

“The best thing about NSI is that it has the development of producers, directors and writers as its main interest and follows through on training & preparing them for the industry. The money & in-kind services are helpful, but so is the support, flexibility and genuine desire to see people succeed.”

Jason Charters, producer, Riddle Films
NSI Alumnus

NSI DVD: 2005-06 Projects & Events

Show and tell. This annual report will tell you all about the success stories from NSI in 2005-06. The enclosed DVD will show you some of the success stories as well.

NSI ZeD Drama Prize short films:

- *Meaning of Max* by writer/director Chris Roberts and producer Billie Knight
- *The Year I Ran In The Woods* by writer/director Sean Hoy and producer Louisa Ferguson
- *The Janitors* by writer/director Daniel Arnold and producer Clinton Carew
- *Gravity Boy* by writer/director Scott Burton and producer Calum MacLeod
- *The Letter* by writer/director Martin Doepner and producer Joseph Antaki

NSI Features First film trailer:

- *Fetching Cody* by writer/director David Ray and producer Carolyn Allain

NSI Totally Television:

- *Wapos Bay - There's No 'I' in Hockey* (selected clips) by producer Anand Ramayya and writer Dennis Jackson
- *This Space For Rent* (trailer) by producer Jason James and writer Nick Citton

NSI New Voices Program:

- TV spot, call for entries to program

NSI FilmExchange Canadian Film Festival:

- PSA for festival
- *Movie Television* story*

NSI National Exposure Amateur Movie Contest:

- PSA for contest
- Winning films:
 - NSI FilmExchange People's Choice Award: *Transition* by writer/director/producer John Wilson
 - Movieola - The Short Film Channel Viewers' Choice Award: *My Name Is* by writer/director/producer Megan Wennberg and co-writers Jamie Blanchard and Chuck Teed.
 - Jury Award, Best Overall Film: *Shark Hunting* by writer/director/producer Jimmy Bustos and assistant director Richard Hardy

NSI Partners and Sponsors

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TRAIN WITH NSI, GET THE CAREER YOU WANT!

The National Screen Institute - Canada (NSI) is pleased to present its 2005-06 Annual Report. This fiscal year celebrates the successes of the organization as it heads into its 20th anniversary year.

NSI, with headquarters in Winnipeg, is Canada's oldest nationally recognized film and television training school. NSI helps writers, directors and producers bring their stories to life and to audiences at home and abroad. Its market-driven programs have led to employment for graduates by giving them a competitive edge and according to the 2005 NSI Alumni Survey, 97% of respondents are working in the industry.

NSI enlists Canada's experts in film, television and new media to lead its training programs, deliver workshops and seminars and mentor its participants. This means our programs represent the pulse of the industry, evolving with new trends and technology and preparing our students for successful and sustainable careers nationally and across the globe. For a list of NSI's dedicated faculty, please see pages 33 to 37.

NSI program participants: Sheila Jordan, NSI ZeD Drama Prize; Kyle Bornais, NSI Features First, Tyson Koschik, NSI Totally Television.



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Inside front cover DVD: a selection of NSI projects and events from 2005-06.



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CONNECTING THE WORLD'S FIRST STORYTELLERS.



Emerging and mid-career Canadian Aboriginal producers ready to develop international relationships that represent in association with NBC Universal. This innovative world market preparedness training program delivers a trade mission to New Zealand. Applications at: www.nsi-canada.ca now until September 1st.

nsi StoryTellers national screen institute



nsi FilmExchange
THE CANADIAN FILM FESTIVAL

THE WORLD.
YOU CAN
THINGS
! FILM.
CAREER.
R LIFE.



MAKE MOVIES.



WE ARE!

YOU LOVE TV. YOU'VE GOT A GREAT IDEA FOR A SERIES. TAKE THE NEXT STEP WITH NSI.

nsi TotalTV

NSI Totally Television offers market driven training designed to help emerging and mid-level television writer/producer teams have their pitch-of-a-lifetime for senior industry executives at Banff. APPLICATION DEADLINE MAY 15th 2011. www.nsi-canada.ca



THEIR VOICES ARE STRONG

Lisa Meeches
PRESIDENT, CABLE POWER INC. & MEECHES FILM PRODUCTIONS
NSI ABORIGINAL YOUTH PILOT PROJECT PROGRAM MANAGER

Breakout: Acts Degree, Writer, Reporter, Executive Producer, Producer

NSI congratulates our Inaugural Aboriginal Youth Pilot Project graduates. Industry leaders delivered this culture to provide participants with an understanding of industry job requirements, exposure to a variety of creative and industry, and inspiration to pursue careers in this sector. With over 80% of NSI Alumni working in the industry, NSI PILOT PROJECT

nsi Aboriginal Youth national screen institute

PRODUCTION **Chris Sheasgreen**
WRITER **Marvin Kaye**
Less Than Kind A half-hour comedy about a dysfunctional family forced together to revive their failing driving school business.

television YOU CAN
SKIP THE SCHOOL OF HARD KNOCKS.



LIFE AT 24 FRAMES PER SEC.



nsi national screen institute



BRING YOUR SHORT FILM IDEA TO LIFE

ENTER THE NSI NATIONAL AMATEUR MOVIE CONTEST

actionabilitymentorshipachieveadvancecareer

THE NATIONAL SCREEN INSTITUTE - CANADA (NSI)

Founded in 1986, the National Screen Institute – Canada (NSI) is the oldest Canadian training school for writers, producers and directors working in film and television. It is a federally recognized and supported national training school for professional development in film and television.

NSI is a “school without walls”. Participants train in a regional centre for a short period of time then return to their home communities and work with local mentors on their projects, under the leadership of the program manager. **NSI programs are unique in that participants are not required to pay tuition fees or relocate.**

Each program—NSI ZeD Drama Prize, NSI Features First, NSI Totally Television, NSI Global Marketing, NSI Storytellers and NSI Aboriginal Youth Pilot Project/NSI New Voices—is designed to meet the needs of individuals with various levels of experience and is based around the philosophy that the best way to learn is by doing.

Additionally, NSI delivers the Telefilm Canada Spark Plug program, the Pitch To Win! event at the Banff World Television Festival and has recently partnered with VisionTV to deliver DiverseTV, a 10-month, market-driven training program for visible minority and Aboriginal TV writers.

NSI graduates have a competitive edge: according to the 2005 NSI Alumni Survey, 97% of respondents are working in the film and television industry.

WHAT IS THE NSI MISSION?

NSI supplies innovative, focused, applied professional training leading participants to successful careers as writers, directors and producers in Canada’s film and television industry.

HOW IS NSI STRUCTURED?

A board of directors (up to 20 members), chaired by Laura Michalchyshyn, oversees the operations of the National Screen Institute – Canada. The Chief Executive Officer Susan Millican, reports directly to the NSI Board of Directors.

HOW IS NSI FUNDED?

NSI derives 36% of its total revenues from corporate sponsorships and 3% through earned revenues from its programs. The remaining 61% is derived from various federal, provincial and municipal government and agency sources, including National Training School support from the Department of Canadian Heritage, as administered through Telefilm Canada.

(top to bottom) 2006-07 NSI Drama Prize participants; Romen Podzyhun of Channel Zero Inc. presents the National Exposure Best Director award to Kelvin Redvers; Liz Janzen, NSI Director of Programming at NSI FilmExchange media conference; Adria Budd Johnson and Holly Redford, 2004-05 NSI Features First participants.



leadership experience and commitment



Message from the Chair

I am proud to present the 2005-06 NSI Annual Report—a year of planning and growth, innovation and achievement. We are past the one-year mark of our current three-year business plan. Our staff and board are constantly striving to achieve our organizational goals, maintain our high standards of training and evolve our programs to remain current in our ever-changing industry.

As NSI celebrates its 20th year, we congratulate past and present board and staff and our alumni who have built Canada's oldest national training school for writers, directors and producers into a relevant, market-driven organization, helping to grow film and television communities across Canada.

NSI recognizes the leadership and fortitude of Susan Millican (CEO), Alexandra Raffé (vice chair), and committee chairs Louise Clark (Programming), Marlene Kendall (Finance), Carole Vivier (Corporate Development), and the rest of the board and NSI executive who participate on committees and share their experiences, contacts, knowledge and insight.

Each year marks some transition within the NSI Board of Directors. With gratitude for their commitment to NSI, we say goodbye to Nuria Bronfman (Famous Players), Slawko Klymkiw (CBC), Kevin DeWalt (Minds Eye International), Peter Moss (Corus Television) and Isabel Metcalfe and wish them well in their future endeavours. Alexandra Raffé steps down as vice chair of the board but will remain a director.

Welcome to directors Norm Bolen (Alliance Atlantis Broadcast Group), Ron Suter (NBC Universal Television Canada) and Michael A. Levine (Goodmans LLP, Barristers & Solicitors) and also to Paul Moreau, NSI's new director of business development. Additionally, felicitations to the new and returning staff and program managers for their excellence in planning, creating, refreshing and delivering our programs.

I would like to personally thank the board and staff for their support and encouragement during my time as chair of the NSI Board of Directors. Welcome and congratulations to Jamie Brown (Frantic Films) as the new chair and Christine Shipton (CanWest MediaWorks) as the new vice chair. Jamie and Christine are dedicated board members who are highly regarded industry leaders and I know their enthusiasm and commitment to NSI will propel the organization even further as we continue to grow and succeed with our mandate of providing the best training in our evolving industry. I will remain on the board and look forward to the exciting year ahead at NSI.

Powerful leadership, innovative programming, creative marketing and responsible financial planning have resulted in a year of success at the National Screen Institute – Canada, as evidenced in the pages of this report.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Laura Michalchyshyn". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Laura Michalchyshyn
Chair, NSI Board of Directors

Message from the CEO

No tuition, no relocation. The National Screen Institute - Canada (NSI) helps to build careers and the statistics prove it: 97% of respondents work in the industry, according to our 2005 Alumni Survey.

2005-06 was a year of growth and accomplishment for NSI:

- Two NSI Totally Television pilots were broadcast on national television;
- The NSI Aboriginal Youth Pilot Project (AYPP) celebrated its first 12 graduates and now renamed NSI New Voices, a new session launched in March 2006, with plans to roll out nationally in the future;
- NSI partnered with VisionTV to develop DiverseTV, a program for mid-level visible minority and Aboriginal writers developing their dramatic television concepts;
- Canadian Aboriginal producers completed a trade mission to New Zealand to meet with Maori producers through NSI Storytellers (formerly NSI Aboriginal Cultural Trade Initiative) with positive results for the participants;
- NSI Features First and NSI ZeD Drama Prize films were presented in 46 cities in Canada and around the world.

NSI continues to engage industry leaders to deliver relevant and cutting edge training to our students, preparing them for careers as writers, directors and producers. Program participants across Canada come together for short, intensive training sessions then return home to develop their projects, building local film and television communities. In keeping with this philosophy, we plan to expand the industry centre component of NSI FilmExchange Canadian Film Festival to include more opportunities for training and professional development, leveraging the expertise of industry leaders attending the festival. This will provide an invaluable opportunity for networking, learning and mentoring among our program participants and festival delegates.

We're not stopping there. Keeping attune to the needs of the industry, NSI is involved in two more training initiatives: we are in discussions with the National Film Board of Canada (NFB) to work with them in the development and delivery of training initiatives for the Nunavut Animation Training and Production Project, which would teach Aboriginal artists living in Nunavut how to prepare their creative story content and translate it into animation production.

The goal of developing a video game program is becoming a reality. This pilot training program is set to develop innovative, interactive video games with commercial potential.

This annual report tells a great story about the past year at NSI, and we're very pleased to show you some of the success stories as well. We encourage you to view the enclosed DVD to experience some of the projects and events our participants and staff created in 2005-06.


During our 20th anniversary year, we're reflecting on the achievements of our participants and alumni. NSI staff and board members forge ahead with pride and confidence into our third decade with the support of our partners and sponsors to deliver the training to develop the next generation of Canada's content creators.



Susan Millican
Chief Executive Officer



meeting the challenge of developing, producing and
presenting a professional-quality short film



Greg Spottiswood
writer/director, *Noise*
2004-05 NSI ZeD Drama Prize

Jason Charters
producer, *Noise*
2004-05 NSI ZeD Drama Prize

NSI ZeD Drama Prize is the longest-running program at the National Screen Institute – Canada. Each year up to five teams of emerging Canadian filmmakers are selected to receive \$9,500 in cash support and over \$16,000 in services. The program challenges participants to develop, produce and present a professional-quality short film over the course of a year. The program is managed by Brandice Vivier-Burns. Key to the program's success is the NSI methodology which recognizes and incorporates project-oriented learning while reflecting the realities of the industry itself. The program concludes with the world premiere of the films at NSI FilmExchange Canadian Film Festival the following year.

The national presenting sponsor of NSI ZeD Drama Prize is CBC Television. The program partner is The Brian Linehan Charitable Foundation.

2006 participants (films to premiere at NSI FilmExchange 2007)

- *Apparent Woes* by writer/director Lisa Robertson and producer Karitsa Tye (Toronto) Award Sponsor Rogers Telefund
- *The Cabinet* by writer/director Karen Lam and producer Karen Wong (Vancouver) Diversity Award Sponsor Citytv Vancouver
- *Lawrencetown* by writer/director Eva Madden and producer Drew Hagen (Halifax) Award Sponsor Telefilm Canada
- *Les Grands* by writer/director Chloé Leriche and producer Christine Falco (Montréal) Award Sponsor CBC Television
- *Silver Road* by writer/director William Taylor and producer Elise Cousineau (Toronto) Diversity Award Sponsor Alliance Atlantis Broadcasting Inc.

