



Greater Erie Arts Rental
An outreach service of Penn State Behrend

The Greater Erie Film Office and the Greater Erie Arts Rental at Penn State Behrend announce a filmmaking competition.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE—July 1, 2018—The Greater Erie Film Office (GEFO), a program of the Film Society of Northwestern Pennsylvania (FSNWPA) 501(c)3 non-profit organization, and Greater Erie Arts Rental at Penn State Behrend are proud to announce the winners of its Screenplay Competition and the second part of the competition which is now open to all Pennsylvania filmmakers.

First Place – “Everybody Hurts” by Erik Brown

Second Place – “Deep Vein Thrombosis” by Stella Ruggiero

Third Place (three-way tie)

“Heaven Knows I’m Miserable Now” by Kalli Oberlander

“Join Us” by Jim Morton

“Party of Five” by Daniel Junkin

Short Film Competition entrants will adapt “Everybody Hurts”, the 20-page winning script written with a theme of “Dark Comedy”.

Stewart Nash, Film Commissioner for the Greater Erie Film Office said, “This year’s winning script nailed both sides of “Dark Comedy” combining realistic hopelessness with twisted tragic humor. As with past competitions, we always encourage interested filmmakers to adapt the screenplay into a format that is workable and within their means. We feel confident that the talented Erie film community and beyond can produce a finished short film that captures the hard-hitting theme of “Everybody Hurts”.

Everybody Hurts, by screenwriter Erik Brown, explores a world where the entire population is endowed with incredible superpowers. In the middle of it all lives a depressed man who sees things differently than everyone else. Then, when horror strike, our hero will have to make a choice that will decide the fate of all.

The script is full of wit, humor, unrealistic superpowers, and strange creatures. The writer has done a superb job of setting this story in a unique period. Entrants are fully entitled and encouraged to adapt the script in a way that supports their level of production. This includes script rewrites, additions, and removals, as long as the entrant is able to keep the essence of the story plot intact and the theme of Dark Comedy, then submissions will be accepted.

Submission Deadline: October 31st, 2018 at 11:59 PM (EST)

KEY DATES

- July 1, 2018 – PayPal Registration Opens
- October 31, 2018 (Midnight EST) – Short Film Upload Deadline
- November 2018 – Submissions reviewed by Judges
- TBD Screening Event – Public Screening of Judge’s Top 3 Films and Awards

ENTRY FEE

- Regular: \$40.00 USD
- Student Directors: \$30.00 USD

Entry fees are in U.S. Dollars, are per film, and are non-refundable. The Greater Erie Film Office (GEFO) reserves the right to disqualify a submission, without refund of any kind, if eligibility requirements are not met including if eligibility status changes post-submission.

Students: Entry fees for Student Directors will be discounted to \$30 USD, upon receipt by GEFO of a photocopy of a current and valid student ID card or a letter from an accredited school, verifying enrollment (K-12 or College/Secondary). Student films made with funding from a university or other institution are welcome, but if the school or institution holds the rights to the film, you will need their permission for entry.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for consideration:

- (1) Entrants must fully comply with the competitions Rules & Terms, including all deadlines, film length, entry material and other requirements.
- (2) Non-English language works must have English subtitles embedded on-screen at the time submitted. Dialogue lists will not be accepted.
- (3) The film MUST maintain World Premiere status prior to Contest’s Public Screening in Early 2019.

RULES & TERMS

ALL ENTRANTS AGREE TO ADHERE TO THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

1. Only Pennsylvania residents are eligible.
2. Submissions will not be accepted without PayPal payment via filmerie.com. PayPal submission information must be filled out completely. There are no fee waivers.
3. Submissions must use the screenplay “Everybody Hurts” by Erik Brown.
4. In order to protect our competition screenplay, you will be emailed the complete “Everybody Hurts” script once PayPal receipt has been confirmed.
5. Filmmakers may submit more than one film; however, a separate submission form and payment will be required for each film.

6. Entrants shall retain full rights to their submissions.
7. No stock footage will be allowed.
8. All music used must be original and proper permission granted from the artist. Entrants are encouraged to work with a Pennsylvania state composers and/or musicians to write and record music for the films.
9. Any talent, crew, and locations (and any other applicable releases) included in the film must have signed release waivers.
10. All costs associated with film productions are at the candidates' own expense.
11. Entries are limited to a total run time of 25 minutes, including end credits. The narrative must end before the closing credits begin. No outtakes or bonus scenes.
12. Deadline: Entrant agrees to upload their finished work and email the direct viewing link (via YouTube, Vimeo, etc) to info@filmerie.com by Midnight on October 31, 2018. Links will be verified by GEFO for judging purposes to avoid technical problems. No physical entries will be accepted.

After films have been reviewed for official rules and terms, the films will be forwarded to our judges. If your film becomes an official selection of the Greater Erie Film Office and the 2018 Short Film Competition you will be notified following the judging period.

By submitting to the Greater Erie Film Office and the 2018 Short Film Competition you grant the organizers permission to display the film, stills and information on the GEFO website, social media outlets, and in other marketing and promotional actions.

Judges will critique the submissions in three general areas:

Content

1. Creativity and Innovation
2. Originality
3. Coherence

Visual creativity

1. Cinematography
2. Sound design and soundtrack
3. Editing
4. Effective use of visual effects

Overall impression

1. Enjoyment factor
2. Acting
3. Meaningfulness
4. Replay value

PAYMENT OPTIONS

Visa, MasterCard, American Express and Discover credit and debit cards accepted for submission payment through PayPal at FilmErie.com. DO NOT send cash or checks.

RESTRICTIONS

No entry fee refunds.

NOTIFICATION AND PRIZES

Notifications will be sent to finalists upon completion of the judging period. The Top 3 finalists will be invited to a public screening of their work and prizes will be announced and awarded at a TBD event in 2019.

First Place Grand Prize:

\$1100 IN TOTAL PRIZE VALUE

- \$500.00 CASH (USD)
- \$500.00 GIFT CERTIFICATE to GREATER ERIE ARTS RENTAL
- Free admission to all 2019 GEFO Seminars (\$60 Value)
- Film Society NWPA Membership Card (\$50 Value)
- Judges Notes

Second Place Prize:

\$100 TOTAL PRIZE VALUE

- Judges Notes
- Free admission to all 2019 GEFO Seminars
- Film Society NWPA Membership Card

Third Place Prize:

\$50 TOTAL PRIZE VALUE

- Judges Notes
- Film Society NWPA Membership Card

EVERYBODY HURTS SCREENPLAY BREAKDOWN

(see above rules in regards to entrants right to alter the screenplay)

The screenplay is 20 pages in length.

CHARACTERS (11 Actors playing 12 Characters) (Various extras are required)

Principal Characters (There are 11 speaking characters; numbers denote character age)

Franklin Copperfoot 37

Martin 37

Striped Man/Sihn

Minor Characters

Chase Freely

Marshall McCory 20s

Female Customer

Bob
Gordy
Referee
Fire Woman
Screaming Audience Member

LOCATIONS (11)

EXT

Sky – DAY
Park – DAY
Town Street – DAY
Franklin’s Fabrics – DAY
Franklin’s Fabrics – EVENING
Lake – MORNING
Town Street – EVENING
Franklin’s Porch – MORNING

INT

Franklin’s Fabrics – DAY
Franklin’s Living Room – DAY
Franklin’s Living Room – MORNING
Civic Center – DAY
Franklin’s Bedroom – DAY