

## THE NEW YORK TELEVISION FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES THE LAUNCH OF THE NYTVF FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

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*The innovative program places outstanding independent pilot-makers  
in mentorships with prominent TV producers*

[NEW YORK, NY, Sept. 4, 2007] – The New York Television Festival (NYTVF) announced today that it is introducing the NYTVF Fellowship Program at this year's festival. This innovative program will establish mentorships pairing some of the biggest names in television with outstanding up-and-coming artists from the Festival. Writers, producers and directors featured in the NYTVF's 2007 Independent Pilot Competition will be eligible to apply for the Fellowships, and four recipients will receive guidance and feedback from their mentors on their next television project. The inaugural class of Fellows will be announced at the Closing Night Awards Ceremony held on Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. The third annual Festival opens on Wednesday, September 5<sup>th</sup> and runs until Sunday the 9<sup>th</sup>.

“The Fellowships speak directly to the core mission of the Festival, which is to facilitate access in television,” said NYTVF founder Terence Gray. “Now, some of our most promising pilotmakers have an incredible opportunity to further not just their careers, but their maturation as artists under the guidance of some truly outstanding TV minds.”

The following four producers are participating as mentors in the 2007 NYTVF Fellowship Program:

- Michael Davies (Executive Producer, *Who Wants To Be A Millionaire, Power of 10*)
- Tom Fontana (Executive Producer/Writer, *St. Elsewhere, Oz, Homicide*)
- Mitchell Hurwitz (Executive Producer/Creator, *Arrested Development*)
- Phil Rosenthal (Executive Producer/Creator, *Everybody Loves Raymond*)

The four established producers will hand-select the pilotmaker he would like to mentor based on his or her work in the Independent Pilot Competition. These four artists will be named official NYTVF Fellows. Over the following six months, the mentors will assist the Fellows in creating and developing their next television project. If the project is developed into a new independent pilot, the pilot will automatically receive a specialty screening at the 2008 New York Television Festival.

Previously announced, the second annual NYTVF Premiere Week screening series offers press and festival audiences a first look at the most anticipated network shows of the new TV season. In 2007, Premiere Week features FOX's *New Amsterdam* on September 6<sup>th</sup>, NBC's *Chuck* on September 7<sup>th</sup>, and ABC's *Pushing Daisies* on September 8<sup>th</sup>.

All-Access Passes and Industry Packages to the New York Television Festival are currently on sale. To order tickets or passes, visit [nytvf.com](http://nytvf.com) and click on “Box Office.” Free single tickets to pilot screenings and community panel discussions can also be obtained at the NYTVF Web site.

The NYTVF debuted in 2005 as the industry's first showcase for independent television. Recent pilots that premiered at the Festival and have been sold to major networks include the scripted comedy "Split the Difference" to NBC Universal Television Studios and the improv comedy pilot "Criss-Cross" to A&E Television Networks. Additionally, the reality series "Off the Hook" was purchased and developed as a series by Versus.

The NYTVF is supported by Signature Sponsors MSN, Xbox and Procter & Gamble Productions. TV Guide and the William Morris Agency are Official Supporting Sponsors. Official Network Sponsors for the 2007 NYTVF include NBC Universal, FOX, ABC, A&E, Bravo and E!. The NYTVF works in conjunction with the Mayor's Office of New York City.

For more information on the NYTVF, please visit [www.newyorktelevisionfestival.com](http://www.newyorktelevisionfestival.com).

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#### About the New York Television Festival

The NYTVF was founded in 2005 as the industry's first recognized independent television festival, providing a platform to elevate the work of artists creating for the small screen. Held annually each fall in New York City, the birthplace of modern television, the Festival unites artists, executives, industry figures, and fans together in one forum to celebrate the medium and to help shape its future. Along with the Independent Pilot Competition, the Festival features panel discussions, network premiere screenings, and other special events designed to honor television as an institution and as an art form.