2005 participants (films premiered at NSI FilmExchange 2006)

- *Gravity Boy* by writer/director Scott Burton and producer Calum MacLeod (Vancouver) Award Sponsor Rogers Telefund
- *The Janitors* by writer/director Daniel Arnold and producer Clinton Carew (Edmonton) Award Sponsor Telefilm Canada

- *The Letter* by writer/director Martin Doepner and producer Joseph Antaki (Montréal) Award Sponsor CBC Television
- *Meaning of Max* by writer/director Chris Roberts and producer Billie Knight (Winnipeg) Diversity Award Sponsor Alliance Atlantis Broadcasting Inc.
- *The Year I Ran In The Woods* by writer/director Sean Hoy (Saskatoon) and producer Louisa Ferguson (Meecham) Award Sponsor Global Television Network

2004 NSI ZeD Drama Prize Graduate Achievements

- *Changing Rooms* by writer/director Tyson Koschik and producer Kirsten Carthew screened at the Edmonton Film Festival.
- *Kathleen's Closet* by writer/director Sheila Jordan and producer Diana Wilson screened at many festivals including the Dawson City International Short Film Festival (tied for the ZeD People's Choice Honourable Mention); NewFest: The New York Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Film Festival; Madrid's International Gay and Lesbian Film Festival; and the Melbourne Queer Film Festival, Australia.
- *The King Hunt* by writer/director Justin Simms and producer Anna Petras screened at the Canadian Film Centre's World Wide Short Film Festival, Toronto.
- *Noise* by writer/director Greg Spottiswood and producer Jason Charters screened at many festivals including the Clermont-Ferrand Short Film Festival, France (Special Jury Mention); the Sao Paulo International Short Film Festival, Brazil; the Toronto International Film Festival; the Atlantic Film Festival (won Best Canadian Short); and the Whistler Film Festival (won Best Short Film). *Noise* was also nominated for a Genie Award.
- *The Snow Queen* by writer/director Danishka Esterhazy and producer Sara Lazer screened at Sugar and Splice: A Feminist Festival, Winnipeg; the Gimli Film Festival; and Reel Women International Film Festival, Hollywood.

(top to bottom) *The Year I Ran In The Woods*; *The Janitors*; *Meaning of Max*; 2005-06 NSI ZeD Drama Prize participants.



an ambitious three-phase training program, designed to emphasize
the professional development of emerging feature filmmakers



Will Pascoe
2004-05 NSI Features First participant
Charming Grace

NSI Features First offers up to five Canadian writer/director/producer teams an ambitious three-phase training program, designed to emphasize the professional development of emerging filmmakers working on their first or second feature. NSI Features First is presented in association with Telefilm Canada and program partner The Brian Linehan Charitable Foundation.

The program managers are Jim Murphy and Brendon Sawatzky. Teams are selected based on the strength of their film concepts, the potential development and packaging of their film projects and their suitability to the program.

The program begins with the NSI Features First Boot Camp presented by Telefilm Canada—a combination of group training, team-specific development and individual sessions.

As teams advance through the program, training focuses on the specific needs of the individual projects. Teams reaching the final phase create marketing materials and pitch packages to take to the marketplace. Graduates are invited to screen their completed films at NSI FilmExchange Canadian Film Festival.

Three teams from the 2004-05 NSI Features First program took their project packages to the 2005 Toronto International Film Festival: *Game On!*, *Charming Grace* and *The Rich Guy*.

2005-06 NSI Features First Projects

- *Bang Bang Baby* by writer/director Jeffrey St. Jules and producer Larissa Giroux (Toronto)
- *Chroma* by writer Darren Wall, director Ryan FitzGerald and producer Timo Puolitaipale (Winnipeg)
- *Foodland* by writer/director Adam Smoluk and producer Brent Deere (Winnipeg)
- *The Sun at Midnight* by writer/director Kirsten Carthew (Yellowknife) and producer Anneli Ekborn (Toronto)
- *Time to Reap* by writer Teri Armitage, director Torin Stefanson and producer Rick Stefanowski (Saskatoon)

2004-05 NSI Features First Projects

- *Charming Grace* by writer/director Will Pascoe and producer Jennifer MacLennan (Toronto)
- *Game On!* by writer/director Justin MacGregor and producer Claire Queree (Vancouver)
- *The Rich Guy* by writer Chris Charney, director John Barnard and producer Kyle Bornais (Winnipeg)
- *Stealing Riffs* by writer/director Holly Redford and producer Adria Budd Johnson (Vancouver)

Graduate Achievements

- *Love and Other Dilemmas* by writer Deborah Peraya, director Larry Di Stefano and producer Clare Hodge (2003-04 NSI Features First) began shooting in east Vancouver in March 2006.
- *Fetching Cody* by writer/director David Ray and producer Carolyn Allain (NSI Features First 2002-03) had its world premiere at the 2005 Toronto International Film Festival and screened at the Calgary International Film Festival; the Whistler Film Festival; the Victoria Independent Film & Video Festival; NSI FilmExchange Canadian Film Festival; the Phoenix Film Festival; and the Sedona International Film Festival (won Best Feature Film).
- *7 Times Lucky* by writer/director/producer Gary Yates and producer Liz Jarvis (NSI Features First 2001-02) screened at several festivals including Cinema Epicuria Sonoma Valley Film Festival, California; Festroia International Film Festival, Portugal; and the Rome Independent Film Festival. *7 Times Lucky* was released on DVD in fall 2005. The film won a Genie Award for Best Achievement in Music—Original Song and six Blizzard Awards.
- *Goldirocks* by writer/director Paula Tiberius and producer Lisa Hayes (NSI Features First 2001-02) won the Best Indie Feature award at LA Femme Film Festival in Los Angeles.

(top to bottom) *7 Times Lucky*; 2005-06 NSI Features First participants; David Ray (writer/director), Sarah Lind (“Cody”) and Carolyn Allain (producer) at *Fetching Cody* Q&A, NSI FilmExchange; *Fetching Cody*.



an innovative professional development program that
meets the industry need for talented writers and producers



Jason James, producer
This Space For Rent
2002-03 NSI Totally Television



Nick Citton, writer
This Space For Rent
2002-03 NSI Totally Television

NSI Totally Television is an innovative 10-month professional development program that meets the industry need for talented writers and producers with the ability to create and produce a television series that draws Canadian audiences. Each year up to six writer/producer teams are selected to fine-tune their ideas and work towards landing a development deal with a broadcaster.

Teams learn about market conditions, trends, the viability of certain genres, marketing and pitching elements needed to sustain a television series.

The program culminates with attendance at the Banff World Television Festival where participants have the opportunity to pitch broadcasters.

The program is presented in partnership with CTV and BCE-CTV Benefits with additional support from Telefilm Canada. NSI Totally Television is led by program manager Kit Redmond and NSI manager, programs & development Brandice Vivier-Burns.

Since the program's inception in 2002, seven out of eight NSI Totally Television graduating teams have landed development deals with broadcasters and to date, two have been produced and broadcast nationally.

2005-06 NSI Totally Television Projects

- *The Dicks* by producer Deanne Foley (St. John's) and writer Iain MacLeod (New Glasgow)
- *Mustard Seed* by producer Andy Marshall (Whitby) and writer Quinn Merkeley (Toronto)
- *Techs* by producer Harmen Meinders and writer Tyson Koschik (Yellowknife)
- *Being Lee* by producer Jennifer Pun Morrissette and writer Sarah Glinski (Toronto)
- *Broken English* by producer Victoria Hirst and writer James Gilpin (Toronto)
- *Double Trouble* by producer Marilyn Gray (Scarborough) and writer Sudz Sutherland (Toronto)

2004-05 NSI Totally Television teams that pitched projects at the 2005 Banff World Television Festival

- *Kink in My Hair* by producer Damion Nurse and writer Trey Anthony (Toronto)
- *Less Than Kind* by producer Chris Sheasgreen and writer Marvin Kaye (Toronto)
- *Todd and the Book of Pure Evil* by producer Anthony Leo (Newmarket) and writer Craig D. Wallace (Toronto)

"The program exceeded my expectations. I expected it to be strong, but it was even better than I thought it would be." Iain MacLeod, writer, *The Dicks*

Graduate Achievements

Producer Anand Ramayya and writer Dennis Jackson celebrated the broadcast of *Wapos Bay - There's No 'I' in Hockey* (2002-03 NSI Totally Television) on APTN in May 2005.

The pilot episode of *This Space For Rent* by producer Jason James and writer Nick Citton (2002-03 NSI Totally Television) aired on CBC Television in January 2006.

Todd and the Book of Pure Evil (NSI Totally Television 2004-05) by producer Anthony Leo and writer Craig D. Wallace is in development with CHUM.

Less Than Kind (2004-05 NSI Totally Television) by producer Chris Sheasgreen and writer Marvin Kaye is in development with CHUM.

Kink in My Hair (2004-05 NSI Totally Television) by producer Damion Nurse and writer Trey Anthony is in development with Global Television.

(top to bottom) 2005-06 NSI Totally Television participants; *Wapos Bay - There's No 'I' in Hockey*; on the set of *This Space for Rent*.



the training, mentorship and connections necessary
to take projects to the international marketplace



Jennifer Holness
Hungry Eyes/Film Food Inc.
2005 NSI Global Marketing

NSI Global Marketing is a three-phase, four-month program that provides mid-level Canadian television producers with the training, mentorship and connections necessary to take their projects to the international marketplace.

The program is led by program manager Mickey Rogers and NSI manager, programs & development Brandice Vivier-Burns.

During the first phase each participant works individually with the program manager to establish program goals including shaping their projects, researching and targeting specific international broadcasters, distributors and/or partners and exploring appropriate buyers for their projects.

Phase two is a four-day training session in Toronto. Producers network with other participants, take part in practice pitch sessions, simulated co-production case studies and discuss international distribution. They receive more one-on-one coaching from the program manager for market preparation, meetings and last-minute materials.

The final phase of the program is attendance at MIPCOM in Cannes, France. At the market, participants receive daily one-on-one coaching. Upon return to Canada there is post-market follow-up.

“Global Marketing taught me about the importance of the international marketplace. In 2005 my company, Insight Film and Video Productions, won the British Columbia top exporter award and did \$50 million worth of production. We will exceed \$75 million in 2006. NSI Global Marketing makes great business sense.”

Kirk Shaw, Insight Film & Video Productions, 2003 NSI Global Marketing

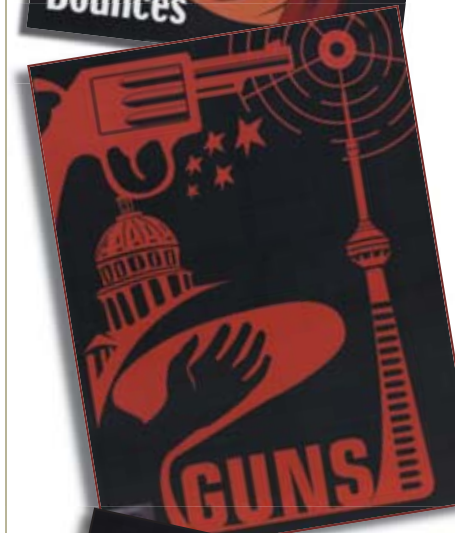
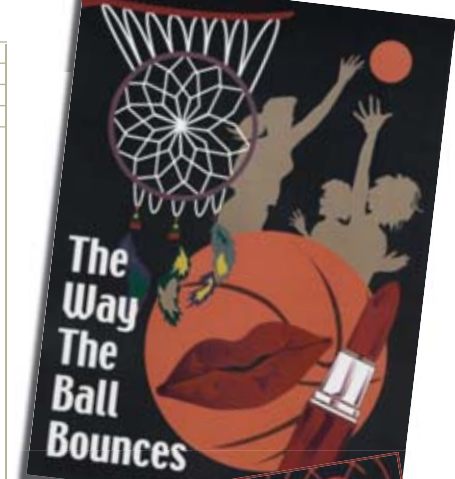
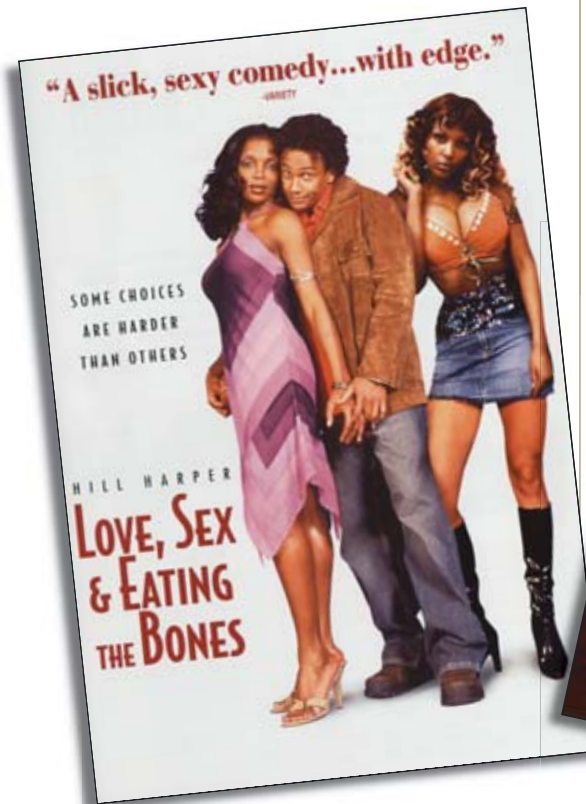
Unlike other NSI programs where the end goal is a more tangible product like a short film or development deal with a broadcaster, the value of NSI Global Marketing is in the relationships made with international producers, distributors and broadcasters.

