripts; film/video equipment costs money and post-production services cost money.

Even if an aspiring filmmaker courageously bites the bullet, sacrifices and eventually completes their own self-funded film they find a new challenge. The new "opponent" to do-it-yourself filmmakers are the powerful, dynamic and visually stimulating films that film school students are turning out. Cinematically, film school students are producing some of the most visually stunning short films. Films that come very close to looking as though they were produced in a studio. Can indie filmmakers stand up to the competition?

Daryl Harkless, founder of Film Genesis, says yes. "The reason why Film Genesis was born is because there was no specific vehicle for the entrepreneurial, rogue guerilla filmmaker to break through -- now there is." Harkless is an entrepreneur who enjoys nurturing the creativity of young filmmakers. When the idea for Film Genesis first came to him he immediately surrounded himself with independent filmmakers, screenwriters, and other industry professionals to fine-tune the idea. The result: the Film Genesis Script-to-Film Contest.

Together with Three Nineteen Productions, an independent production company and FloodGate Media, a production services company, Film Genesis opens the doors for tomorrow's writer's today. This contest was created specifically, but not exclusively, for aspiring writer/directors. Unlike other screenplay contest, the winner of the Film Genesis does not have his script "passed around." Instead, the winning writer is presented with the opportunity to direct a short film based on their script. Film Genesis will produce.

Being hired to direct a film that has been professionally produced is the ultimate validity of a filmmaker's potential. "More important than just making a film is what we do afterwards," says Harkless. "When the film is complete, Film Genesis looks at all the upcoming film festivals and

submits the film. We handle all the expenses on the winning writer's behalf."

What does Film Genesis hope to get from their efforts? According to Angelo Bell, writer/director at Three Nineteen Productions, their vision is very clear. "We want to make films and we want to give aspiring filmmakers a chance they wouldn't otherwise have."

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