



For Immediate Release

Canada's top screenwriters honoured at the 2009 WGC Screenwriting Awards

Toronto – April 20, 2009 – The Writers Guild of Canada celebrated the winning words of Canadian screenwriters tonight at the 13th annual WGC Screenwriting Awards. More than 150 scripts were nominated in the Awards' eleven categories, and 37 finalist scripts vied for the winners' circle.

Screenwriters **Brent Butt** (*Corner Gas*), **Adam Barken** (*Flashpoint*), **Andrew Wreggitt** (*Mayerthorpe*) and **Don McKellar** (*Blindness*) were just of few of those recognized for outstanding scripts. A complete list of winners is attached.

The awards were hosted by **Geri Hall**, and written by **Kyle Tingley** and Geri Hall. Geri and Kyle were also among the winners for their part in an ensemble *22 Minutes* script.

Dishing the awards were special guest presenters including **Yannick Bisson** (*Murdoch Mysteries*), **Tara Spencer-Nairn** (*Corner Gas*), **Zaib Shaikh** (*Little Mosque*) and screenwriters **Tassie Cameron** (*Flashpoint, Would be Kings*), **Andy Marshall** (*Soul*), **Peter Mohan** (*Blood Ties, The Bridge*), **Jennifer Podemski** (*Moccasin Flats, Rabbit Fall*), **Kevin White** (*Corner Gas*) and **Sherry White** (*Sophie, Crackie*).

Screenwriter **Mark Farrell** (*Corner Gas, 22 Minutes*) was presented with the 3rd Annual WGC Showrunner Award to honour his exceptional leadership and creative vision.

For more information, or to set up a post-Awards interview with a 2009 WGC Screenwriting Award winner, please contact David Kinahan, 416-979-7907 x5234.

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13th Annual WGC Screenwriting Awards Winners

ANIMATION

Ricky Sprocket, *Showbiz Boy* "The Perfect Family" Written by Shane Simmons

CHILDREN & PRESCHOOL

Captain Flamingo "Comic Slip" Written by Christin Simms

DOCUMENTARY

Passage Documentary Script Written by John Walker

EPISODIC ¹/₂ hour

Corner Gas "Full Load" Written by Brent Butt

EPISODIC 1 hour

Flashpoint "Who's George?" Written by Adam Barken

FEATURE FILM Blindness Screenplay by Don McKellar

MOW & MINISERIES Mayerthorpe Written by Andrew Wreggitt

RADIO DRAMA

Afghanada "The Lotus Eater - Part 1 of 3" Written by Greg Spottiswood

SHORT FILM

Awkward Written by Kellie Ann Benz

VARIETY

This Hour Has 22 Minutes XVI "Episode 1" Head Writer: Jennifer Whalen / Written by Mark Critch, Gavin Crawford, Kyle Tingley, Jennifer Whalen, Albert Howell, Tim McAuliffe, Dean Jenkinson, Geri Hall, Nathan Fielder

YOUTH

The Latest Buzz "The Gala Issue" Written by Brent Piaskoski

WGC Special Awards:

The WGC Showrunner Award – Mark Farrell (*Corner Gas, 22 Minutes*) The Jim Burt Screenwriting Prize - *Cold Rush by* Riley Adams The WGC Writers Block Award – Karen Walton (*Ginger Snaps*, Ink Canada) The WGC Screenwriting Awards gratefully acknowledges the generous support of its sponsors. We couldn't do it without them.

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