The participants attend MIPCOM with projects ready for sale and distribution, but equally important are the connections made with delegates that in the future will be key in building an international business.

The program is sponsored by Telefilm Canada, RBC Royal Bank and Global Television Network.

2005 NSI Global Marketing Participants

- Larisa Andrews, Creative Engine Pictures (Vancouver)
- Angela De Nicola, Ziji Film and Television Ltd. (Halifax)
- Jennifer Holness, Hungry Eyes/Film Food Inc. (Toronto)
- Kyle Irving, Eagle Vision Inc. (Winnipeg)



a culturally-sensitive, well-rounded understanding of industry
job requirements instilling confidence in Aboriginal youth

Janice Beaulieu-Roulette
2005 graduate
NSI Aboriginal Youth Pilot Project

Darryl Nepinak
2005 graduate
NSI Aboriginal Youth Pilot Project



The beginning of fiscal year 2005-06 saw the concluding phase of a new NSI program, the Aboriginal Youth Pilot Project (AYPP). This Winnipeg-based initiative was designed to deliver a culturally-sensitive, well-rounded understanding of industry job requirements and to instill confidence in Aboriginal youth wishing to explore creative and challenging opportunities in film and television. The program was funded in part by the Centre for Aboriginal Human Resource Development, Human Resources and Skills Development Canada, Province of Manitoba Aboriginal and Northern Affairs and Province of Manitoba Culture, Heritage and Tourism. The project was led by program managers Lisa Meeches and Melissa Kajpust.

In spring 2005, the 12 participants had completed their four weeks of workshops and practical experiences led by film and television experts and were well into their 12-week internships at local broadcast and production companies. By summer 2005, eight AYPP graduates were working in the industry.

The graduates of the Aboriginal Youth Pilot Project are

- Janice Beaulieu-Roulette
- Dwayne Bird
- Cam Courchene
- Lennie Davis
- Peter Flamand
- Jason Harper
- Darryl Nepinak
- Melanie Nepinak
- Paul Rabliauskas
- Tim Stevenson
- Chris Thompson
- Pamela Vernaus

“I definitely think it’s important to increase Aboriginal participation in the industry. Not only Aboriginal people, but people willing to share their culture. I think it’s important because every culture, every heritage has a story to tell.”

Melanie Nepinak, AYPP graduate

The AYPP internship hosts were

- APTN
- Buffalo Gal Pictures
- CBC Comedy Festival
- CBC Manitoba (Canada Now)
- Chikak Productions
- CKX Brandon
- Eagle Vision Inc.
- Impact Productions
- MANITOBA FILM & SOUND
- MidCanada Production Services Inc.
- Mushkeg Media
- National Film Board of Canada
- National Screen Institute - Canada
- Rivard Productions

AYPP continues as NSI New Voices, an expanded Aboriginal youth training program. Please see the Inspired Leadership section for more details, page 26.



(top to bottom) AYPP participants Chris Thompson, Dwayne Bird, Tim Stevenson; program managers Lisa Meeches and Melissa Kajpust; AYPP brochure.

an ambitious three-phase training program designed to help
Canadian Aboriginal film and television producers advance
their projects as international co-productions



Shirley Cheechoo
producer/director, Spoken Song Productions Inc.
2005 NSI Storytellers

NSI Storytellers is an ambitious three-phase training program designed to help Canadian Aboriginal film and television producers advance their projects as international co-productions through guidance and access to new markets.

Formerly known as the Aboriginal Cultural Trade Initiative (ACTI), the program was launched in 2003-04. ACTI culminated in an inaugural trade mission to Australia and New Zealand where participants had the chance to advance their projects with Aborigine and Maori producers.

In March 2005 Aborigine and Maori producers travelled to Winnipeg to meet with Canadian Aboriginal producers at NSI FilmExchange Canadian Film Festival.

ACTI was renamed NSI Storytellers in July 2005 and NBC Universal became a presenting sponsor of the program.

During the first phase, the program manager worked with each participant to focus their projects and materials for pitching to potential co-producers in New Zealand. Participants successfully completing phase one moved to the next phase: a two-day training session and advanced pursuit of co-production partners. Final phase participants took part in a 10-day intensive trade mission to New Zealand in November 2005.

Mickey Rogers was the program manager and Mikki Tae Tapara through Nga Aho Whakaari - Maori in Film, Video and Television was the coordinator in New Zealand.

.....
"Mickey Rogers is a valuable program manager; she is a remarkable mentor. She was totally dedicated and accommodating to our needs and expanding our skills as Aboriginal filmmakers."
.....

Shirley Cheechoo, producer/director, Spoken Song Productions Inc.
.....

NSI Storytellers Participants

Shirley Cheechoo, producer/director - Spoken Song Productions Inc. (M'Chigeeng)

Lisa Meeches, president/executive producer - Meeches Video Productions and Eagle Vision Inc. (Winnipeg)

Melanie Jackson, producer - Dark Thunder Productions (Saskatoon)

Carol Geddes, president - The Thing With Feathers Productions Inc. (Teslin)

Clarence Michon, producer - Eclipse Media Inc. (Thunder Bay)

Paul Rickard, president - Mushkeg Media (Montréal)

Graduate Achievements

Melanie Jackson

Maori Television will be acquiring *Wapos Bay - There's No 'I' in Hockey* as well as Dark Thunder Production's *Ekospi Namew - At the Time of the Sturgeon* to air in September 2006. Melanie will be joined by a writing team, coming from New Zealand to Canada, to write one of the next seven episodes of *Wapos Bay*.

Lisa Meeches

Maori Television acquired a one-hour documentary from Lisa Meeches' Eagle Vision Inc. and Meeches Video Productions entitled *The Spirit of the Norway House Cree Nation*.

Visiting Maori Television helped Eagle Vision Inc./Meeches Video Productions establish potential development, production and acquisition deals including potential acquisition for *The Sharing Circle* series, *Tipi Tales* and potential co-production partnerships.



(top to bottom) NSI Storytellers participants; Lisa Meeches; Clarence Michon; Mickey Rogers.

strengthen the writing skills of mid-level visible minority and Aboriginal writers in an effort to tell stories that more accurately reflect Canada's cultural mosaic



Nigel Hunter, writer
The Mahalia Story
2006 DiverseTV

Created by NSI and VisionTV, DiverseTV is NSI's newest market-driven program. Its aim is to strengthen the writing skills of mid-level visible minority and Aboriginal writers in an effort to tell stories that more accurately reflect Canada's cultural mosaic. The program allows writers to hone their dramatic television concepts into a one-in-six chance at being green-lit for production by VisionTV.

The program aims to provide successful applicants with the skills needed to successfully create, develop and eventually produce quality culturally diverse dramatic television. DiverseTV matches emerging television talent with experienced story editors to create an individual hands-on learning experience and to produce one successful television program with VisionTV for broadcast on VisionTV.

DiverseTV is run by program manager Mickey Rogers and Brandice Vivier-Burns, NSI manager, programs and development.

Story editor Peter Lauterman led the Canadian writers in a week-long intensive incubator story session to further develop their concepts. Upon their return home, concepts were re-submitted and four participants advanced to the next phase of the program: creating beat sheets, outlines, step outlines and a first draft script. VisionTV will put one of the projects into development for eventual broadcast on their network.

“DiverseTV is another step towards bringing Aboriginal and visible minority stories to life. The writers who receive our training will help to create a broadcast industry that better represents the Canadian audience. They're a very talented group, and we are pleased to be working with them.”

Susan Millican, CEO, National Screen Institute - Canada

DiverseTV Participants

Nigel Hunter, *The Mahalia Story* (Toronto)

Abi Marshall, *The Mahalia Story* (Toronto)

Andy Marshall, *The Mahalia Story* (Etobicoke)

David Morgan, *Dabbers* (Calgary)

Jari Osborne, *Rising Sun: The Asahi Baseball Story* (Toronto)

Mieko Ouchi, *Saffron* (Edmonton)

Tihemme Gagnon, *Broken Knives* (Hope) (incubator)

Christina Sang-St. Catherine, *Full of Grace* (Aurora) (incubator)

“From the quality of the applications, it's clear that Canada is blessed with writers from many different backgrounds who possess an abundance of raw talent. DiverseTV is designed to show them how to lay the foundation essential to the success of any drama series: a solid, workable script.”

Joan Jenkinson, director of programming, VisionTV

DiverseTV participants (top to bottom) Christina Sang-St. Catherine; Andy Marshall; Mieko Ouchi; David Morgan.



recognized for its market-driven and results-oriented training programs



Mitra Sen
Sandalwood Productions Inc.
Telefilm Canada Spark Plug program

The National Screen Institute - Canada is recognized for its market-driven and results-oriented training programs and has been sought after to partner with other organizations to create curriculums and provide training.

Telefilm Canada Spark Plug Program

NSI designed a curriculum and delivered training for the Telefilm Canada Spark Plug program for the past two years. This diversity initiative is geared towards mid to advanced level visible minority and Aboriginal producers who have an interest in developing dramatic television programming for broadcast in Canada. The program includes funds for attendance at the Banff World Television Festival, professional development, project development and market research.

The program was funded through a partnership between the Department of Canadian Heritage's three cultural agencies: Telefilm Canada, National Film Board of Canada, and Canada Council for the Arts.

NSI Totally Television program manager Kit Redmond led the participants in 2004-05 and NSI Global Marketing program manager Mickey Rogers manages the program in 2005-06. Brandice Vivier-Burns, NSI manager, programs & development coordinates the Telefilm Canada Spark Plug program.

2005 Telefilm Canada Spark Plug Graduates

Vanz Chapman, Whizbang Films Inc. (Toronto)

Shirley Cheechoo, Spoken Song Productions Inc. (M'Chigeeng)

Damon D'Oliveira, Conquering Lion Pictures Inc. (Toronto)

Mason Haigh, aBlaze Media (Toronto)

Azmi Haq, RoohiJee Inc. d.b.a. Charyaar Films (Toronto)

Jennifer Holness, Hungry Eyes/Film Food Inc. (Toronto)

Min Sook Lee, ESL Media Productions Limited (Toronto)

Rajiv Maikhuri, Bits and Pieces Picture Company Ltd. (Toronto)

Steven Martin, Dunderoad Productions (Gatineau)

Ngozi Paul, Ngozika Productions Inc. (Toronto)

Jennifer Podemski, Redcloud Studios (Toronto)

Ron Scott, Prairie Dog Film and Television Ltd. (Edmonton)

Jeremy Torrie, High Definition Pictures Inc. (Winnipeg)

2006 Telefilm Canada Spark Plug Participants

Abhish Birla, 5 @ 7 Productions (Montréal)

Jason Friesen, Chasing Pictures Inc. (Vancouver)

Marilyn Gray, Hungry Eyes/Film Food Inc. (Toronto)

Kirk Johnson, Steel City Productions (Toronto)

Glance Lawrence, GWIL Pictures Inc. (Vancouver)

Shelley Niro, Turtle Night Productions (Brantford)

Daphne Park, Big City Pictures Inc. (Toronto)

Mitra Sen, Sandalwood Productions Inc. (Toronto)

Anthony Sherwood, Anthony Sherwood Productions Inc. (Brampton)

Richard Story, Footpath Productions Inc. (Toronto)

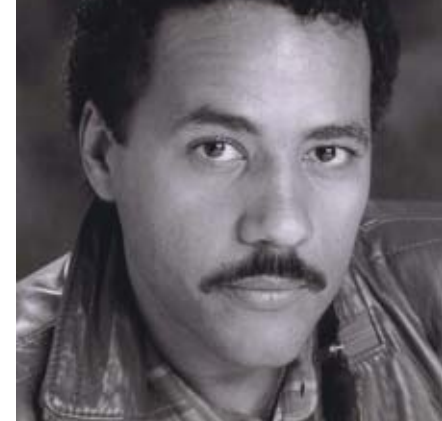
.....
"I had the good fortune of attending your NSI pitching workshop last year at Banff and subsequently pitched my company's latest series *Roll Play* at the New Player's - Children's open pitch session. *Roll Play* has since been picked up by TreehouseTV and SRC. Both Mickey and Kit's advice was invaluable..."

J.J. Johnson, producer/director/creator, *This is Daniel Cook*, Sinking Ship Productions Inc., NSI Pitch to Win!, 2005 participant, Banff World Television Festival

NSI/Banff Pitch to Win!

Pitch to Win!, a one-day interactive session was delivered by Mickey Rogers and Kit Redmond at the 2005 Banff World Television Festival. They taught a sold-out audience the essential ingredients of a successful pitch. The event returned to Banff in 2006.

Telefilm Canada Spark Plug participants (top to bottom) Jason Friesen; Anthony Sherwood; Marilyn Gray; Richard Story.



