

# 2011 OBS ORIGINAL SCRIPT CONTEST

Contest Opens:  
June 15, 2011

Script Entry Fees: Members \$50 & Non-Members \$60  
Short Film Entry Fees: \$25 & Non-Members \$35



Summary Script Coverage: Add \$25 to above entry fees.

We accept PayPal at [izstoy@sbcglobal.net](mailto:izstoy@sbcglobal.net)

We do not accept personal checks. Make Money Orders Payable to:  
Organization of Black Screenwriters

Required Submission: We only accept electronic copies of script(s) and submission forms.

- 1) Email script in Adobe .pdf or Final Draft .fdr formats only to: [scriptcontest@obswriter.com](mailto:scriptcontest@obswriter.com)
- 2) **If paying by money order, please mail to:**

Org. of Black Screenwriters  
Attn: 2011 Script Contest  
3010 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. #269  
L.A., CA 90010

## Electronic Submission Details

Contest Closes:  
August 31, 2011

1. .PDF or .FDR files should contain no identifying information except WGA registration or copyright number. Judging is anonymous. Scripts with identifying title pages, headers or footers will be disqualified.
2. Download the OBS Original Script Contest Submission Form. Be sure to supply script registration number. Unregistered scripts will be disqualified. Scripts may be registered with the WGAw, or the Library of Congress. Complete the submission form on your computer desktop, it is editable, and attach to an email along with your script files.
3. Email your OBS Original Script Contest Submission Form and script files to:  
[scriptcontest@obswriter.com](mailto:scriptcontest@obswriter.com)

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## RULES

- I. Writers MUST include WGA or U.S. Copyright number on script title page.
- II. Scripts must be free of author's name and contact information. Attached submission form will contain all contact information.
- III. Writers interested in receiving summary coverage must add \$25 to the entry fee for each unique script to be covered.
- IV. Scripts WILL NOT be accepted unregistered, or over 125 pages in length (features), 60 pages (TV scripts), and 25 pages (short films). Scripts should be formatted according to industry standards.
- V. When there are a maximum of three writers for any script, or three groups of three writers (Guild rules), each writer must submit their own submission form but ONE entry fee.
- VI. Finalists will be selected by experienced contest readers. Winners will be chosen by OBS board members and announced February 4, 2012.
- VII. Submission deadline is August 31<sup>st</sup>, postmarked.



## DISCLAIMERS

- I. As a general rule, unsolicited submissions by unrepresented writers are not read by the industry. TV & film production companies protect themselves in a litigious industry by communicating with writers represented by agents or entertainment lawyers only. As a contest entrant you are benefitting from relationships nurtured by The Organization of Black Screenwriters. The primary goal of the OBS Original Script Contest is to offer precious access and opportunity for writers of color.
- II. Submitting original screenplays and original ideas is a part of creating opportunity for oneself as a professional. The companies listed in this document will ask writers to sign a submission agreement before any submitted script is read. These agreements are designed to protect the Network, Production Company, or individual who will read your winning script. If for any reason you the writer are disinclined to submit your registered manuscript, you should refrain from doing so.
- III. Creative executives work for production companies and studios on a contract basis. It is possible but unprecedented, that a participating executive or independent producer may change employment during our contest period. The aforementioned scenario would be beyond the control of OBS. In such a case, OBS cannot guarantee the participation of any executive or individual listed in these contest documents.

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## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **Will I get an agent from this contest?**

Winners receive cash and INDUSTRY access. Access leads to relationships and job opportunity. Please see our PRIZES page. Past winners have secured representation and jobs from their meetings. NOTHING IS GUARANTEED. However, winners of the OBS Original Script Contest get the opportunities all writers strive for. The rest is up to you.



### **What if someone steals my idea?**

This is a common concern of new writers; however, the marketing of your abilities through script submissions is exactly what every professional does to secure work and opportunity in the entertainment industry. Copyright protection through WGA registration is the standard practice for protecting your work. If this level of risk is not satisfactory, by all means do not submit your work.

### **Will you ever do an Unscripted TV category?**

It is possible. However, at this juncture we believe that unscripted concepts are too difficult to protect as unique properties.

### **Will scripts be returned?**

Hard copies of manuscripts will be recycled.

