



**The Missouri Stories Scriptwriting Fellowship is an international competition for screenplays and television pilot scripts with story lines set in Missouri.**

Three scripts will be chosen from all submissions. The winning writers will receive an all expenses paid trip to our concentrated fellowship experience, held in Missouri in February 2020. The writers will be joined by accomplished industry mentors who will work with each fellow. In addition to workshop time and one-on-one mentor time, we will organize a day trip to visit the area of the state where the scripts are set, for added inspiration.

Past industry mentors include: Bob Gale, best known for co-writing films in the “Back to the Future” trilogy; Angelo Pizzo, who wrote among others, *Hoosiers* and *Rudy*; Valerie Woods, currently working on OWN’s *Queen Sugar*; Philip LaZebnik who wrote the screenplays for *Mulan* and *The Prince of Egypt*; and Kathleen McGee Anderson, noted for a variety of television credits including ABC Family’s “Lincoln Heights.”

A separate committee of industry reading judges will read, score and determine the semifinalists, finalists, and winners of the fellowship competition. Scripts will be evaluated on a ten-point scale for each of six categories: Presentation/Format; Premise/Concept; Structure/Plot/Pacing; Characters/Dialogue; Theme/Style/Tone; and Missouri Relevance. Writers will receive copies of their scoresheets.

## **TIMELINE**

Nov. 1 - submissions open

Nov. 15 - submissions close

December- reading judge committee read and score scripts

Jan. 3 - fellows chosen/notified and finalist scripts given to mentors

Feb. 2-5 - fellowship (three nights, four days)

Please visit [www.MoFilm.org/MoStories](http://www.MoFilm.org/MoStories) for updates.

## **RULES FOR 2019**

All entrants must submit:

- A completed submission form.
- One **digital** copy of an original script in PDF format.
- A one page synopsis
- A one page writers bio
- Entry Fee of \$45 payable to MOMMA (Missouri Motion Media Association) by Paypal at [www.mommaonline.com](http://www.mommaonline.com) or by check sent to MoStories, PO Box 1585, Jefferson City, MO 65102

The final selection of fellowship winners will be made by the Missouri Stories Scriptwriting Fellowship Committee. The Missouri Stories Scriptwriting Fellowship reserves the right not to release judges’ comments.

The Missouri Stories Scriptwriting Fellowship reserves the right to choose less than three scripts.

We strongly suggest that applicants register their Screenplays/ TV Pilot Scripts with the Writers Guild of America. (<http://www.wgawregistry.org/webrss>).

## 1. Conditions on Participation

Entrants must be 18 or older at the time of entry.

Collaborative work by two writers who share equally in its creation is eligible. The collaborators' names must be added to the application. Trip prize package provided for one writer only. (But, second writer may attend at their own cost.)

Screenplays/TV pilot scripts must be the original work of the applicants and be written in proper script format. If based upon another's life story, applicant(s) must attach a statement attesting to their rights to make such adaptations. Neither the Fellowship nor its jurists investigate or attest to the authenticity of an applicant's statement of authorship or rights.

You can submit scripts based on prior work (novels, short stories), as long as you have secured the underlying rights to the material.

Screenplays/TV pilot scripts must not have been optioned or sold.

Officers and employees of the Missouri Film Commission, Missouri Division of Tourism and Missouri Motion Media Association; competition judges or mentors; and the immediate families of these individuals are not eligible.

## 2. Submission Requirements

An entrant may submit a *maximum* of two screenplays in the current competition. Each submission is a separate application and requires a separate application fee.

Entry fees will not be waived, returned or adjusted. The entry fee for each script is \$45. Once an entry payment has been processed we cannot provide a refund. If a payment is disputed, the account holder may be subject to any fees.

Submissions for the 2018 fellowship must be postmarked or e-mailed no later than 5 p.m. Central Time on Nov. 15, 2019.

No revisions or missing pages will be accepted once entry has been received.

No drafts or treatments will be accepted. Only completed scripts will be considered.

\*\*The entrant's name, address, phone number and any other identifying information **should not** appear on the title page or any other page of the script. Placing a Library of Congress or WGA registration number on the title page is acceptable, but not required.

There is no page minimum or maximum, but the feature screenplay should be approximately 90 - 120 pages in length. Pilot scripts between 30 – 65 pages. Submissions must have been written originally in English; translations will not be accepted.

### **Acknowledgment of Terms and Conditions:**

By entering, I (we) attest:

A. To the accuracy of the information supplied in this application.

- B. That the material submitted is my (our) sole and original work.
- C. To my (our) agreement to hold the Missouri Film Commission, Missouri Division of Tourism and the Missouri Motion Media Association harmless from, and defend them against, all claims, demands, losses, costs, damages, judgments, liabilities and expenses (including attorneys' fees) arising out of or in connection with any stories submitted to the Missouri Stories Scriptwriting Fellowship competition or any screenplay developed out of such stories.
- D. That the Missouri Film Commission may retain the material submitted for use in connection with its Missouri Stories Scriptwriting Fellowship deliberations, and thereafter for its archival collection of materials, to which use I (we) expressly waive compensation.
- E. That the burden of obtaining copyright or otherwise protecting any proprietary interests in the material, if I (we) wish to do so, rests entirely with me (us).
- F. To my (our) understanding of the purposes and conditions of the Missouri Stories Scriptwriting Fellowship and to my (our) acceptance of them should I (we) be selected as a fellow.
- G. That I am (we are) eligible for the competition, and that I (we) will notify The Missouri Stories Scriptwriting Fellowship if I (we) become ineligible prior to the conclusion of the competition.
- H. That providing false or misleading information on this application, and failing in any other way to comply with the rules of the competition, will subject me (us) to disqualification, forfeiture of prize and/or other penalties.