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View some of the best Canadian short and feature films on the big screen at Canada's coolest film festival.

nsi  FilmExchange

THE CANADIAN FILM FESTIVAL

Winnipeg, March 1-4, 2006

Globe Cinema & Cinematheque

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nsi FilmExchange

CANADIAN FILM FESTIVAL

The 8th annual NSI FilmExchange Canadian Film Festival returned to Winnipeg March 1-4, 2006. The festival is the largest established event of its kind featuring 100% Canadian short and feature films and industry training for writers, directors and producers working in film and television.

Sixty-eight of the best Canadian short and feature films of the year by the nation's top emerging and established filmmakers were presented. NSI FilmExchange celebrates the evolution of promising talent in its program lineup: directors moving from shorts to features, or directors working on their first or second features.

NSI FilmExchange is also an opportunity to celebrate the achievements of those who train with NSI. Five new NSI ZeD Drama Prize teams celebrated the world premieres of their short films and NSI Features First graduates David Ray and Carolyn Allain presented their first feature film, *Fetching Cody*. The National Exposure Amateur Movie Contest returned for a third year presented this time by Movieola – The Short Film Channel.

The Industry Centre is an essential part of the festival. Events are themed to reflect NSI core training programs: short films, feature films, television and global marketing. Producing, directing, writing and marketing are among the many timely topics under discussion over the four days of the Industry Centre. Back by popular demand was a session on the video games industry, and Telefilm Canada executive director Wayne Clarkson shared his insight into the current direction of Telefilm. New this year was a panel on portable content and technology.

NSI FilmExchange is large enough to attract quality directors, exhibitors, actors, writers, producers, broadcasters and distributors, but intimate enough for important networking, idea exchanges, mentoring and business to take place.

For the fifth straight year, NSI FilmExchange kicked off with SnowScreen. This year the outdoor movie screen lived up to its name with swirling snowflakes adding extra drama to the event with an audience of 300.

Festival Successes

- *Lucid* by director Sean Garrity, *Niagara Motel* by director Gary Yates and *The Rocket* by director Charles Binamé, filled their designated theatres and overflowed into a second theatre.
- The English Canada premiere of *The Rocket* concluded with an emotional three-minute standing ovation.
- The Saturday Showcase of Canadian Shorts sold out.
- The Aboriginal short documentaries presentation *First Stories* Screening and Discussion was standing-room only.
- 98.6% of delegates that responded to the post-festival survey rated the overall calibre of the NSI FilmExchange events they attended as being above average.
- 95.2% of delegates that responded to the post-festival survey indicated they would attend NSI FilmExchange next year.
- Attendance for the festival was over 5,000.
- The Honourable Eric Robison, Minister, Manitoba Culture, Heritage and Tourism presented the 2006 Manitoba Emerging Filmmaker Award to Bevan Klassen at the opening reception.
- The winner of the 2005 Manitoba Emerging Filmmaker Award, Cindy Murdoch presented her film *Red Men Rising* during the Showcase of Canadian Shorts.
- 17% more festival programmers attended NSI FilmExchange over 2005.
- 15% more filmmakers attended the festival over 2005.

.....
"If you're doing anything other than the FilmExchange that week in Winnipeg, you're wasting your time."
.....

Sean Garrity, writer/director, *Lucid*
.....

NSI 20th Anniversary Reception (left to right) Susan Millican, NSI CEO, Liz Janzen, NSI Director of Programming, Carole Vivier, NSI board member.



Celebrating 20 years of NSI

The National Screen Institute – Canada is the oldest nationally recognized film and television training school in the country and 2006-07 marks its 20th anniversary.

NSI FilmExchange 2006 kicked-off the celebrations of this important milestone. During the festival delegates were invited to:

- test their NSI knowledge with trivia questions prior to each film screening;
- enjoy clips from NSI film and television graduates' projects on a big screen television at the host hotel;
- attend an '80s theme party;
- visit the screening room and view dozens of short films, feature films and television pilots developed through NSI programs.



(clockwise from top left) *First Stories* filmmakers Shannon Letandre, Lorne Olson; Q&A *Niagara Motel*/Peter Keleghan (actor) and Gary Yates (director); "Make a Date with Telefilm Canada," Wayne Clarkson, executive director, Telefilm Canada; *The Rocket* director Charles Binamé presents the Golden FIPA award to Wendy Crewson during his master class; SnowScreen; Showcase of Canadian Shorts, Pierre Elrick (actor, director), *Carded*, and host Cameron Bailey; full house at Showcase of Canadian Shorts; Industry Centre panel.

NATIONAL EXPOSURE AMATEUR MOVIE CONTEST

The National Exposure Amateur Movie Contest* entered its third year as part of NSI FilmExchange and teamed up with Movieola – The Short Film Channel. Nineteen semi-finalists' five-minute films aired on Movieola and the top 12 were broadcast at the end of February. The contest included online voting for the first time.

In February and March, during the lead-up to NSI FilmExchange:

- over one million people viewed the films on Movieola – The Short Film Channel
- over 10,000 online votes were cast

The National Exposure Amateur Movie Contest is co-ordinated by Liz Hover. Canadian actor Jonas Chernick (*Lucid, 7 Times Lucky*) hosted the National Exposure event final at NSI FilmExchange.

2006 National Exposure Winners

NSI FilmExchange People's Choice Award, \$1,000 cash prize

Transition by writer/director/producer John Wilson (Winnipeg)

Movieola – The Short Film Channel Viewers' Choice Award, \$1,000 cash prize

My Name Is by writer/director/producer Megan Wennberg, co-writers Jamie Blanchard and Chuck Teed (Halifax)

\$500 Jury Award

Best Overall Film

Shark Hunting by writer/director/producer Jimmy Bustos, assistant director Richard Hardy (Edmonton)

\$100 Jury Awards

Best Film from Eastern Canada

My Name Is by writer/director/producer Megan Wennberg, co-writers Jamie Blanchard and Chuck Teed (Halifax)

Best Film from Western Canada

The Violent Comedy by writer/director/producer Kelvin Redvers (Hay River)

Best Film from Manitoba

Transition by writer/director/producer John Wilson (Winnipeg)

Best Film Under 18

Million Way Exchange by writer/director/producer Biron Guthy-Kerr, co-writer Jesse Dahlberg (Golden)

Best Screenplay

Nosepickers Anonymous by director Cory Kinney, writer Danny Mendlow (Vancouver)

Best Actor

Anthony Ingram for his portrayal of Tommy Pickton in *Nosepickers Anonymous*

Best Director

Kelvin Redvers for *The Violent Comedy* (Hay River)

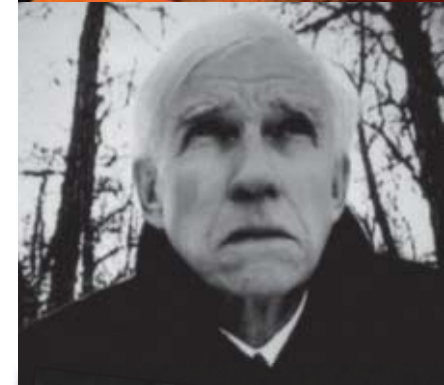
*The contest was open to all residents of Canada except residents of Québec, employees (and those persons with whom they are domiciled) of National Screen Institute - Canada, Doowah Design, Movieola – The Short Film Channel and of the corporations, the contest jury, and the advertising and promotional agencies involved in the contest.

NSI FILMEXCHANGE YOUTH OUTREACH PROGRAM

Through the NSI FilmExchange Youth Outreach Program up to 30 participants aged 15 to 30 take part in NSI FilmExchange as full delegates. The program provides information about employment options in film and television and places participants at the heart of the festival. They attend workshops, panel discussions and screenings where they meet prominent members of Canada's film and television industry.

The program continues for three weeks after the festival with workshops and industry exposure through various local filmmakers and training organizations. This program is funded by Human Resources and Skills Development Canada.

(top to bottom) *My Name Is*; *Transition*, National Exposure poster.



inspired leadership

The National Screen Institute - Canada is continually searching out emerging trends within the industry and looking for better ways to attract program participants. NSI works diligently to ensure its calls are heard and that its training continues to produce graduates qualified to meet the evolving needs of the film, television and digital media sectors.

CULTURAL DIVERSITY PROGRAMMING

NSI New Voices

Based on the success of the Aboriginal Youth Pilot Program (AYPP) in 2005, NSI New Voices was launched in March 2006. Designed in consultation with Aboriginal leaders, industry professionals and experienced Aboriginal producers, NSI New Voices is an annual training program for young Aboriginal people aged 18 to 35 living in Winnipeg who want to work in film and television.

Like its predecessor, NSI New Voices will continue to help Aboriginal youth consider a career in the industry, while providing them with the initial skills and awareness to begin the journey. However, the program's reach will be much more expansive with the added goal of making it national in 2007.

Through two phases, 12 candidates will receive six weeks of skills development training followed by eight weeks of job placements with local broadcasters and production houses. Beginning with a Traditional Feast and concluding with a graduation ceremony at Thunderbird House, NSI New Voices will make a real difference in the lives and careers of Aboriginal youth looking to enter the film and television industry.

Nunavut Animation Training and Production Project

NSI is also in discussion with the National Film Board of Canada (NFB) to work with them in the development and delivery of training initiatives for the Nunavut Animation Training and Production Project, which would teach Aboriginal artists living in Nunavut how to prepare their creative story content and translate it into animation production.

The artists of Nunavut have been telling stories through their art for centuries and the objective of the program would be to allow established artists to transfer their storytelling skills into a new medium, and to provide training and opportunity to young emerging artists as well.

The project would blend NSI's expertise in training writers, directors and producers along with the NFB's understanding of the diversity of the north and its track record in effectively channelling this through the medium of film, television and animation.

The project is being developed and delivered in partnership with the Inuit Broadcasting Corporation (IBC). With five production centres across Nunavut and 34 staff at all production levels, IBC continues to provide a window to the Arctic by producing award-winning television programming by Inuit, for Inuit.

Providing Inuit with the ability and capacity to introduce their stories through modern computerized film animation techniques would allow traditional, artistic northern visions to reach new markets in Canada and around the globe, through non-traditional means. This is in keeping with NSI's commitment to help Canadians of all cultures tell their stories.



**NO TUITION
NO RELOCATION
OUTSTANDING SUCCESS!**

Short film. Feature film. Television. International market readiness. Diversity initiatives. NSI supplies innovative, focused, market-driven training for writers, producers and directors with various levels of experience. A school without walls, the NSI faculty of leading industry professionals delivers hands-on training for content creators in all regions of the country. Ready to take the next step in your career? Wherever you live, you can get there from here.

YOU CAN GET THERE FROM HERE

The National Screen Institute - Canada operates with ongoing funding from Telefilm Canada through Canadian Heritage and Manitoba Culture, Heritage and Tourism. Additional support provided by Patrons: CTV, CBC Television and The Brian Linahan Charitable Foundation. Partner: Warner Bros. Entertainment Canada Inc. and financial assistance provided by the Winnipeg Arts Council.

20 nsi national screen institute www.nsi-canada.ca



YOU CAN DO IT TOO!

Darryl Nesbitt and Justice Beaulieu-Roquette, NSI Aboriginal Youth Pilot Project graduates

NSI New Voices (formerly the NSI Aboriginal Youth Pilot Program) provides young Aboriginal people aged 18-35 with a well-rounded understanding of job requirements in the Canadian film and television industry.

- 12 participants
- 14 week program, May 23 - Aug. 25, 2006
- Minimum wage throughout program
- Internship in the local industry
- Culturally sensitive

APPLY BY: MAY 12, 2006
MORE AT www.nsi-canada.ca/newvoices
T: 204.956.7800 / 800.952.9307
E: aboriginal@nsi-canada.ca

**NO TUITION, NO RELOCATION WHEREVER YOU LIVE
YOU CAN GET THERE FROM HERE**

20 nsi NewVoices national screen institute

DIGITAL MEDIA INITIATIVES

Video Game Development Training

2006-07 will also see a video game development pilot training program unveiled focusing on the creation of innovative, interactive video games with commercial potential.

Delivered by electronic gaming and digital media industry experts, it will teach up to four teams across the country how to produce a commercial game prototype that can be used to make effective pitches to leading game publishers.

This program is similar to other NSI programs in that a completed media work is the end result and that participants receive business and management training to help prepare their projects for market. Results may also include participants realizing professional careers within the gaming industry or possibly establishing their own gaming companies to produce and publish their concepts.

This initiative will be produced in partnership with Fortune Cat, a not-for-profit capacity-building new media incubator in Manitoba where the gaming prototypes will be built. Fortune Cat will source Manitoba art and technical directors to be assigned to each NSI team, along with complete technical support personnel.

Portable Content Development Training

NSI is also exploring the possibility of delivering training related to the development of content for portable technology which continues to advance and translate into ever more flexible platforms and devices. Small screens, such as those portable technology provides, have the growing potential to serve as highly visible windows for a broad range of adapted film and television properties.

ADDITIONAL INITIATIVES

NSI Outreach

An important aspect of NSI's marketing has been its outreach activities to Manitoba college, university and high school film, communications and digital media students.

NSI will continue to reach targeted students via campus visits, NSI-integrated curriculum activities and improved dispersion of NSI training program information, both locally and nationally.

NSI plans a road show to visit regions across Canada. Working with provincial agencies, local film co-operatives and industry leaders, the goal will be to educate potential participants and partners about NSI's market-driven training programs.

NSI 20th Anniversary

With NSI now in its 20th year, the organization will be looking for opportunities to use this proud achievement to draw greater focus to its programs.

