



## **NYTVF ANNOUNCES RECIPIENTS OF 19 DEVELOPMENT DEALS FROM TV NETWORK, STUDIO AND DIGITAL PARTNERS**

*A&E Network, FOX, IFC, Lifetime, MTV, Samsung, Syfy and VH1, along with NYTVF Pitch Partners BIO Channel, Channel 4, Hasbro Studios, Logo, Red Arrow International, Sundance Channel and truTV unveil award winners*

*Eighth Annual New York Television Festival wraps up with NYTVF Awards at 92YTribeca, with Independent Pilot Competition winners in sixteen categories announced, including NYTVF Critics Award and the Amazon Studios Audience Award*

[NEW YORK, NY, October 27, 2012] – The [NYTVF](#) today announced the winners of its [Independent Pilot Competition](#) (IPC) in 12 categories, including the Audience Award, sponsored by Amazon Studios, the second annual NYTVF Critics Award, and four sponsored awards tied to development deals from IFC, MTV, Syfy and VH1. Additionally, NYTVF announced the winner of the fifth annual [FOX-NYTVF Comedy Script Contest](#), the second-annual [A&E Unscripted Development Pipeline](#), the five finalists in the first [Lifetime Unscripted Development Pipeline](#) and the recipients of development deals from [NYTVF Pitch](#) Partners BIO Channel, Channel 4, Hasbro Studios, Logo, Red Arrow International, Sundance Channel and truTV.

As the eighth annual New York Television Festival wrapped on Saturday night, the NYTVF and its industry partners celebrated these independent creators along with previously announced winners in the [Comedy Central Short Pilot Competition](#) and [UK-exclusive IPC deals](#) from FOX Television Studios and Warner Bros. International Television Productions, as well as [finalists](#) in the A&E pipeline. Also honored was the winner of the [Samsung Second Screen Storytellers Competition](#), “D-TEC”, created by Joseph Saroufim, Peter Saroufim, and Stephen Interrante, which was announced during Samsung's Live Pitch event on Friday evening and is receiving a \$300,000 production budget from the electronics leader to create an original multi-screen series for Samsung Smart TVs.

“We launched our first 2012 development initiative during the 2011 Festival and in the year since, we've seen growth across the board – from the number of industry participants attending the Festival and partners committing to development options, to a jump in both submission opportunities offered and artists creating projects for our competitions,” said NYTVF Founder and Executive Director Terence Gray. “It's been a banner year for the organization and we are indebted to our terrific partners and extremely talented creative community for their commitment to the independent television movement.”

## **2012 Development Deals**

### **NYTVF Pitch**

In 2012, the second installment of this initiative welcomed back inaugural Pitch Partners, Sundance Channel and Red Arrow International, along with new additions BIO Channel, Channel 4, Hasbro Studios, Logo and truTV. Each partner provided a creative brief, which was shared with NYTVF's Official Artists. Artists were invited to submit specific pitches for each partner and the top ideas were identified by the NYTVF for the chance to pitch during the Festival.

Each Pitch Partner guaranteed one development deal for an artist participating in NYTVF Pitch, with the following coming out on top:

- Sundance Channel: "I Want A New Life" created by Stephen Soroka and Will Bozarth (New York, NY)
- Red Arrow International: "Barely Legal" created by Kynan Griffin and Jason Faller (Provo, UT)
- BIO Channel: "Para-Not-So-Normal" created by Nick Armstrong and Trevor Tevel (Los Angeles, CA)
- Channel 4: "Celebrities Solving Crimes" created by Melge Media (Brooklyn, NY)
- Hasbro Studios: "Buckle and Swash" created by Sarah Courtauld (London, UK)
- Logo: "Burly Q's" created by Carrie Preston and Daisy 3 Pictures (New York, NY)
- truTV: "Lords of the Land: NYC" created by Frank Mosca (City Island, NY)

### **FOX-NYTVF Comedy Script Contest**

For the fifth consecutive year, FOX partnered with the NYTVF on the annual FOX-NYTVF Comedy Script Contest, inviting aspiring television writers to enter their scripts for original half-hour comedy TV pilots for the opportunity to win \$25,000 and a development deal with the network. Twenty-five finalists were selected to be evaluated by FOX, and the winner is:

- "Here to Stay" from Andrew Shafer (New York, NY)

### **A&E and Lifetime Unscripted Development Pipelines**

Launched in 2011 with A&E, and re-upped in 2012 with A&E and the addition of Lifetime, these programs sought original unscripted television concepts (including a short video and treatment) focused on individuals or small groups that represent unique points of view for each network. In each initiative, five finalists are selected from a field of 25 semi-finalists with each of the five receiving notes on their projects from the respective network's development executives as well as a cash prize of \$2,500. Finalists also receive \$1,500 to shoot additional tape to further enhance their projects for a shot at the \$10,000 prize and the opportunity to participate in the production of a pilot presentation with the network.

