



Writers Guild of Canada



WGC
Screenwriting
Awards

Jim Burt Screenwriting Prize 2023 Call for Entries

The Writers Guild of Canada is pleased to announce the call for entries for the Jim Burt Screenwriting Prize. The prize was created to continue the work of the late Jim Burt to recognize his lifelong commitment to promoting Canadian writing.

In a 20-year career at the CBC, Jim's championing of Canadian writers and their stories resulted in the production of some 75 longform dramas including *Big Bear*, *The Boys of St. Vincent*, *Little Criminals* and *Million Dollar Babies*. These productions met with national and international acclaim and embodied excellence in Canadian stories.

Upon Jim's death in 1999, his family requested that any donations made in his memory be placed in a fund that would honour what Jim fought for and personified – excellence in Canadian longform dramatic writing. With the generous support of the CBC, CTV, and Alliance Atlantis, the Writers Guild of Canada was pleased to hold the inaugural competition in 2002.

The winning screenplay is determined by a jury, which selects the best unproduced longform script of the quality Jim Burt championed.

The winner, announced at the WGC Screenwriting Awards on April 24, 2023, will be presented with a total prize worth \$5,000. The winner will receive a \$3,000 cash prize, and \$2,000 will be allotted for an experienced story editor approved by the jury in order to further develop the winner's script.

DEADLINE: SUNDAY, JANUARY 8TH, 2023 at 11:59 P.M. EST

To be eligible, screenplay entries must:

- Be unproduced longform, feature-length screenplays
- Be an original work by the applicant and not based, in whole or part, on another author's work
- Not be under option prior to, or during, the competition

To be eligible, writers must:

- Be a Canadian citizen, resident in Canada
- Possess a writing credit on a produced drama (including shorts) or web series

The Jim Burt Screenwriting Prize is open to all members of the Writers Guild of Canada, as well as non-members who meet the above criteria.

Only ONE entry per writer/team will be accepted.

The entrant acknowledges and agrees that the jury may, based on the merit of the submissions, at its sole discretion, deem that no award be presented.

The Jim Burt Screenwriting Prize was made possible with the generous support of individual contributors and:





Jim Burt Screenwriting Prize 2023 - Entry Form

ENTRY INFORMATION

Screenplay Title:					
Name of Writer(s):					
Address:					
City:		Province:		Postal Code:	
Telephone (day):		Email:			

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA (please provide details)

I possess a writing credit on a produced drama (including shorts) or webseries project.

Title:					
Producer:					
Broadcast/Release Date: <i>Verification may be requested.</i>					

Applicant warrants: that the material submitted is original and that they are the sole author. This work does not infringe any copyright, or contain any unlawful or libelous matter. The material submitted is not based, in whole or in part, on another author's work. It has never been produced and has not been optioned or under contract. The information provided by the Applicant is true. Applicant agrees to accept the decision of the judges of this competition.

Applicant acknowledges that WGC may, in its sole discretion, provide copies of all scripts and written materials submitted to the competition (the "Materials") to any or all of the sponsors of the competition, which may include, without limitation, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, CTV, Inc., and Alliance Atlantis Communications Inc. (the "Sponsors") for review and assessment.

Applicant hereby consents to such provision to the Sponsors and expressly and irrevocably releases the WGC, its successors, directors, officers, employees, assignees, and licensees' from any and all claims and demands of any kind or nature arising out of or in connection with the provision of such Materials by the WGC (or failure to provide the same) as contemplated herein or the use, or failure to use of the Materials by any or all of the Sponsors, including, without limitation, all claims for infringement of copyright, breach of confidentiality, or any other personal or property rights.

Signature:				Date:	
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ATTACHED (please check off)

- Completed and signed application form. If there is more than one writer, the form and release MUST be signed by all writers. Also, all writers should be copied on the emailed application.
- A pdf copy of feature-length screenplay. Cover page should display title only – name and address must be removed.
- Separate one (1) page (or less) summary of your screenplay.

DEADLINE: SUNDAY, JANUARY 8TH, 2023 by 11:59 P.M. EST

Entries accepted
electronically only to

awards@wgc.ca with the subject line:
Jim Burt Screenwriting Prize Submission