The 20th anniversary logo will appear in advertising and print materials. Alumni success stories will continue to be updated on the website. As well, this milestone will be referenced in news releases and training programs towards highlighting the organization's stability, breadth of knowledge and experience, and commitment to training emerging talent.

NSI FilmExchange Training & Industry Showcase

Building on its solid reputation for training Canada's writers, directors and producers, NSI plans to bring even more training and professional development components to its annual showcase event and further integrate its core training programs and Aboriginal and diversity initiatives. This will leverage the expertise of industry experts attending NSI FilmExchange and provide an extraordinary venue for learning, mentoring and networking among NSI program participants, film and television professionals and post-secondary students.

(top to bottom) NSI through the years.



globetrotters

NSI ACROSS CANADA

Banff, Alberta

- NSI Totally Television projects *Kink in My Hair*, *Less Than Kind* and *Todd and the Book of Pure Evil* were pitched at the 2005 Banff World Television Festival

Calgary, Alberta

- NSI ZeD Drama Prize short film, *Noise* and NSI Features First film, *Fetching Cody* screened at the Calgary International Film Festival

Edmonton, Alberta

- NSI ZeD Drama Prize short film, *Changing Rooms* screened at the Edmonton Film Festival

Vancouver, British Columbia

- NSI ZeD Drama Prize short film, *Noise* screened at the Vancouver International Film Festival

Victoria, British Columbia

- NSI Features First film, *Fetching Cody* screened at the Victoria Independent Film & Video Festival

Whistler, British Columbia

- NSI ZeD Drama Prize short film, *Noise* and NSI Features First film, *Fetching Cody* screened at the Whistler Film Festival

Gimli, Manitoba

- NSI ZeD Drama Prize short films, *Kathleen's Closet* and *The Snow Queen* screened at the Gimli Film Festival

Winnipeg, Manitoba

- NSI Features First film, *Fetching Cody* screened at NSI FilmExchange Canadian Film Festival
- NSI Drama Prize short films *Gravity Boy*, *The Janitors*, *The Letter*, *Meaning of Max* and *The Year I Ran In The Woods* had their world premieres at NSI FilmExchange Canadian Film Festival
- NSI ZeD Drama Prize short film, *The Snow Queen* screened at Sugar and Splice: A Feminist Festival

Halifax, Nova Scotia

- NSI ZeD Drama Prize short film, *Noise* screened at the Atlantic Film Festival

Kingston, Ontario

- NSI ZeD Drama Prize short film, *Noise* screened at the Kingston Canadian Film Festival

Toronto, Ontario

- NSI ZeD Drama Prize short film, *Noise* screened at the Toronto International Film Festival
- NSI Features First film, *Fetching Cody* world premiere at the Toronto International Film Festival
- NSI ZeD Drama Prize short film, *The King Hunt* screened at the Canadian Film Centre's Worldwide Short Film Festival

Montréal, Québec

- NSI ZeD Drama Prize short film, *Kathleen's Closet* screened at Image + Nation Gay and Lesbian Film Festival

Québec City, Québec

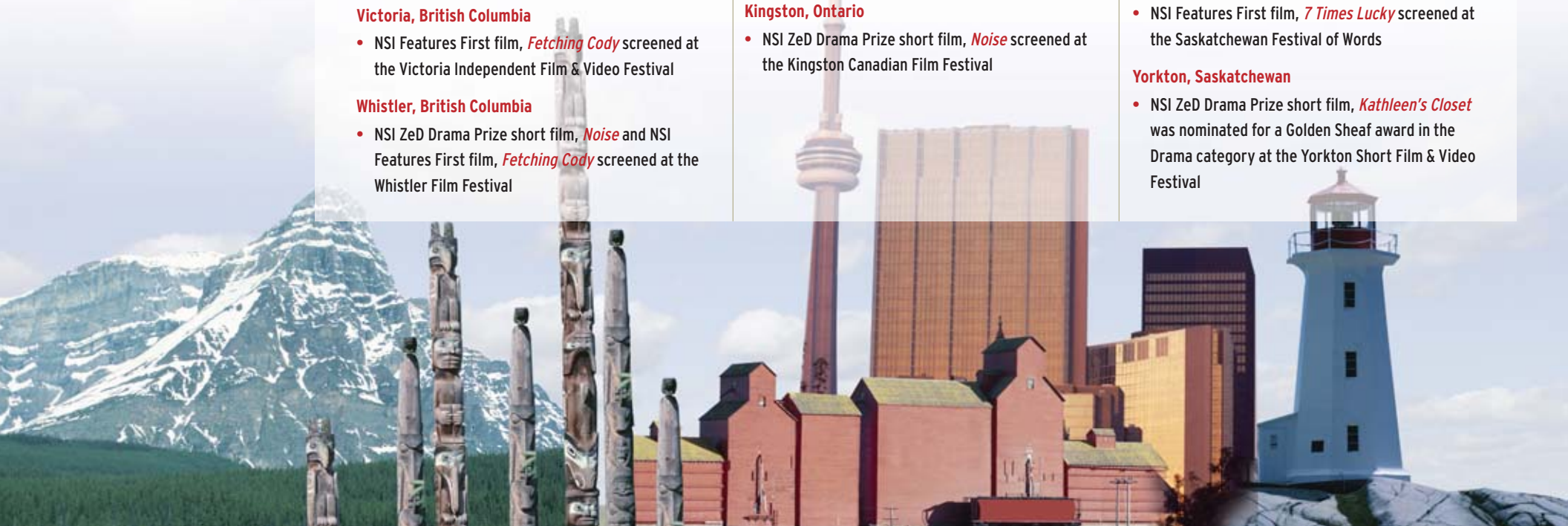
- NSI ZeD Drama Prize short film, *Noise* screened at Festival de cinéma des 3 Amériques

Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan

- NSI Features First film, *7 Times Lucky* screened at the Saskatchewan Festival of Words

Yorkton, Saskatchewan

- NSI ZeD Drama Prize short film, *Kathleen's Closet* was nominated for a Golden Sheaf award in the Drama category at the Yorkton Short Film & Video Festival



Dawson City, Yukon

- NSI ZeD Drama Prize short film, *Kathleen's Closet* screened at the Dawson City Film Festival 2005

NSI AROUND THE WORLD

Phoenix, Arizona

- NSI Features First film, *Fetching Cody* screened at the Phoenix Film Festival

Sedona, Arizona

- NSI Features First film, *Fetching Cody* screened at the Sedona International Film Festival

Tucson, Arizona

- NSI ZeD Drama Prize short film, *Any Niagara* screened at the Arizona International Film Festival

Los Angeles, California

- NSI ZeD Drama Prize short film, *The Snow Queen* screened at Reel Women International Film Festival
- NSI Features First film, *Goldirocks* screened at LA Femme Film Festival

Palm Springs, California

- NSI ZeD Drama Prize short film, *Noise* screened at the Palm Springs International Festival of Short Film

Sacramento, California

- NSI ZeD Drama Prize short film, *Kathleen's Closet* screened at the Sacramento International Gay and Lesbian Film Festival

Sonoma, California

- NSI Features First film, *7 Times Lucky* screened at Cinema Epicuria Sonoma Valley Film Festival

Washington, D.C.

- NSI ZeD Drama Prize short film, *Kathleen's Closet* screened at Reel Affirmations Film Festival

Chicago, Illinois

- NSI ZeD Drama Prize short film, *Kathleen's Closet* screened at Reeling: The 24th Chicago International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival

Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota

- NSI Features First film, *7 Times Lucky* screened at the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Film Festival

New York City, New York

- NSI ZeD Drama Prize short film, *Kathleen's Closet* screened at Newfest Gay and Lesbian Film Festival

White Plains, New York

- NSI Features First film, *Fetching Cody* screened at the Westchester County Film Festival

Austin, Texas

- NSI ZeD Drama Prize short film, *Kathleen's Closet* screened at the Austin International Gay and Lesbian Film Festival

Seattle, Washington

- NSI ZeD Drama Prize short film, *Kathleen's Closet* screened at Post Alley Film Festival

Spokane, Washington

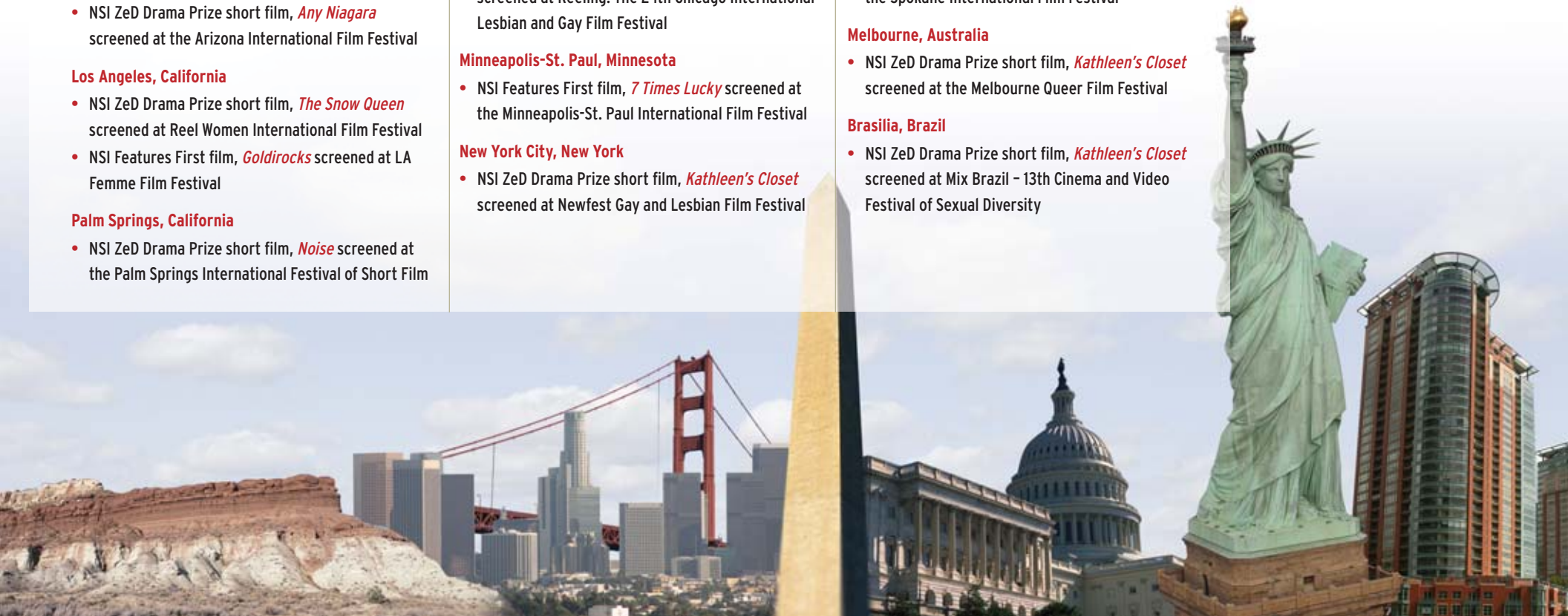
- NSI ZeD Drama Prize short film, *Noise* screened at the Spokane International Film Festival

Melbourne, Australia

- NSI ZeD Drama Prize short film, *Kathleen's Closet* screened at the Melbourne Queer Film Festival

Brasilia, Brazil

- NSI ZeD Drama Prize short film, *Kathleen's Closet* screened at Mix Brazil - 13th Cinema and Video Festival of Sexual Diversity



globetrotters

Porto Alegre, Brazil

- NSI ZeD Drama Prize short film, *Kathleen's Closet* screened at Mix Brazil – 13th Cinema and Video Festival of Sexual Diversity

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

- NSI ZeD Drama Prize short film, *Kathleen's Closet* screened at Mix Brazil – 13th Cinema and Video Festival of Sexual Diversity

Sao Paulo, Brazil

- NSI ZeD Drama Prize short film, *Noise* screened at the Sao Paulo International Short Film Festival
- NSI ZeD Drama Prize short film, *Kathleen's Closet* screened at Mix Brazil – 13th Cinema and Video Festival of Sexual Diversity

Cannes, France

- NSI Global Marketing producers attend MIPCOM 2005 with development packages

Paris, France

- NSI ZeD Drama Prize short film, *Kathleen's Closet* screened at Cineffable: Paris International Feminist and Lesbian Film Festival

Clermont-Ferrand, France

- NSI ZeD Drama Prize short film, *Noise* screened at the Clermont-Ferrand Short Film Festival

Berlin, Germany

- NSI ZeD Drama Prize short film, *Kathleen's Closet* screened at Verzaubert International Gay & Lesbian Film Festival

Cologne, Germany

- NSI ZeD Drama Prize short film, *Kathleen's Closet* screened at Verzaubert International Gay & Lesbian Film Festival

Frankfurt, Germany

- NSI ZeD Drama Prize short film, *Kathleen's Closet* screened at Verzaubert International Gay & Lesbian Film Festival

Munich, Germany

- NSI ZeD Drama Prize short film, *Kathleen's Closet* screened at Verzaubert International Gay & Lesbian Film Festival

Reykjavik, Iceland

- NSI ZeD Drama Prize short film, *Kathleen's Closet* screened at Hinbio biodagar