The winner of the second-annual A&E Unscripted Development Pipeline, which was selected from the five finalists announced earlier this year:

- "Private Eyes" (originally titled "Deadbeats") from Frank Mosca, John Morena, Stephen Franciosa Jr., and Vinny Parco (New York, NY)

Finalists in the Lifetime Unscripted Development Pipeline:

- "American Bombshells" from Steven Ryan (New York, NY)
- "Cake Lush to the Stars" from Cee French Harth, Paul Harth and Jeff Schubert (New York, NY)
- "Comediennes" from Tim Paul (Chicago, IL)
- "Junk Mom" from Pat Taggart (Philadelphia, PA)

- “Ladies on the Loose” from Jenn Dlugos and Andrea Henry (Boston, MA)

### **2012 Independent Pilot Competition (IPC) Sponsored Awards**

- IFC “Out of the Box” Award: “Hamsters” from Damian Lanigan (Brooklyn, NY)
- MTV Comedy Development Deal: “Galaxy Comics” from Kevin McMullin and Jacey Heldrich (New York, NY)
- Syfy “Imagine Greater” Award: “Time Trials” from Lee Jordan and Clay Lapari (Los Angeles, CA)
- VH1 “Theory of Creativity” Award: “Actors Anonymous” from René Ashton (Studio City, CA)
- Amazon Studios Audience Award: “Captain Cornelius Cartoon's Cartoon Lagoon” from Manny Galán (New York, NY)

### **Additional IPC Award Winners**

- NYTVF Critics Award: “Shrink” from Ted Tremper (Chicago, IL)
- Best Comedy Pilot: “Shrink” from Ted Tremper (Chicago, IL)
- Best Drama or Dramedy Pilot: “Books” from Joe Webb (Los Angeles, CA)
- Best Animation Pilot: “Pockets Universe” from John Cantlie and Edmond Melnychuk (Richmond, BC)
- Best Web Series Pilot: “Lovin' Lakin” from Dave Mahanes and Christine Lakin (Los Angeles, CA)
- Best Nonscripted Pilot: “Newton's Law” from Sean O'Riordan (London, UK)
- Best Actress: Zandy Hartig in “American Viral” (New York, NY)
- Best Actor: Jonathan Pessin in “In Session with Jonathan Pessin” (Los Angeles, CA)
- Nonscripted Character or Host: Alec Pinkston in “How to Get Lost” (Chicago, IL)
- Best Directing: (tie) Kevin McMullin for “Galaxy Comics” (New York, NY) and John Lyde for “The Shadow Cabal” (Provo, UT)
- Best Writing: Scott Eckert, Chris Grace, Rich Hollman, Chris O'Brien, and Nate Williams for “Actualized” (New York, NY)

Descriptions and trailers for these and all IPC selections can be found at [http://nytvf.com/2012\\_ipc\\_selections.htm](http://nytvf.com/2012_ipc_selections.htm).

### **Samsung Second Screen Storytellers Challenge**

On Friday, Samsung and the NYTVF announced the winner of the first-ever Samsung Second Screen Storytellers Challenge during the Samsung-sponsored live pitch event featuring the five finalists.

- “D-TEC” from Joseph Saroufim, Peter Saroufim, and Stephen Interrante (Los Angeles, CA)

### **Previously-Announced 2012 Winners**

Earlier in 2012, the NYTVF announced winners of three additional development deals as part of the Comedy Central Short Pilot Competition and the 2012 Independent Pilot Competition UK Initiative. During the week-long Festival, they joined the finalists and semi-finalists from all other 2012 NYTVF development initiatives, as well as the artists responsible for the 52 IPC Official Selections, as over 300 Official Artists were granted exclusive access to key industry influencers throughout the week as part of NYTVF Connect. Additionally, over 15,000 independent artists, industry executives and television fans attended red carpet premieres, exclusive screenings, panels and other special events taking place at Tribeca Cinemas, 92Y Tribeca, Three Sixty and the SVA Theatre from October 22 - 27.

**About the NYTVF**

Established in 2005, the NYTVF is a pioneer of the independent television movement, constructing new and innovative paths of development and talent identification, while simultaneously complementing the traditional television development model. Its annual New York Television Festival – held each fall in New York City – is recognized as the industry’s first independent television festival, which provides a platform to elevate the work of artists creating for the small screen. Through the Festival and other year-round activities – including NYTVF London, which launched in 2011 – the NYTVF’s mission is to connect its community of over 10,000 independent creative artists with leading networks, studios and brands by cultivating relationships that lead to new opportunities. For more information on the NYTVF, the annual Festival and these initiatives, visit [www.nytvf.com](http://www.nytvf.com).

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