## ANNOUNCEMENT DATES

Semi-Finalist: NOVEMBER 5, 2011

Finalist: DECEMBER 3, 2011

Winners FEBRUARY 4, 2012

# 2011 OBS ORIGINAL SCRIPT CONTEST

FIRST Place	SECOND Place	THIRD Place
<b>\$1,000.00</b>		
<b>LARRY WILLIAMS LITERARY AGENCY</b> The below listed companies will read the winning script & take a meeting with the writer.	<b>OVERBROOK ENTERTAINMENT</b> Reads Script & Takes a Meeting	<b>ACADEMY AWARD NOMINATED</b> <b>Writer/Producer</b> <b>Laurence Andries</b> Reads Script & Lunch Meeting @ Hollywood Hot Spot w/ writer
<b>OVERBROOK ENTERTAINMENT</b>		
<b>OUR STORIES FILMS</b>		
<b>TRI DESTINED STUDIOS</b>		
<b>DIGITAL NOISE PICTURES</b>		



ORIGINAL FEATURES



ORIGINAL TV PILOTS	FIRST Place	SECOND Place	THIRD Place
<b>Cash Prize</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>		
	<b>NBC – Karen Horne</b> All below listed companies will read the winning script & take a meeting with the writer.	<b>CBS – Tiffany Smith-Anoa'i</b> Reads Script & Takes a Meeting	<b>WGAW CREDITED TV</b> <b>Writer/Producer</b> <b>Michael Ajakwe, Jr.</b> Reads Script & Lunch Meeting @ Hollywood Hot Spot
	<b>CBS – Tiffany Smith-Anoa'i</b>		
	<b>JEN GRISANTI CONSULTANCY</b> Pitch & Pilot Consult. – A \$700 Value		

# 2011 OBS ORIGINAL SCRIPT CONTEST

	FIRST Place	SECOND Place	THIRD Place
TV SPEC SCRIPTS	<b>\$500.00</b>		
	<b>BENT OUTTA SHAPPE PRODUCTIONS</b> <b>Stacey Evans Morgan, Co-Executive Producer</b> Reads Script, Takes a Meeting, & 1-Day Shadow in Writers Room		<b>TV Writer/Producer</b>  Reads Script & Lunch Meeting @ Hollywood Hot Spot
	<b>CBS – Tiffany Smith-Anoa'i</b> Reads Script & Takes a Meeting	<b>CBS – Tiffany Smith-Anoa'i</b> Reads Script & Takes a Meeting	



ORGANIZATION OF BLACK SCREENWRITERS



SHORT FILM SCRIPTS	FIRST Place <i>*Interviews between producer &amp; writer will take place at the finalist level before film production.</i>	SECOND Place	THIRD Place
Original Storyline	<b>TRI DESTINED STUDIOS</b> Reads Script & Takes a Meeting & Production of Your Short (No Horror)		
Digital Noise Awards	<b>\$500.00</b> <i>each for 2 winners</i>	<b>\$100.00</b> <i>each for 2 winners</i>	<b>\$50.00</b> <i>each for 2 winners</i>
Original Storyline	<b>DIGITAL NOISE PICTURES</b> Reads Script, Takes Meeting, & Produce Short Film (No Action)		
Original Storyline	<b>DIGITAL NOISE PICTURES</b>		

# 2011 OBS ORIGINAL SCRIPT CONTEST

## Our Participating Production Companies, Agents & Executives

**Bent Outta Shape Productions** OBS is delighted to work with Stacey Evans Morgan. Stacey is the Co-Executive Producer at Bent Outta Shape Productions. This prodco is responsible for Love That Girl, and classics like The Jamie Foxx Show and Martin. The #1 overall TV Spec winner will get read and spend a day in a Writer's Room.



**CBS Vice-President of Diversity & Communications. Tiffany Smith –Anoa'i** had over a decade of experience in Public Relations, Communications and Retail, including her stint at the CBS Media Relations & Publicity Department, before becoming VP of Diversity & Communications at CBS. In her current role, Ms. Anoa'i will work with CBS Entertainment President Nina Tassler on new and existing programs that recruit, nurture and hire diverse talent to work in front of and behind the camera of CBS programming. (Source: <http://tinyurl.com/3r6ag5h>) It's an understatement to say that OBS is delighted to have Tiffany read our first place winning original TV pilot, and take a meeting with the writer.

