

**Outstanding list of finalists announced for the
2009 WGC Screenwriting Awards**

For immediate release

February 26, 2009 – The Writers Guild of Canada (WGC) will celebrate the winning words of 2008 on April 20 at the 13th Annual WGC Screenwriting Awards, honouring excellence in screenwriting. More than 150 scripts vied for the judges' attentions this year. The entries have been narrowed to 37 finalist scripts across 11 categories, including screenwriting for feature film, episodic half-hours and one-hours, documentary film and more. In all, 51 screenwriters are up for awards. Several special awards, including the WGC Showrunner Award, will also be handed out at the event.

Among the finalists, you will find the writers of television favourites such as *Corner Gas*, *Flashpoint*, *Murdoch Mysteries*, *This Hour has 22 Minutes*, *6Teen* and more. Numbered among the finalists also are feature screenwriters Paul Gross for *Passchendaele*, Michael McGowan for *One Week*, and Don McKellar for *Blindness*. A complete list of finalists accompanies this release.

All winners will be announced at the 2009 WGC Screenwriting Awards on Monday, April 20, 2009, at Maro Nightclub in Liberty Village, Toronto.

Guest host (and finalist) **Geri Hall** (*22 Minutes*) will keep the evening lively and fun, toasting the finalists and marshalling special guest presenters. Geri Hall and **Kyle Tingley** (also a finalist for *22 Minutes*) will write the awards show.

Last year's winners included Mark Farrell and Robert Sheridan for *Corner Gas*, Ian Weir for *Dragon Boys*, Denis McGrath and Robert Wertheimer for *Across the River to Motor City* and Travis McDonald for the feature film *Normal*.

The 2009 finalists reflect the high level of achievement of Canadian screenwriters across the categories – which this year, for the first time, include short film and animation.

Please see below for the complete list of finalists. To arrange interviews with any of the finalists or for more information, please contact David Kinahan, Director of Communications, 416-979-7907, or 1-800-567-9974, or by email at d.kinahan@wgc.ca.

The Writers Guild of Canada (WGC) represents 2,000 English-language professional screenwriters across Canada. These are the talented people who create the distinctly Canadian entertainment we enjoy on our televisions, movie screens, radios and computers.

2009 WGC Screenwriting Awards Finalists

ANIMATION

6Teen "Date and Switch"

Written by Robin J. Stein and Alice Prodanou

6Teen "Whoa Baby!"

Written by Alice Prodanou

Ricky Sprocket, Showbiz Boy "The Perfect Family"

Written by Shane Simmons

CHILDREN OR PRESCHOOL

Captain Flamingo "Comic Slip"

Written by Christin Simms

Captain Flamingo "The Gobbler Robbler"

Written by Suzanne Bolch & John May

Future is Wild "Monkey Brains"

Written by Jeremy Winkels

DOCUMENTARY

FlicKeR

Written by Nik Sheehan

Passage

Documentary Script Written by John Walker

The Strangest Dream

Written by Barry Cowling & Eric Bednarski

EPISODIC ½ hour

Corner Gas "Bed & Brake Fast"

Written by Kevin White

Corner Gas "Bend It Like Brent"

Written by Andrew Carr

Corner Gas "Full Load"

Written by Brent Butt

Rent-a-Goalie "Eva Has a Dot Dot Dot"

Written by Josh Gal

EPISODIC 1 hour

Flashpoint "Attention Shoppers"

Written by Tracey Forbes

Flashpoint "Who's George?"

Written by Adam Barken

Murdoch Mysteries "Elementary, My Dear Murdoch"

Written by Jason Sherman

ReGenesis "The Truth"

Written by Tom Chehak

FEATURE FILM

Blindness

Screenplay by Don McKellar

One Week

Written by Michael McGowan

Passchendaele

Written by Paul Gross

MOW or MINISERIES

Everest

Written by Keith Ross Leckie

Mayerthorpe

Written by Andrew Wreggitt

Would be Kings

Written by Tassie Cameron & Esta Spalding

RADIO DRAMA

Afghanada "Over the Ridge, Far Away - Parts 1 to 3"

Written by Jason Sherman

Afghanada "Special Forces"

Written by Greg Nelson and Adam Pettie

Afghanada "Man of Iron - Parts 1 to 3"

Written by Emil Sher

Afghanada "The Lotus Eater - Part 1 of 3"

Written by Greg Spottiswood

SHORT FILM

Awkward

Written by Kellie Ann Benz

How Are You

Written by Martha Burns & Susan Coyne

Spoiled

Written by Sherry White

VARIETY

History Bites "Celine Dion"

Written by Rick Green, Duncan McKenzie

This Hour Has 22 Minutes XVI "Episode 1"

Head Writer: Jennifer Whalen / Written by Mark Critch, Gavin Crawford, Kyle Tingley, Jennifer Whalen, Albert Howell, Tim McAuliffe, Dean Jenkinson, Geri Hall, Nathan Fielder

This Hour Has 22 Minutes XVI "Episode 2"

Head Writer: Jennifer Whalen / Written by Mark Critch, Gavin Crawford, Kyle Tingley, Jennifer Whalen, Albert Howell, Tim McAuliffe, Dean Jenkinson, Geri Hall

This Hour Has 22 Minutes XVI "Episode 8"

Head Writer: Jennifer Whalen / Written by Mark Critch, Gavin Crawford, Kyle Tingley, Jennifer Whalen, Albert Howell, Tim McAuliffe, Dean Jenkinson, Nathan Fielder, Joanne O'Sullivan, Peter White

YOUTH

Life With Derek "Two Kisses, One Party"

Written by Daphne Ballon

The Latest Buzz "The Gala Issue"

Written by Brent Piaskoski

The Latest Buzz "The Showdown Issue"

Written by Darrin Rose and Fraser Young

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