

The Writers' Guild Weekly e-bulletin No. 391, Friday 2nd October 2009

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What Members Are Getting Up To

Guild News

1. Your Statement is in the Post

Many Writers' Guild members eagerly look forward, at this time of the year, to receiving their ALCS statements detailing the extra money they are being paid for photocopying and overseas cable TV rights. But some members have mentioned that the statements are a little late this year.

In recent weeks frequent postal strikes have played havoc with deliveries and it seems that quite a few envelopes from the Authors' Licensing and Collecting Society may be languishing in a warehouse at the foot of a mail mountain. However ALCS reassures us that the statements were all mailed in the week of 14-18 September, so if you haven't had yours yet please be patient.

ALCS has paid out a total of almost £6 million to just over 15,000 members – the average payment is £346.89. You should find that your payment has already been credited to your bank account, and if you wish to check your ALCS account and statement details, you can do so on their website -- <http://www.alcs.co.uk/>.

2. Writers' Guild AGM 2010

Guild members are asked to note that the 2010 AGM will take place on Friday 4th June. Venue to be confirmed nearer the time.

Events

3. The De Lane Lea Women in Film & Television Awards 2009

The ceremony will take place at the Park Lane Hilton on Friday 4th December.

Now in it's 19th year, the WFTV awards celebrates and honours the achievements of women working within all sectors of our industry.

For further information or to request a booking form please contact info@wftv.org.uk, or call 0207 247 1400.

4. Something is growing in South London...The 24 hour Book challenge

In collaboration with if:book, The Society of Young Publishers and CompletelyNovel.com, Spread the Word has commissioned The 24 Hour Book, a groundbreaking project to challenge a group of writers to write a new story about London in just 24 hours.

The book will be written by a group of experienced writers working together using online collaboration tools around the clock from 10:00am on Saturday 3rd October to 10:00am on Sunday 4th October. On the Sunday, a group of volunteer editors and publishers will move in to make the story ready for publication. As well as making the book available to read online, CompletelyNovel.com will link directly to Print-on-Demand printers to enable hard copies of the book to be available for its launch at 6pm on Monday 5 October. You can follow progress and add your ideas to the story online as it develops at

<http://www.24hrbook.com>

Based around Tyers Street allotments in Vauxhall, the story will explore ideas of shared and private space and the real and imaginary barriers between a range of different city characters. The lead writer for The 24 Hour Book will be Kate Pullinger and writers participating include Sarah Butler, Aoife Mannix, Dean Atta, Cath Drake, Ben Payne, Chris Meade, Toni Le Busque, Saradha Soobrayen and Shamim Azad. The final book will be published under a Creative Commons licence and available to buy on CompletelyNovel.com.

Courses and Workshops

5. Mastering Hollywood Competition

Many seminars can teach you how to write a great script, but what do you do once you've finished writing?

You need real-world advice from a Hollywood insider with a serious track record. That's what [Mastering Hollywood for Writers](#) is all about. This seminar gives you the tools you need to succeed before or after you write that brilliant script. In two intensive and information-packed days, veteran Hollywood writer Doug Chamberlin (Toy Story 2) will show you everything you need to "make it" in Hollywood.

You'll gain insight based on his 17 years of experience working with notable names such as Steven Spielberg, Jeff Katzenberg, Bruce Willis, Barry Levinson and Brian Grazer as well as the heads of Universal, Dreamworks, Pixar and Paramount.

New writers break into Hollywood every day. Why not you?

The Seminar

In two intensive and information-packed days, Hollywood veteran screenwriter Doug Chamberlin (Toy Story 2) will show you everything you need to "make it" in Hollywood. Doug shares his intimate knowledge about writing, the business, stories from the inside, and what it takes to hit the big time.

For more information and to book, please click [here](#)

Tutor: Doug Chamberlin Date: 28th & 29th November 2009
Time: 8.30 am - 6.30pm Venue: Hilton Olympia, London
Price: £200 +VAT

Opportunities

6. BAFTA/BBC competition - young writers wanted

The BBC and the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) have formed a partnership to offer 16 to 19 year olds the opportunity to win a new TV Craft bursary. The new Screen-Skills initiative will award eight bursaries in total, each with a budget of £3000 and give the recipients the opportunity to work with the BBC or an external production company over a six month period to produce a new piece of work.

Content created by the winners will be screened on BBC 2, at the 2010 Future Film Festival at the BFI and at a special event held at BAFTA in November 2010 to showcase their work to filmmakers, TV production executives and industry professionals. Four out of the eight bursary recipients will be nominated for a 'Screen-Skills Award' and the winner will be announced at the British Academy Television Craft Awards in May 2010.

