

STORYBOARD

Virginia Film Office News



Film Day a Great Success!

On January 29th, 150 people involved in all aspects of film, video and television production converged on Virginia's Capitol Hill for the most successful lobbying effort in the history of the Virginia Production Alliance. Wearing bright yellow buttons with the slogan **LIGHTS CAMERA JOBS!** in black lettering, crew members, actors, vendors, students, professors and a host of production professionals walked the halls of the General Assembly building, distributing literature and telling lawmakers about the current crisis situation faced by Virginia's production industry. Everyone reported that it was a great experience, and that they had a positive reaction from most of the lawmakers, although they were also told that this is a difficult budget year to try to fund new initiatives. Congratulations to the Virginia Production Alliance and the VPA's Incentive Task Force on a wonderful event. Their work has already had one positive outcome — the General Assembly voted to approve a 10 year extension on the Sales and Use Tax Exemption legislation! [Go here for info about the Virginia Production Alliance & legislation.](#)

The Virginia Film Office Announces VIRGINIA FILM COMPETITION

This year the Virginia Film Office is launching a new and innovative initiative designed to showcase filmmakers living and working within the state. Virginia is one of the first states to support the unique contributions made by its independent film community through the sponsorship of a film competition.

Entries are accepted in three categories: feature films (over 20 minutes in length), short films (under 20 minutes) and documentaries. The competition is open to Virginia residents or students at Virginia schools and at least 75% of the project must have been shot in the state. There is no entry fee. Three finalists in the feature and documentary categories and six finalists in the short film category will be screened at the Byrd Theatre in Richmond in April, with a winner chosen in each category. Entries with a registration form **MUST** be received by the **Virginia Film Office by February 29**. [Go here for info or to download an entry form.](#)

Virginia Screenwriting Competition Turns 20! Accepting submissions March 3—May 24

Since 1988, the Virginia Governors Screenwriting Competition has been supporting the work of Virginia screenwriters through an annual screenwriting competition. This year's the Film Office will be accepting submissions of feature film length screenplays from March 3 —May 24. [Go here for info or to download this year's brochure.](#)

Coming Attractions

On February 24, celebrity host Daphne Maxwell Reid along with The Central Virginia Film Institute and WRIC-TV8 will host Virginia's only official [Oscar Night® America Party](#), a live telecast of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences' 80th Annual Academy Awards®. Proceeds benefit the *If I Can Dream...* educational program for the 2008 Central Virginia Film Festival, scheduled for May of 2008.

March 28—30 is the acclaimed [VCU French Film Festival](#), featuring the newest French Films presented by their award-winning actors and directors at the historic Byrd Theater in Carytown in Richmond, Virginia. Don't miss this unique film event.

Mark your calendars for March 16, the date the miniseries **John Adams** premieres on HBO. Based on the Pulitzer Prize-winning biography by David McCullough, this was one of the largest and most significant projects ever shot in the state. [Go to the HBO website](#) for information and a video teaser.

This newsletter was created by the Virginia Film Office. [Click here](#) if you do not wish to receive it. To contact the Film Office, call 800.854.6233 or visit the website at www.film.virginia.org.