



**NYTVF EXPANDS IN 2017, ADDING A DAY FOCUSED ON WRITING  
TO 13TH ANNUAL NEW YORK TELEVISION FESTIVAL,  
AND LAUNCHING 'NYTVF CHICAGO'**

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*Dates and Deadlines Announced for NYTVF Scripts – which for the first time will accept  
Comedy and Drama entries – and flagship Independent Pilot Competition*

*Initiatives to officially kick off with events in New York and Los Angeles, and culminate at  
the New York Television Festival, taking place October 23-28*

*Bento Box Entertainment, Comedy Central, One X Studios, Red Arrow Entertainment  
Group, Seeso, and WE tv are first wave of Development Partners, joining truTV, and  
guaranteeing development opportunities for NYTVF Official Artists*

[New York, NY, February 8, 2017] The NYTVF ([www.nytvf.com](http://www.nytvf.com)), the first recognized independent television festival and an organization dedicated to identifying and nurturing top creative talent and connecting it with industry decision-makers, today announced the official launch of its 2017 season, including key dates for its flagship initiatives. This includes the 13th annual New York Television Festival, which will take place from October 23 to 28 in lower Manhattan.

This year, building off its [record-setting 2016 efforts](#) that saw substantial increases across all submission categories and in the total number of participating industry decision-makers, the NYTVF is also expanding its event programming and outreach to the independent artists, in order to build upon its strong track record facilitating relationships and providing them with information that will advance their careers. This includes: adding a day of programming to the October Festival aimed at television writing; opening up the 2nd annual **NYTVF Scripts** competition to accept hour-long drama work for the first time (while continuing to accept half-hour comedies); and launching the first **NYTVF Chicago**.

Additionally, NYTVF's **Independent Pilot Competition (IPC)** will be returning for the 13th time, with Official Selections for both the IPC and NYTVF Scripts competing for awards to be handed out at the end of the Festival, as well as the opportunity to secure one of several development deals being guaranteed by the NYTVF's network, studio, digital platform, agency and brand partners. In addition to previously-announced truTV, the first wave of 2017 development partners are Bento Box Entertainment, Comedy Central, One X Studios, Red Arrow Entertainment Group, Seeso, and WE tv.

"The NYTVF has evolved a lot in its first dozen years, but the central goal has always been two-fold: provide a platform for storytellers across the episodic spectrum to showcase their work and simultaneously serve as a filter and curator of independent work for the greater industry. Both sides of

that equation have seen tremendous growth in recent years, and I think our expansion in Scripts and establishing a larger foothold in Chicago are exciting additions to our annual efforts,” said NYTVF Founder Terence Gray. “More opportunities for more creators is always a good thing, and we’re thrilled to see what the creative community has to offer.”

Finally, this spring, the organization will again bring free TV Town Hall events, with the support of returning partner Seeso, to aspiring 2017 NYTVF artists in New York and Los Angeles.

### **Key Events & Dates**

- **NYTVF Chicago (April 4 - 5)** – for the first time, NYTVF will extend its Midwest efforts via a multiple day mini-festival. Presented in partnership with iO Chicago and The Second City, this event will feature a series of executive panels, workshops, screenings, and comedy talent showcases, as well as opportunities for NYTVF industry partners – including Bento Box Entertainment – to participate in pitch meetings with Chicago-based NYTVF alumni, facilitated by the NYTVF.
- **NYTVF Los Angeles TV Town Hall Event** – Wednesday, March 1 at Busby’s East
- **NYTVF New York TV Town Hall Event with The Peoples Improv Theater** – Tuesday, March 7 at The PIT in NYC
- **Independent Pilot Competition** – Accepting independently-produced pilots and series across all genres, ranging from 4 to 60 minutes, now through June 28. Visit <http://www.nytvf.com/ipc.html> for additional details.
- **NYTVF Scripts** – Accepting original pilot scripts for half-hour comedies and hour-long dramas from April 11 - May 16. Visit <http://www.nytvf.com/scripts.html> for additional details.
- **New York Television Festival (October 23 - 28)** – At the 13th annual Festival, officially-selected projects in both the IPC and NYTVF Scripts initiatives will be showcased. The week-long celebration of TV will again include a series of both industry-centric and fan events, geared toward a wide swath of TV decision-makers, indie creators and small screen enthusiasts. **NYTVF Connect**, the Festival’s artist and industry track, will add a day of programming dedicated specifically to TV writing to its line-up. In 2016, this program featured keynotes from Mitch Hurwitz (*Arrested Development*), Carter Bays and Craig Thomas (*How I Met Your Mother*) and leading industry executives; invite-only development Q&A sessions with network, studio, and digital platforms; and more than 550 meetings facilitated by NYTVF between selected artists and 75-plus participating companies.

Submission details, rules, and other information for the Independent Pilot Competition and NYTVF Scripts can be found at <http://www.nytvf.com/submit.html>. Creators and writers selected for these and any NYTVF initiative throughout the year will be invited to participate in the 2017 Festival as Official Artists.

Additional details, and information on how to register to attend the producer launch events, are available at <http://www.nytvf.com/attend.html>.

### **About the NYTVF**

Established in 2005, the NYTVF constructs new and innovative paths of development and talent identification, while simultaneously complementing the traditional television development model. By partnering directly with networks, studios, production companies, digital platforms and brands, the NYTVF provides its Industry Partners with a streamlined development model, leveraging its vast

creative community of over 17,000 independent producers and production companies, to create content with specific partners in mind. During the annual New York Television Festival - held each fall in New York City - the NYTVF brings together its top artists and industry decision-makers for a series of events designed to foster networking, collaboration and education. The Festival also marks the culmination of the organization's yearly development efforts and features screenings of top independent content, educational panels, fan events, red carpet premieres, and more. For more information on the NYTVF, the annual Festival and these competitions, visit [www.nytvf.com](http://www.nytvf.com).

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