Auckland, New Zealand

- NSI Storytellers trade mission

Wellington, New Zealand

- NSI Storytellers trade mission

Setúbal, Portugal

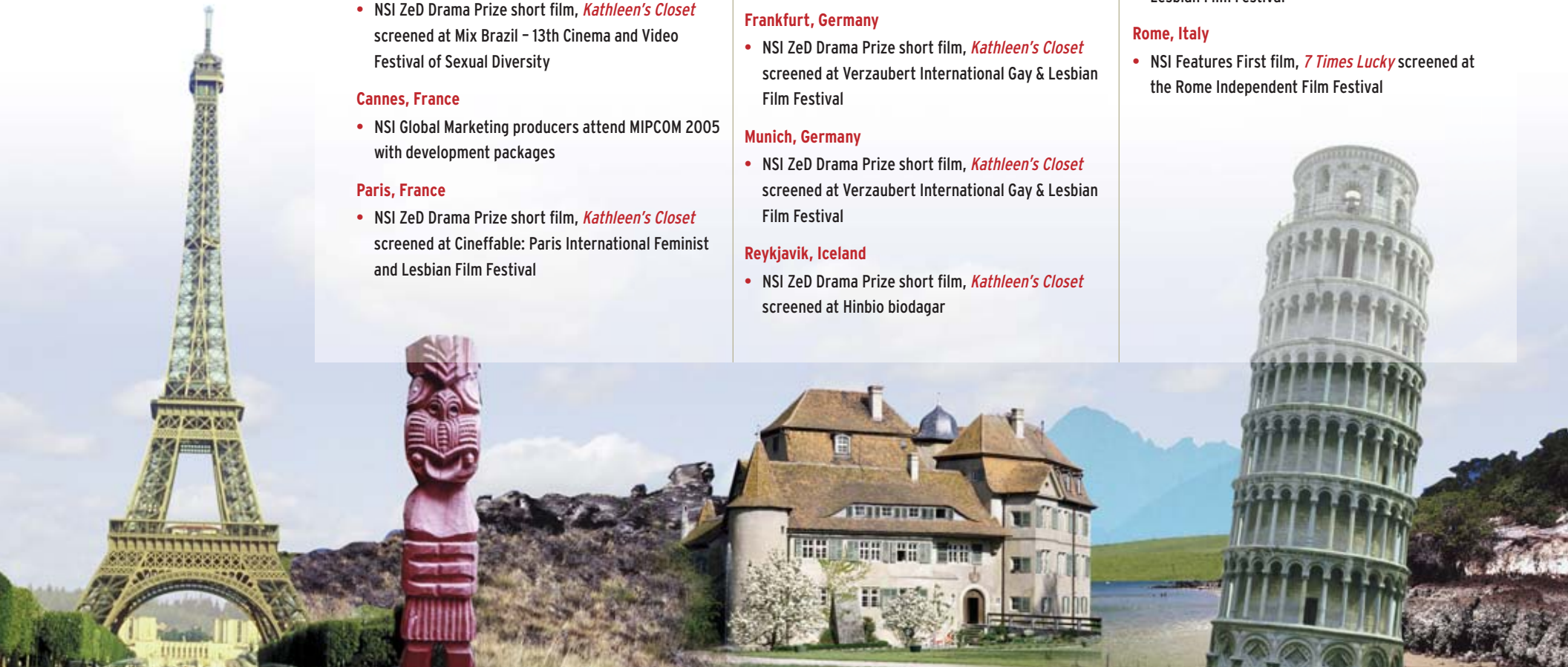
- NSI Features First film, *7 Times Lucky* screened at Festroia International Film Festival

Madrid, Spain

- NSI ZeD Drama Prize short film, *Kathleen's Closet* screened at the Madrid International Gay and Lesbian Film Festival

Rome, Italy

- NSI Features First film, *7 Times Lucky* screened at the Rome Independent Film Festival



award-winning alumni

NSI ZeD Drama Prize

Kathleen's Closet writer/director Sheila Jordan:

- won the WIFVV (Women in Film and Video - Vancouver) Outstanding Woman in Her Field Award.
- won The Cold Reading Series Award for Best Screenplay.

Kathleen's Closet by writer/director Sheila Jordan and producer Diana Wilson:

- won the Cineclix Fast Track Distribution Agreement Award.
- tied for the ZeD People's Choice Honourable Mention at the Dawson City International Short Film Festival.

Noise by writer/director Greg Spottiswood and producer Jason Charters:

- Atlantic Film Festival: Best Canadian Short
- Calgary International Film Festival: Best Canadian Short
- Whistler Film Festival: Best Short Film
- Clermont-Ferrand Short Film Festival: Special Jury Mention

NSI Features First

Fetching Cody by writer/director David Ray and producer Carolyn Allain won the Best Feature Film Award at the Sedona International Film Festival.

Goldirocks by writer/director Paula Tiberius and producer Lisa Hayes won the Best Indie Feature Award at LA Femme Film Festival in Los Angeles.

7 Times Lucky by writer/director/producer Gary Yates and producer Liz Jarvis:

- won a Genie Award for Best Achievement in Music—Original Song
- won six Blizzard Awards:
 - Drama: Long Form (Budget less than \$3.5 million)
 - Performing: Lead Actor
 - Cinematography Overall: Drama
 - Writing: Drama
 - Directing: Drama
 - Music Overall



NSI Features First graduates

Gary Yates and Liz Jarvis celebrate one of six Blizzard Awards for *7 Times Lucky*.

Photo courtesy of MMPIA, photographer Thomas Fricke.

boardofdirectors



Laura Michalchyshyn (Chair)
Executive Vice President-Programming and Marketing
Sundance Channel



Alexandra Raffé (Vice Chair)
President
Savi Media

Carole Vivier (Past Chair)
CEO & Film Commissioner
MANITOBA FILM & SOUND

Marlene Kendall (Finance Chair)
Director of Finance and Operational Support
New Directions

DIRECTORS

Louise Clark
Director of Western Independent Production
CTV Inc.

Kevin DeWalt
CEO
Minds Eye International

Bruce Leslie
Vice President, Community and Public Relations
CanWest Global Communications Corp

Isabel Metcalfe

Tom Perlmutter
Director General, English Program
National Film Board of Canada

Jamie Brown
CEO & Executive Producer
Frantic Films



Mary-Pat Gleeson

Christine Shipton
Vice President, Original Programming
CanWest MediaWorks

Jean LaRose
CEO
APTN

Peter Moss
Corus Entertainment Creative Consultant
Corus Television

Brad Pelman
Co-President
Maple Pictures Corp.

Paul Gratton
Vice President, Entertainment Specialty Channels
CHUM Television

Norm Bolen
Executive VP, Content
Alliance Atlantis Broadcast Group

Ron Suter
Sr. VP and GM NBC Universal Television Distribution Canada &
Sr. VP Universal Studios Canada Inc.

Michael A. Levine
Partner
Goodmans LLP, Barristers & Solicitors

NSI board members at NSI FilmExchange (top to bottom) Brad Pelman leading a master class, with moderator Liz Jarvis; Louise Clark, moderator of a master class; Michael A. Levine at a festival reception; *Lucid* producer Jamie Brown (left) at screening with director/co-writer Sean Garrity.

programmanagers

Brandice Vivier-Burns, Program Manager, NSI ZeD Drama Prize

Brandice Vivier-Burns has worked in the film and television industry for 16 years. Most recently she worked at CTV as coordinator of dramatic programming and then as specialist of television programming benefits. Prior to that she worked at MANITOBA FILM & SOUND as programs analyst.

Brandice also works for NSI as the manager of programs & development co-ordinating NSI Global Marketing, NSI Totally Television, DiverseTV and the Telefilm Canada Spark Plug program as well as the Pitch to Win! workshop at the Banff World Television Festival.

Brendon Sawatzky, Program Co-Manager, NSI Features First and NSI FilmExchange Industry Centre Producer

Brendon Sawatzky has worked in the film industry for 14 years. Brendon is also an accomplished film producer, director and writer. He produced his first film, *Inertia*, in 2001 which won the Best Canadian First Feature Award at the Toronto International Film Festival and screened in many festivals around the world. His 2004 short film *Migraine* also played at several festivals. Brendon's latest producer credit is for the soon-to-be-released feature *Who Loves The Sun*.

Jim Murphy, Program Co-Manager, NSI Features First

Jim Murphy has over 30 years experience working in commercial feature film distribution with Canadian companies Bellevue Films, Astral Films, Malofilm and Motion/T.V.A. Films. Through these companies he has also represented a number of U.S. studios.

He has been involved in the acquisition and marketing of hundreds of international and Canadian productions such as *Dead Ringers*, *Porky's*, *Ginger Snaps*, *Duct Tape Forever* and *Century Hotel*. Jim was also director of market initiatives, skills development and the non-theatrical film program for the Ontario Film Development Corporation.

Kit Redmond, Program Manager, NSI Totally Television, Telefilm Canada Spark Plug Program (2004-05), Pitch to Win!

Kit Redmond is a partner and an executive producer at RTR Media, a company dedicated to creating factual entertainment series for the international television marketplace.

Kit has more than 25 years experience working in television as a reporter, host, producer, executive producer and production executive. She has worked for and with CBC Television and Radio, WTN, History Television, CHUM, Rogers, APTN, HGTV Canada, HGTV U.S., Oxygen, CTV and many other broadcasters across North America. Kit is currently executive producing *From the Ground Up* with Debbie Travis.

Mickey Rogers, Program Manager, NSI Global Marketing, DiverseTV, NSI Storytellers, Telefilm Canada Spark Plug Program (2005-06), Pitch to Win!

Mickey Rogers has over 20 years experience as a broadcaster, producer and distributor in the media. Her presence in both the national and international television communities has garnered her a stellar reputation forming key strategic alliances with broadcasters, financiers and international production houses. Her international clients have included Martha Stewart Omnimedia, Wales Trade and TV Corp. As an executive producer, she launched and/or distributed award-winning productions such as *Madison*, *The Adventures of Shirley Holmes*, *The Magician's House*, *Edgemont*, *These Arms of Mine* and *The Eleventh Hour*.

(top to bottom) Brendon Sawatzky; Liz Janzen, Brandice Vivier-Burns.



programmanagers

Lisa Meeches, Program Co-Manager, NSI New Voices

Lisa Meeches has nearly 20 years of experience in the film and television industry. She is an executive producer and the president of Eagle Vision Inc. and Meeches Video Productions, two Winnipeg-based production companies. Lisa is the executive producer, host and writer of the long-running series *The Sharing Circle* and executive produced the documentaries *The Spirit of Norway House* and *Where Three Rivers Meet* and other projects. She is also the executive producer for the children's series *Tipi Tales*.

Melissa Kajpust, Program Co-Manager, NSI New Voices

Melissa Kajpust has worked as a writer and director for both film and television, including projects that have aired on YTV, Life Network, Treehouse and APTN. She was recently head writer and executive story editor on *Tipi Tales* Season Three and is currently developing two projects; a dramatic series for CTV and a mini-series for APTN. Melissa has led workshops and courses for Film Training Manitoba, Red River College Continuing Education and the Manitoba Institute for Gifted Students.

Liz Janzen, NSI Director of Programming

and Festival Director, NSI FilmExchange Canadian Film Festival

Liz Janzen has 20 years of experience in the film and television industry. She freelanced on Manitoba film shoots and was program co-ordinator for the 2002 Canadian Film Centre's Worldwide Short Film Festival. Liz was a development manager for CTV, acting director of programming for Showcase Diva and Showcase Action at Alliance Atlantis Broadcasting and a founding staff member and acquisitions manager for the Women's Television Network. She is also a sought-after juror for film festivals and events.



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NSI STAFF

Susan Millican
CEO

David Pollock
Director of Finance

Paul Moreau
Director of Business Development

Liz Janzen
Director of Programming

Brendon Sawatzky
Manager, Training Programs

Brandice Vivier-Burns
Manager, Programs & Development

Glynis Corkal
Manager, Marketing & Communications

Chris Vajcner
Manager, Government Relations & Events Publicist

Ursula Lawson
Manager, Support Services

Lauren MacDiarmid
Information & Logistics Co-ordinator

Liz Hover
Publicist

Joy Forde
Assistant Program Manager, NSI Drama Prize

Ian Dimerman
Manager, Special Projects

Doowah Design Inc.
Design Studio

Lola Wong
Webmaster

NSI ASSOCIATE FACULTY

Sarah Adams, Head of Development, Breakthrough Films & TV

Laird Adamson, Producer, Archer Entertainment

Maria Armstrong, Director of Original Programming,
Corus Entertainment

Andrew Austin, Senior VP, ThinkFilm

Daniela Bagliani, Acquisitions & Co-Productions Manager,
R.T.I.- SPA, Italy

Catherine Bainbridge, Producer, Rezolution Pictures

David Barlow, Story Editor, Sreenpages Inc.

Erica Benson, Director, Canadian Independent Production,
Astral Television Networks

Deborah Bernstein, Executive Director, TV Arts &
Entertainment, CBC/Radio-Canada

Charles Binamé, Director

John Bogucki, Account Manager, RBC Royal Bank

Norm Bolen, Executive VP, Content,
Alliance Atlantis Broadcast Group

Bill Boyle, Screenwriter

Fred Brennan, Sound Editor

John Brunton, Executive Producer, President & CEO,
Insight Production Company Ltd.

Glenn Buhr, Composer

Adam Bullied, President, Photon Soup Entertainment

Brett Burlock, Manager, Independent Producer, Theatrical
Feature Films & Television Movies, CHUM Television

Nicole Butler, Head of Business Affairs,
Barna Alper Productions

Michael Carter, CEO, My Thum

Ervin Chartrand, Filmmaker

Louise Clark, Director of Western Independent Production,
CTV Inc.