Developed to give talented young people the opportunity to showcase their skills and gain valuable training, the new bursary covers multiple aspects of television production and is looking for applicants in four separate categories; Editor, Scriptwriter, Composer and Director of Photography.

The deadline has been extended to **Wednesday 7th October**. Entrants can submit a piece of work they have already created, so long as they can prove their role.

For more information, visit: <http://www.bafta.org/awards/television-craft/bbc-blast-bursary,807,BA.html>

7. London Borough Film Fund Challenge

If you're an enthusiastic film-maker living in the capital you may be eligible to apply for **Film London's London Borough Film Fund Challenge** - an initiative to discover grassroots talent and stimulate local film-making. Applications for **Eastern Edge Film Fund** (Barking & Dagenham, Redbridge and Waltham Forest), **Southern Exposure Film Fund** (Lambeth, Lewisham and Southwark) and **Reel World** (Bexley) are still open for a few more days.

8. Scriptapalooza Television Writing Competition CALL FOR ENTRIES

Scriptapalooza TV has seen major success in their 10 years...2 writers won Emmys, numerous writers have gotten agents, managers and meetings.

DEADLINE OCTOBER 15th

The four categories include existing 1 hour shows like True Blood and Merlin.

Existing half hour sitcoms like The Office and Two and a Half Men.

Original pilots and reality shows. (for reality shows we would like a 1-5 page synopsis only)

Supported by the Writers Guild of America west and the Writers Guild of Canada.

www.scriptapaloozaTV.com

323.654.5809 office

info@scriptapalooza.com

FINAL DEADLINE October 15th

Please respond to email address info@scriptapalooza.com

9. Encompass

Are you a talented poet, prose-writer, playwright, scriptwriter or spoken word artist? Are you looking for ways of increasing your employability in the field of creative writing? Are you based in the boroughs of Harrow, Hounslow, Croydon, Waltham Forest or Greenwich?

This autumn Spread the Word are launching Encompass - a project for emerging writers with strong creative talent who are interested in developing their skills as community workshop leaders.

The project will run from October 2009 – March 2010. During this time you will be mentored and supported by an experienced writer in your field. You will also participate in a training programme covering all aspects of working as a self-employed community workshop leader. You will gain hands on experience of setting up and running your own workshops, and receive career development support from the Spread the Word team.

They are looking for writers with enthusiasm, commitment and the ability to motivate and inspire who are based in the selected London boroughs.

You will need to be able to commit approximately 60 hours to the project over the six-month period. You will also need a current enhanced CRB disclosure or be willing to obtain an up-to-date one.

Spread the Word actively encourages and supports Deaf and disabled applicants and those from Black and Ethnic Minority Backgrounds. To download an application pack please go to www.spreadtheword.org.uk/jobs or phone 020 7735 3111 closing date: Tuesday 13 October, 5:00pm.

10. Edinburgh fringe 2010 - one-act playwriting competition

Award-winning Edinburgh-based BigVillage Theatre Co. is proud to announce an exciting new competition for aspiring playwrights.

Following the success of their writing competitions in 2005 and 2007, the group is now offering writers the chance to win a full-scale production of their play at the Edinburgh Fringe in 2010.

The winning script will be performed in a six or seven-night run at an established central Edinburgh venue in August 2010. The winning playwright will be welcome to attend rehearsals and will receive two complimentary tickets to each performance.

BigVillage founder Jacqui McIntosh says, "Bringing a new show to the Fringe can be a big risk, but BigVillage's base in Edinburgh all year round means we're really well-placed to deliver a good audience for new writing at the heart of the biggest arts festival on the planet.

It's a fantastic opportunity that we hope will excite and inspire a wide range of writers to enter."

The basic rules for entering the competition are as follows:

- Plays must run at between 40 and 60 minutes.
- Plays must feature roles for a minimum of six actors of any gender mix.
- Plays must not have been previously performed, even as rehearsed readings.
- Plays must be presented and formatted ready for the stage (i.e. not radio or screenplays).
- Fringe-show conditions will favour scripts which feature a low budget, minimal set etc.
- Playwrights must hold copyright or permissions for everything in their script, including any music.
- Plays will be judged anonymously by three professional writers: Lorraine McCann, Jim McSharry and Alistair Rutherford.
- Entries must be in the form of a Word document with a title page giving the entrant's name and contact details. Entrant's names must not appear anywhere else on the script.
- Please note: PDF files are not acceptable.
- Maximum two entries per writer.
- The winner will be announced within two months of the closing date. BigVillage reserve the right not to award the prize, if a suitable play has not been received.
- Closing date for entries is midnight on Friday 27th November 2009.
- If you have any queries, please contact the BigVillage secretary, Anne Robertson at the email address below.