**Digital Noise Pictures** is the filmmaking arm of Director Quattro's three headed entertainment enterprise. Quattro aka, "Q" is a rising talent in film, animation, and visual art. A product of the Pittsburgh Filmmakers School of Film, Q also holds a certification from the Musician Institute's (FILMIT) commercial, television, and film directing program.

**Digital Noise Pictures (Cont'd)** Q was a winner of the **2009 BEST MUSIC VIDEO AWARD** at the 10th Annual Hollywood Black Film Festival, a **TOP 4 FINALIST** in the Bartle Bogle Hegarty (BBH) International Talent house iLa Dusk Viral commercial competition, and was nominated for the **2010 Hollywood Music In Media (HMMA) BEST MUSIC VIDEO** award. (Source: [http://directorquattro.com/?page\\_id=2](http://directorquattro.com/?page_id=2)) Q is awarding cash prizes to our 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, & 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners, as well as producing the TWO TOP #1 short film scripts!

**Jen Grisanti Consultancy** Jennifer's prize is a Pitch Meeting and Pilot Consultation. Jennifer meets with the writer for up to an hour to go over 3-5 pitches. You can do this before going in for meetings or as a way to decide what script to write and what concept is the most viable in the market. This meeting also includes a Half Pilot Consult. Jen will read one of your pilots one time and give you written/verbal notes. This includes one meeting up to an hour and a half in length to go over the pitches and the notes on your pilot.

**Laurence Andries** is a prolific **Emmy and Oscar** nominated writer/producer with credits on Alias, Boomtown, Supernatural, The Pacific, Six Feet Under, Medical Investigation and many other TV shows on various networks. This gentleman has even worked with Tom Hanks. Suffice it to say, OBS is delighted Mr. Andries has agreed to read and take lunch meetings with our third place winners.

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**Larry Williams Agency** Larry started his SAG career at the age of 6 booking his first role on Trapper John M.D. He has appeared on over 45 TV shows during his career before he decided to further his interests by promoting the careers of others. Today the Larry Williams Talent Agency is the largest African-American owned talent agency in the industry. (imdb.com)



ORGANIZATION OF BLACK SCREENWRITERS

**Michael Ajakwe Jr.** Writer/Producer of *Eve*, *The Brothers Garcia*, *Sister Sister*, Entertainment Tonight segment producer, and general multi-hyphenate. Mr. Ajakwe began making entertainment news in 1993 and his resume is surely too long to reproduce here. Suffice it to say that Michael is a savvy veteran who has experience and knowledge aplenty to share with OBS' aspiring writers and filmmakers. Mr. Ajakwe is willing to read and take a lunch meeting with our third place writers.

**NBC Entertainment Diversity Initiatives.** Karen Horne VP, is responsible for overseeing primetime diversity programs for NBC and Universal Media Studios. Her primary focus is heading NBC's Writers on the Verge Program and the Director Fellowship Program while overseeing NBC's Diversity Staffing Initiative and NBC's Content creator program with the Canadian Film Centre. OBS is very fortunate to introduce Ms. Horne to OBS' best TV writers. (Bio Source:<http://www.diversecitynbc.com/about.php>)

**Our Stories Films** A joint venture between Bob Johnson and The Weinstein Company, previously of Disney/Miramax fame, is dedicated to developing family friendly urban comedies that cover a broad spectrum of the African-American experience. Our Stories will receive our top feature film submission.

**Overbrook Entertainment** has produced many international blockbusters. As producers of both episodic television and feature films, we are happy that Overbrook is aware of the talent within OBS. As a result, Holly Brown, Film Development Coordinator, Overbrook Entertainment will read the TOP TWO winning feature length entries, as well as the TOP TWO TV entries.

**Tri-Destined Studios** is probably the most active producer of urban themed film and TV content in Hollywood. Producers of *Lord All Men Can't Be Dogs* and *Why Am I Doing This? The Beverly Kearney Story*, and Rapper Mike Jone's biopic are all on the Tri-Destined slate. Be sure to see *Perfect Combination*, Tri-Destined's 2010 release, which was distributed worldwide. We are honored to have Tri-Destined Studios read the #1 winning short film script!