

WHAT'S NEW

Knowledge Network, Thompson-Nicola Regional District Film Commission
and the Kamloops Canadian & International Film Festival Announce Exciting Events
in March

Knowledge Network's Storyville Pitching Workshop

Day 1 - Saturday March 10, 10 am – 3 pm Workshop

Day 2 - Sunday March 11, 9 am – 12 pm The Pitch to panelists

Kamloops Art Gallery, 465 Victoria Street, Kamloops, BC

****Invite Only****

A two-day workshop for established and aspiring filmmakers with a story to tell.

On day 1, Murray Battle (Director of Independent Production and Presentation at Knowledge Network) will lead the workshop to help you as a filmmaker identify good ideas and learn how to present them successfully. On day 2, participants will have the chance to pitch their documentary ideas to Battle, Melanie Wood of Stranger Productions (strangerproductions.ca – *Liberia 77*) and Robert Wong, Vice President, Tax Credits and Development, British Columbia Film + Media (www.bcfm.ca).

Applicants are to send their two strongest ideas for a documentary film (one paragraph each) plus your resume/bio. Ten persons will be selected by Knowledge Network to participate in the two-day workshop and all participants will be notified if accepted by Friday, March 2, 4:30 pm.

Send ideas, resume/bio and a registration fee of \$25 per participant payable by cheque or money order to the Thompson-Nicola Regional District Film Commission, or pay by cash at the district office 4th floor, 465 Victoria St, Kamloops, BC V2C 2A9. The fees will be awarded to the best pitch on Sunday, March 11.

Deadline for applicants and fee is Wednesday, February 29 at 4:30 pm.

Suitable applicants are established and aspiring filmmakers with a story to tell. Big or small, bring one good idea (and a back-up!) for you documentary and come prepared to talk about it!

Knowledge Network's Storyville Pitching Workshop helps you identify good ideas, and learn how to present them successfully. You'll get a chance to practice and refine your documentary story and pitch it to the industry professionals who will hear your documentary pitches on day 2 of the workshop.

Documentaries are growing in popularity with audiences around the world and broadcasters are scrambling to feed the growing hunger for reality-based programming. But what makes the best documentaries so compelling, moving and marketable? Story, story, story!

Applicants will focus on:

- What makes a good story
- How to develop a concept/idea into a “pitch”
- How to deliver your pitch and refine it with every telling
- How to turn your idea into a marketable documentary

Q&A with British Columbia Film and Media’s Vice President of Tax Credits and Development

Sunday March 11, 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm

Thompson-Nicola Regional District 4th Floor (above Art Gallery)

Robert Wong will be one of the adjudicators on the Storyville’s Pitching panel and is willing to meet with filmmakers to discuss project development and tax incentives over coffee.

An Afternoon with Knowledge Network: FILMS, FILMMAKERS & FILMMAKING

Sunday March 11, 2012

2 pm – 4 pm

Thompson Rivers University, 900 McGill Rd, Kamloops, Clock Tower Theatre

Knowledge Network will host a filmmakers’ salon for aspiring filmmakers of all ages called “Films, Filmmakers & Filmmaking”, facilitated by Murray Battle (Director of Independent Production and Presentation at Knowledge Network) with guest filmmaker Melanie Wood of Stranger Productions (strangerproductions.ca – *Liberia 77*). The afternoon includes discussions/Q & A about documentary filmmaking and a special screening of the Knowledge Network commission *Liberia ’77* (www.liberia77.com).

“The Thompson-Nicola Film Commission is very excited to help sponsor the film festival, Storyville and future endeavours of the Kamloops Canadian & International Film Festival and Knowledge Network’s participation” Peter Milobar, Chair, Thompson-Nicola Film Commission.

“This is an exciting opportunity for documentary filmmakers from the interior to reach key documentary decision-makers and hone their skills to further their careers” says Weller. “Moreover, we hope to work with Knowledge Network and KCIFF to create and sustain filmmaking education opportunities.”

For more information on Storyville or how to register, you may contact Victoria Weller at the film commission 250-377-8673 or toll free 1-877-377-8673 or vweller@tnrd.ca. Info will also be on Facebook.

BACKGROUND

Murray Battle is Director of Independent Production and Presentation at Knowledge Network

Films commissioned by Murray Battle and broadcast on Knowledge Network include:

- *Bloodied But Unbowed*, a history of the Vancouver Punk scene
- *The First Movie*, an exploration of children's imagination in Iraq
- *Sisters In Arms*, a history of women in the Canadian military
- *Our First Voices*, celebrates BC First Nation languages and the drive to preserve them for future generations
- *Edge Of The World*, a chronicle of 19th century BC history
- *The Fifty*, 50 short profiles of BC artists
- *Liberia'77*, a photographer's journey back to his lost childhood in Africa

And coming soon:

- *Aftermeth*, a return to a family in drug crisis
- *Coast Modern*, a journey through Pacific Northwestern modernism
- *Blood Relative* a filmmaker's encounter with her well intentioned, saviour uncle
- *High Five*, a BC family adopts 5 Ukrainian siblings, one at a time
- *Do You Really Want To Know*, a look at the horrible odds facing carriers of Huntington's Disease
- *Father Figures*, a daughter confronts her father marrying someone way too young
- *Jingle Bell Rocks*, a journey into a world of less than happy Christmas music.

Melanie Wood, Producer, Writer and Director of Stranger Productions

www.strangerproductions.ca

Melanie Wood has made a stunning array of current affairs and documentary programs. Her award-winning films like *o.com*, *A Stranger in Our Home* and *School of Secrets* not only reflect the pulse of the times but the voices of those who've gone unheard. She's also recently produced *Carbon Hunters* for CBC and BBC Worldwide and *The Difference Makers* with Rick Hansen, an inspiring prime time mini-documentary series for the CTV Olympic Broadcast. Melanie believes in making films that tell fascinating, truthful stories you'll want to talk about over dinner – tonight, tomorrow, and next year. She's also proud of her '89 Honda Civic, raising chickens in the city and her exhaustive, almost cool, collection of vintage vinyl. www.strangerproductions.ca

Storyville, Tuesday nights at 9 pm, is the place to see character-driven, creative documentaries on cultural, social and political issues from home and around the world.