Please send entries to: AnneRobertson252@yahoo.co.uk

More details on the winner's contract, can be found at: www.bigvillage.org.uk/news

What Members Are Getting Up To

Peep Show by JESSE ARMSTRONG and SAM BAIN continues on Friday at 10:00pm.

SIMON ASHDOWN wrote the episodes of *EastEnders* being aired on BBC1 on Thursday at 7.30pm and Friday at 8:00pm.

FI BENSON, as the *Lydbrook Scribe*, will be performing 'Glass', the first of her new series of original sketches, at the Garden Café & Gallery, Lydbrook, Gos - www.gardencafe.co.uk – on 13th October, as part of the ongoing Coleford Festival of Words' monthly cabarets.

Fi will launch her new book '*From Wear To Wye*' – a collection of sketches performed during 2009 in and around the Forest of Dean – at the Forest Bookshop, Coleford, Gos, on 15th October. For a link to the book & bookshop, follow

<http://www.forestbookshop.com/pages/Categories/0946252725.html>

On 31st October, around 4.30 pm, storyteller Jess Wilson will perform Fi's new ghost story '*The Water Wheel*' in the grounds of the Dean Heritage Museum, Soudley, Gos

www.deanheritagemuseum.com

TRACEY BLACK wrote the episode of *Doctors: Mr Jelly*, being aired on BBC1 on Friday at 1.45pm.

RAY BROOKING wrote the episode of *Doctors: Love Knot*, being aired on BBC1 on Wednesday at 1.45pm.

PAUL COATES wrote the episodes of *Hollyoaks* being shown on Channel 4 on Thursday and Friday at 6.30pm.

RICHARD EVERETT'S new play *Entertaining Angels* is on at the Richmond Theatre.

NAWAL GADALLA wrote the episode of *The Archers* being aired on BBC Radio 4 on Friday at 7:00pm.

PATRICK HOMES wrote the episode of *The Bill: Fall Out* going out on ITV1 on Thursday

at 9:00pm.

RICHARD STONEMAN wrote the episode of *Doc Martin: Perish Together as Fools*, going out on ITV1 on Sunday at 9:00pm.

RIK MAYALL'S new series *Beside Tales* begins with the episode *Mountain Girl* on BBC Radio 4 on Wednesday at 11.15pm.

JESSE O'MAHONEY wrote the episode of *Hollyoaks* being shown on Channel 4 on Wednesday at 6.30pm.

EAMON MCDONNELL'S play *The Gift* is receiving its World Premiere at the Greenwich Playhouse in London SE10 from 13th October to 8th November (Box Office: 020 8858 9256). It is a hauntingly lyrical one act play about relationships and friendship set in the Irish borderlands.

ROLAND MOORE created the BBC1 period drama series *Land Girls* that continues its repeat run on Sunday 4th October at 6.10pm. He also wrote the episode of *Waybuloo* that goes out on Friday 9th October on Cbeebies at 11.30am.

Feature Film *Beyond The Fire* which writer/director MAEVE MURPHY won Best UK Feature for at LIFF is available on DVD from October 12th on Love Films.

JANE PEARSON wrote the episode of *Emmerdale* going out on UTV1 at 7:00pm.

RHIANNA PRATCHETT wrote for Piranha Bytes new Role-playing game '*Risen*' released today on PC and X-Box 360.

PAUL ROUNDELL wrote the episode of *Emmerdale* going out on ITV1 on Wednesday at 7:00pm.

JOE TURNER wrote the episode of *Coronation Street* being aired on ITV1 on Friday at 8.30pm.

ANDREW S. WALSH was lead writer and director on Piranha Bytes new Role-playing game '*Risen*' released today on PC and X-Box 360. He also wrote the new adventure '*Dirk Dagger and the Nuclear Zeppelin*' released today on all Nokia N-Gage phones.

NICK WARBURTON wrote the *Afternoon Play: Foundling*, being broadcast on BBC Radio 4 on Friday at 2.15pm.

PETER WHALLEY wrote the episode of *Coronation Street* being shown on ITV1 on Friday at 7.30pm.

KARIN YOUNG wrote the episode of *Emmerdale* being shown on ITV1 on Monday at 7:00pm.

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