Glenn Cockburn, President, Meridian Artists

Cal Coons, Writer, Director, Producer, Digital Myth Inc.

Arthur E. Cooper, Cinematographer, Art Films

Sarah Cooper, Literary Agent, The Saint Agency

Lise Corriveau, Manager, Festivals and Markets, International
Operations Department, Telefilm Canada

Maryanne Culpepper, Senior Vice President, Editorial
Development, National Geographic Television & Film, USA

Rob Cunningham, Principal Art Director, Relic Entertainment

Warren Currell, President/CEO, Sherpa Games Inc.

Michelle Daly, Development and Production Executive,
The Comedy Network

Jo Ann David, Executive in Charge of Development, TV
Comedy & Variety, CBC/Radio-Canada

Deco Dawson, Filmmaker

Ken Dhaliwal, Partner, Heenan Blaikie

Maria Di Pancrazio, Manager, Canadian Independent
Production, Astral Media

John Dippong, Director, Feature Film, Western Region,
Telefilm Canada

Greg Dunfield, Video Operations Manager, Technicolor



NSI Features First orientation.

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Toni Egger, Vice President, Program Development, Discovery Health Channel, USA

Shelley Eriksen, Writer/Producer

Matthew Etches, Distribution Co-ordinator, Winnipeg Film Group

Armen Evrensel, Writer

Cynthia Fenneman, President/CEO, American Public Television, USA

Stephen Finney, Manager, Original Production Showcase, Alliance Atlantis

Claude Forest, President, MultiMediaRisk Inc. Consultants & Insurance Brokers

David Fortier, Co-President, Temple Street Productions Ltd.

Rachel Fulford, Director, Original Production Showcase Dramatic Programming, Alliance Atlantis Broadcasting Inc.

Gary Furlong, Mediator, Agree Inc.

John Galway, President, The Harold Greenberg Fund

Sean Garrity, Writer/Director

Michael Ghent, Manager, Western Development Global Television Network

Peter Gibson, GM, Tattersall Sound & Picture

Prem Gill, Director of Multicultural Programming & Public Affairs, Citytv

Shelley Gillen, Head of Creative Affairs, Corus Entertainment

Mary-Pat Gleeson, Marketing & Distribution Consultant

Bryan Gliserman, President, Odeon Films

Gord Gooding, Content Affiliation and Acquisitions, MTS

Lesley Grant, Head of Drama Development, Barna Alper Productions

Karen Lee Hall, Producer, Heroic Film Company & Water Pictures

Robert Hardy, Development Manager, Western Independent Production, CTV Inc.

Michael Harris, Vice President & General Manager, CMT Canada, The Documentary Channel & SCREAM

Brent Haynes, Director of Programming, The Comedy Network

Dennis Heaton, Writer/Director

Jim Heber, Casting Director, Jim Heber Casting

Gord Higham, Supervisor of Duplication, MidCanada Production Services Inc.

Nick Hirst, CEO, Original Pictures Inc.

Victoria Hirst, President, Victorious Films

Tom Howe, President, THA Inc.

Rae Hull, Senior Director BC, Network Programming Regional Director, CBC/Radio-Canada

Bill Hurst, Senior Investment Analyst, Telefilm Canada

Mary Ellen Iwata, Vice President, Program Development, HGTV - Scripps Networks, USA

Liz Janzen, Director of Programming, NSI

Liz Jarvis, Producer, Buffalo Gal Pictures Inc.

Shereen Jerrett, Writer/Director

Chery Jones, Senior Director, Program Development & Independent Film, PBS, USA

Richard Kanee, Supervising Producer CHUM Interactive, Music and Youth Services

Carl Karp, Executive Producer, CBC Television

Stacey Kaser, Story Editor, Blue Stone Productions

Karen King, Production Executive, Drama, CanWest MediaWorks

Atte Kotiranta, Universomo, Finland

Phyllis Laing, President, Buffalo Gal Pictures Inc.

Martin Larocque, International Co-production Analyst, Telefilm Canada

Anton Leo, Creative Head, TV Comedy, TV Arts & Entertainment, CBC/Radio-Canada

Shannon Letandre, Filmmaker

Ira Levy, Executive Producer, Breakthrough Films & TV

Joanne Levy, Director of Programming, APTN

Jenny Lewis, Casting Director, Jenny Lewis Casting

Samantha Linton, Director of Development, RTR Media

Geoff Lowe, Chairman, Filmserve, UK

Derek Luis, Executive Director, Independent Production, SUN TV/Québecor Media

Dan Lyon, Director, Business Unit - Feature Film, Telefilm Canada

Joe MacDonald, Producer, National Film Board of Canada

Dave Mahoney, Production Manager, Konamerra Films Inc.

Kelly Makin, Director

Margaret Mardrossian, President, Anäid Productions

Patrick Markey, Producer, Crazy Mountain Ink

Terry Markus, Independent Lawyer, Terry E. Markus

Aaron Martin, Story Editor

Paora Maxwell, Producer, Nga Aho Whakaari, New Zealand

David McCallum, Partner, Tattersall Sound & Picture

Kelvin McDonald, Executive Officer, Nga Aho Whakaari, New Zealand

Peter McInerney, Partner, Sheridans Solicitors

Dan McMullen, Senior Relationship Manager, RBC Royal Bank

Lisa Meeches, Executive Producer/President, Eagle Vision Inc./Meeches Video Productions

Peter Meyboom, President, 100 Percent Film & Television
Jan Miller, President, Lowenbe Holdings
Susan Millican, International Development and Program Consultant, Oxygen, USA
Susan Morgan, Creative Head, CBC/Radio-Canada
Gigi Morin, Partner, Duncan Morin
Sonia Moris, Senior Account Manager, National Bank of Canada
Rhett Morita, Director of Photography
Samantha Morris, Manager of Development & Production, Dramatic Programming CTV Inc.
Steve Morrisson, General Manager, William F. White International Inc.
Jim Murphy, Industry Expert
Ruba Nadda, Director
Darryl Nepinak, Filmmaker
Margaret O'Brien, Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operating Officer, Barna Alper Productions
Max Oliveras, International Sales Executive Canada, Latin America & Spain, Distraction Formats
Lorne Olsen, Filmmaker
Karen Olsson, President/Producer, Flourish Media Inc.
Lesley Oswald, Producer, Oswald Productions Inc.
Charlene Paling, Senior Account Manager, National Bank of Canada
Jeff Peeler, Vice-President/Executive Producer, Commercial Division, Frantic Films
Brad Pelman, Co-President, Maple Pictures Corp.
Jayme Pfahl, Partner, Crescent Entertainment

Marguerite Pigott, Film & Television Consultant
Jon Plowman, Head of Comedy Entertainment, BBC, UK
Jennifer Podemski, Producer, Big Soul Productions
Robyn Posner, Director of Marketing, Alliance Atlantis Communications Inc.
Claire Prieto, Producer, C+C Films
Michael Prupas, President, Muse Entertainment
Alexandra Raffé, President, Savi Media
Monique Rajotte, Program Officer, APTN
David Ray, Writer/Director
Bingham Ray, Industry Expert
Kit Redmond, Partner & Executive Producer, RTR Media
Howard Rissin, MidCanada Production Services Inc.
Mickey Rogers, Industry Expert
Larry Sacchetti, Executive VP, William F. White International Inc.
Linda Saint, Literary Agent, The Saint Agency
Craig Sandells, Production Designer
Ivan Schneeberg, Co-President, Temple Street Productions Ltd.
John Schritt, Co-Owner/Engineer, Channels Audio & Post Productions
Shirley Schritt, Co-Owner, Channels Audio & Post Productions
Kirk Shaw, Executive Producer, Insight Film & Video Productions Ltd.
Robert Sherrin, Executive Producer, *Opening Night*, CBC
Christine Shipton, Vice-President, Original Programming CanWest MediaWorks
Bonita Siegel, Director, Original Productions YTV, THTV, DKC Programming, Corus Entertainment
Mark Sloane, VP, Marketing & Publicity, Odeon Films

Elaine Sperber, Head of Children's Drama, CBBC, BBC, UK
Jim Sternberg, Executive VP & COO, Film Finances Canada
Beth Stewart, Writer, Producer, Story Editor, Woodfall Films
Stephen Stohn, Executive Vice President, Epitome Pictures
Peter Strutt, Analyst, Telefilm Canada
Catherine Stuart, VP of Finance, Film Finances Canada
Karen Swerdfeger, Development Supervisor, The Comedy Network
Mikki Tae Tapara, Nga Aho Whakaari, New Zealand
Bob Tarantino, Lawyer, Heenan Blaikie LLP
Anne Tarrant, Director of Program Development, Discover Times Channel, Discovery Communications, USA
Tom Third, Composer
E. Jane Thompson, Director, Cabiria Pictures
Jacob Tierney, Director
Devan Towers, Lawyer, Taylor McCaffrey LLP
Christian Vespar, Vice President, Sundance Channel
Sandra Walmark, Manager, Original Production, The Family Channel (Canada)
Lori Waters, Post Production Supervisor, Post Playground
David Weaver, Director
Joanna Webb, VP Programming, Corus Entertainment
Elinor Whitmore, Vice President, Stitt Feld Handy Group
Kate Wisman, Marketing & Sales, Technicolor
Glen Wood, Director of Home Entertainment, Mongrel Media
Tony Wosk, Director of Acquisitions & Development for English Canada, Christal Films
Gary Yates, Filmmaker
Ralph Zimmerman, Great North Artists

Operating Grants

The National Screen Institute - Canada operates with ongoing funding from Telefilm Canada through Canadian Heritage, and Manitoba Culture, Heritage and Tourism. Additional support provided by Patrons: CTV, CBC Television and The Brian Linehan Charitable Foundation, Partner: Warner Bros. Entertainment Canada Inc., and financial assistance provided by the Winnipeg Arts Council.

2005-06 NSI Features First

Presenting Sponsor

Telefilm Canada

Program Partner

The Brian Linehan Charitable Foundation

Provincial Sponsors

MANITOBA FILM & SOUND

British Columbia Film

Service Sponsor

William F. White International Inc.

2005-06 NSI ZeD Drama Prize

National Presenting Sponsor

CBC Television

Award Sponsors

Alliance Atlantis Broadcasting Inc. Diversity Award

CBC Television

Global Television Network

Rogers Telefund

Telefilm Canada

Provincial Sponsors

British Columbia Film

MANITOBA FILM & SOUND

Service Sponsors

Deluxe Laboratories

Jones Brown & Associates

Kodak Canada Inc.

MultiMedia Risk Inc. Consultants & Insurance Brokers

PS Production Services Ltd.

William F. White International Inc.

2006-07 NSI Drama Prize

National Presenting Sponsor

CBC Television

Program Partner

The Brian Linehan Charitable Foundation

Award Sponsors

Alliance Atlantis Broadcasting Inc. Diversity Award

CBC Television

Citytv Vancouver Diversity Award

Rogers Telefund

Telefilm Canada

Provincial Sponsors

British Columbia Film

Nova Scotia Film Development Corporation

Service Sponsors

Deluxe Laboratories

Kodak Canada Inc.

MultiMedia Risk Inc. Consultants & Insurance Brokers

PS Production Services Ltd.

William F. White International Inc.

2004-05 NSI Totally Television

Presenting Sponsor

CTV and the CTV-BCE Benefits

Additional Funding

Telefilm Canada

Provincial Sponsors

British Columbia Film

MANITOBA FILM & SOUND

Ontario Media Development Corporation

2005-06 NSI Totally Television

Presenting Sponsor

CTV and the CTV-BCE Benefits

Additional Funding

Telefilm Canada

Provincial Sponsor

Nova Scotia Film Development Corporation

2005-06 NSI Global Marketing

Program Sponsors

Global Television Network

RBC Royal Bank

Telefilm Canada

Provincial Sponsors

British Columbia Film

MANITOBA FILM & SOUND

Nova Scotia Film Development Corporation

2005-06 NSI Storytellers

(formerly Aboriginal Cultural Trade Initiative)

Presenting Partner

NBC Universal

Sponsors

Trade Routes Contributions Program of the Department of Canadian Heritage

Alliance Atlantis Broadcasting Inc.

2004-05 NSI Aboriginal Youth Pilot Project (AYPP)

Centre for Aboriginal Human Resource Development

Human Resources and Skills Development Canada

Province of Manitoba Aboriginal and Northern Affairs

Province of Manitoba Culture, Heritage and Tourism

2006 New Voices (formerly AYPP)

Aboriginal Media Educational Fund
Centre for Aboriginal Human Resource Development
CTV Inc.
Province of Manitoba Aboriginal and Northern Affairs
Province of Manitoba Culture, Heritage and Tourism
RBC Financial Group
The Winnipeg Foundation

2005-06 DiverseTV

Presenting Partner

VisionTV

2006 NSI FilmExchange

Government Partners

Telefilm Canada
Canadian Heritage
Human Resources and Skills Development Canada
Canadian Heritage Trade Routes Program
International Trade Canada
Canada Council for the Arts
Industry Canada
Province of Manitoba
Province of Manitoba – Dept. of Energy Science and
Technology
Winnipeg Arts Council
City of Winnipeg

Platinum

CTV Inc.
Doowah Design Inc.
Landmark Cinemas
MANITOBA FILM & SOUND
MidCanada Production Services Inc.
Rainmaker
Winnipeg Free Press

Gold

A & E
APTN
AVW Telav
Eagle Vision Inc.
Global Television
Movieola – The Short Film Channel
NBC Universal
Playback Magazine
Portage Place
PS Prairies
Warner Bros. Entertainment Canada Inc.
William F. White International Inc.

Silver

CBC Television
Goodmans LLP Barristers & Solicitors
Independent Production Fund
Manitoba Motion Picture Industry Association
MTS
National Car Rental (Canada) Inc.
Radio-Canada Manitoba
RBC Royal Bank Canada
The Comedy Network
The Forks North Portage Development Corp.
The Fort Garry Hotel
UMFM 101.5

Bronze

ACTRA Manitoba
Contempra Signs
Destination Winnipeg
Gorilla Marketing
Insight Productions
Maple Pictures Corp.
MultiMedia Risk Inc. Consultants and Insurance Brokers
National Film Board of Canada
SaskFilm
SCN
Taylor McCaffrey
The Prolific Group
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Friend

Apple Canada
Archangel Fireworks
Canadamovies.net
Canadian Carpet Outlet
Cinémental
CKUW
Deluxe Laboratories
Film Training Manitoba
Hinode Taiko
Manitoba Moose / MTS Centre
Paul Popeski
Reel West Digest
Stylus
Uptown Magazine
Urban Autopark
Writers Guild of Canada

auditors' report

TO THE DIRECTORS OF NATIONAL SCREEN INSTITUTE - CANADA:

We have audited the statement of financial position of National Screen Institute - Canada as at March 31, 2006 and the statements of operations, net assets and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Organization's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Organization as at March 31, 2006 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

Meyus Norris Penny LLP

Chartered Accountants

Winnipeg, Manitoba

May 3, 2006

statement of financial position

As at March 31, 2006

	2006	2005
ASSETS		
Current		
Cash (Note 3)	512,961	449,581
Investments (Note 4)	17,109	16,740
Accounts receivable	505,324	500,114
Prepaid expenses	40,654	55,002
	1,076,048	1,021,437
Property and equipment (Note 5)	41,994	42,968
Restricted cash (Note 1)	250,000	250,000
	1,368,042	1,314,405
LIABILITIES		
Current		
Accounts payable	144,726	200,873
Deferred revenue (Note 6)	735,705	606,768
Current portion of obligation under capital leases	1,793	1,570
	882,224	809,211
Obligation under capital leases (Note 7)	4,390	6,184
	886,614	815,395
NET ASSETS		
Net assets invested in capital assets	41,994	42,967
Internally restricted net assets (Note 1)	250,000	250,000
Unrestricted net assets	189,434	206,043
	481,428	499,010
	1,368,042	1,314,405

Approved on behalf of the Board



DIRECTOR



DIRECTOR

statement of operations

For the Year Ended March 31, 2006

	2006	2005
REVENUE (Note 8)		
Aboriginal Youth Project	38,843	158,618
Administration	285,649	264,712
Drama Prize program	204,857	169,625
Features First program	162,690	151,885
Global Marketing program	234,936	259,477
Research and Development	299,700	210,000
Showcases Winnipeg FilmExchange	334,063	388,037
Spark Plug	117,258	39,631
Totally Television Program	298,737	212,705
	1,976,733	1,854,690
Contribution of goods and services	306,986	413,343
	2,283,719	2,268,033
EXPENSES		
Aboriginal Youth Project	40,188	161,435
Administration	274,566	261,589
Drama Prize program	180,535	169,778
Features First program	179,595	167,151
Global Marketing program	210,896	268,711
Research and Development	292,679	169,703
Showcases Winnipeg FilmExchange	416,379	442,334
Spark Plug	117,258	39,629
Totally Television program	282,219	153,520
	1,994,315	1,833,850
Contributions of goods and services	306,986	413,343
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	(17,582)	20,840

statement of changes in net assets

For the Year Ended March 31, 2006

	INVESTED IN CAPITAL ASSETS	RESTRICTED	UNRESTRICTED	2006	2005
Net assets					
Balance, beginning of year	42,967	250,000	206,043	499,010	478,170
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	-	-	(17,582)	(17,582)	20,840
Investment in capital assets	11,885	-	(11,885)	-	-
Amortization	(12,858)	-	12,858	-	-
Balance, end of year	41,994	250,000	189,434	481,428	499,010

statement of cash flows

For the Year Ended March 31, 2006

	2006	2005
Cash provided by (used for) the following activities		
Operating activities		
Net earnings (loss)	(17,582)	20,840
Amortization	12,858	14,906
	(4,724)	35,746
Changes in working capital accounts		
Accounts receivable	(5,210)	20,788
Prepaid expenses and deposits	14,348	(23,946)
Accounts payable and accruals	(56,146)	67,936
Deferred revenue	128,937	91,412
	77,205	191,936
Financing activities		
Repayments of obligation under capital leases	(1,571)	(1,568)
Investing activities		
Purchases of property and equipment	(11,885)	(11,042)
Increase in cash resources	63,749	179,326
Cash resources, beginning of year	466,321	286,995
Cash resources, end of year	530,070	466,321
Cash resources are comprised of:		
Cash	512,961	449,581
Investments	17,109	16,740
	530,070	466,321

1. NATURE OF OPERATIONS

The National Screen Institute ("NSI")-Canada was incorporated on April 7, 1986, under Part II of the Canada Corporations Act as a corporation without share capital. NSI's Vision Statement: "NSI is recognized nationally and internationally as Canada's preeminent training institution serving our most promising writers, producers, and directors in film, television and emerging media environments." NSI's Mission Statement: "NSI supplies innovative, focused, applied professional training, leading participants to successful careers as writers, directors, and producers in Canada's film and television industry." NSI has its head office in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Annually, its major event is the organization, promotion and administration of its Canadian Film Festival: "FilmExchange."

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles and reflect the following significant accounting policies:

MEASUREMENT UNCERTAINTY

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period.

Accounts receivable are stated after evaluation as to their collectibility. Provision is made for amortization of property and equipment based on an estimate of their useful lives. These estimates and assumptions are reviewed periodically and, as adjustments become necessary they are reported in income in the periods in which they become known.

PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

Property and equipment are stated at cost. Property and equipment are amortized using the straight line method at the following annual rates:

Computer equipment	20%
Computer software	20%
Program equipment	20%
Furniture and fixtures	12.5%
Leasehold improvements	20%
Office equipment	20%

CONTRIBUTION OF GOODS AND SERVICES

NSI records contributions of donated goods and services as both revenue and expenses at estimated fair market value of advertising, travel, and production and technical expense.

REVENUE RECOGNITION

The Organization follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Restricted and unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred or as receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

notes to the financial statements (continued)

INCOME TAXES

NSI is a not for profit charitable organization registered under the Income Tax Act, and as such, is exempt from income taxes and is able to issue donation receipts for income tax purposes.

3. CASH

Cash balances are maintained in a monthly savings account with tiered interest rates ranging from .25% to .75%.

4. INVESTMENTS

Investments are held in a money market mutual fund reported at fair market value. Fair market value is equal to cost plus accrued interest to date. The rate of interest earned is floating based on the mutual fund performance.

5. PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

	COST	ACCUMULATED AMORTIZATION	2006 NET BOOK VALUE	2005 NET BOOK VALUE
Computer equipment	22,922	11,474	11,448	5,648
Computer software	10,825	9,727	1,098	2,049
Program equipment	11,725	8,394	3,331	3,871
Furniture and fixtures	32,976	22,628	10,348	9,941
Leasehold improvements	39,678	32,510	7,168	11,233
Office equipment	127,882	119,281	8,601	10,226
	246,008	204,014	41,994	42,968

Office equipment includes assets under capital lease with a gross cost of \$21,024 (2005 - \$21,024), and accumulated amortization of \$16,094 (2005 - \$14,122).

notes to the financial statements (continued)

6. DEFERRED REVENUE

	2006	2005
Administration	8,210	27,000
Drama Prize program	83,943	103,000
Features First program	78,085	58,615
FilmExchange	23,000	-
Global Marketing program	-	114,790
Totally Television program	217,348	101,551
Aboriginal Cultural Trade Initiative	34,565	39,565
New Voices	96,523	73,569
Spark Plug	38,681	88,678
Other initiatives	155,350	-
	735,705	606,768

7. OBLIGATION UNDER CAPITAL LEASE

	2006	2005
Agreement with Citicorp Vendor Finance bearing interest at 13.28% per annum, requiring blended monthly payments of \$208.90 to March 2009, secured by office equipment with a net book value of \$4,930 (2005 - \$6,902).	6,183	7,754
Less: current portion	1,793	1,570
	4,390	6,184

The total repayments on the obligations under capital leases for the next three years are as follows:	2007	1,793
	2008	2,046
	2009	2,344
		6,183

notes to the financial statements (continued)

8. REVENUE

	2006	2005
Contributions of Goods and Services (<i>Note 2</i>)	306,985	413,343
Manitoba Culture, Heritage and Tourism	155,078	160,500
Federal Agencies	124,582	265,827
Provincial Agencies	93,360	97,768
Municipal Agencies	35,500	24,500
Telefilm	796,830	648,587
Private Sector	706,457	601,968
Project Revenue	58,630	51,828
Interest Earned	6,297	3,712
	2,283,719	2,268,033

9. COMMITMENTS

NSI has negotiated a \$275,000 Credit Facility acknowledged October 28, 2004, with RBC available at the borrower's option: a \$75,000 corporate Visa account for miscellaneous travel and other expenses; and \$200,000 demand operating and/or overdraft loan secured by accounts receivable.

Interest on amounts due are payable at prime plus 1.25%. Security is a general security agreement registered in Manitoba. Notwithstanding compliance with covenants of credit facility, borrowings are repayable on demand.

NSI entered into a three year office lease for 3,500 sq.ft. at 206-70 Arthur Street which commenced November 2003. Minimum annual net rent is \$29,750 per year plus GST, plus operating costs.

NSI entered into a lease agreement for office equipment on June 29, 2005. Minimum annual payments are \$16,884.

Future minimum lease payments:	2007	36,716
	2008	16,884
	2009	16,884
	2010	16,884
	2011	16,884

notes to the financial statements (continued)

10. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Organization as part of its operations carries a number of financial instruments. It is management's opinion that the Organization is not exposed to significant interest, currency or credit risks arising from these financial instruments except as otherwise disclosed.

FAIR VALUE DISCLOSURE

For cash, short term investments, accounts receivable and accounts payable, the carrying amounts of these financial instruments approximates their fair value due to their short term maturity or capacity of prompt liquidation.

CREDIT CONCENTRATION

Financial instruments that potentially subject the Organization to concentrations of credit risk consist mainly of accounts receivable from private funders and government bodies. At March 31, 2006 the Organization had \$374,523 in accounts receivable from four different sources. These amounts are considered collectible.

11. RESTRICTED FUND

These funds have been internally restricted by NSI's Board of Directors as the estimated cost in the event of winding up the operations of NSI.

12. ECONOMIC DEPENDENCE

A major portion of NSI's revenue is derived from donations and funding grants. As a result, any reduction in funding may affect NSI's ability to continue future operations.

13. INTEREST PAID

Interest paid during the year totalled \$1,162 (2005 - \$1,393).

all programs budgeted projections

April 1, 2006 - March 31, 2007

REVENUE

Federal Government	50,000
Federal Agencies	34,000
Telefilm	786,818
Municipal Government	25,500
Province of Manitoba	197,248
Provincial Agencies	64,321
Foundations	65,000
Private Sector	879,428
Project Revenue	54,750
Interest	6,000
Contributed Services	-
TOTAL REVENUE	2,163,065

all programs budgeted projections

April 1, 2006 - March 31, 2007

EXPENSES

Administration

Accounting/Audit	5,000
Advertising and Promotions	25,000
Public Relations	500
Legal	8,600
Bank and Service Charges	3,126
Insurance	6,500
Board Costs	22,483
Communications	1,196
Premises Costs	52,579
Leasing/Interest/Depreciation	36,475
Office Maintenance/Services	9,103
Office Supplies	1,862
Postage and Courier	1,600
Photocopying	400
Travel	2,975
Memberships	1,220
Staff Costs	133,855
Statutory Payroll Costs	7,657
Health Care Benefits	5,130
RSP Benefits	5,214
Contract Salaries Admin	14,000

Total Administration	344,475
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all programs budgeted projections (continued)

Program Delivery

Advertising and Promotions	122,183
Public Relations	24,500
Office Supplies	5,690
Postage and Courier	7,324
Photocopying Costs	3,475
Communications	10,297
Contract Projects	334,946
Staff Costs	476,111
Statutory Payroll Costs	23,142
Health Care Benefits	17,382
RSP Benefits	18,448
Travel	248,072
Production and Technical	55,242
Meetings and Receptions	67,705
Awards and Bursaries	267,778
Memberships/Subscriptions	62,366
Venue Rental	33,447
Contributed Services	-
Total Program Delivery	1,778,107
TOTAL EXPENSES	2,122,582
Net Surplus / (Deficit)	40,483

“Being a part of this program has enabled me to make leaps and bounds in my confidence, knowledge and skill set. It’s been invaluable. Thank you so much for giving me the opportunity. I look forward to being able to give back in kind.”

Adria Budd Johnson

2004-05 NSI Features First participant

Stealing Riffs



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