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ROAD TO HOLLYWOOD STARTS IN SAN DIEGO – SCREENWRITERS' WORKSHOP PLANNED

Each year, hundreds of aspiring screenwriters flock to Hollywood with scripts in their hands and stars in their eyes. This year, Hollywood is coming to them. Next stop? San Diego.

Act One, Inc., a Los Angeles-based training program for writers and other film industry professionals, is partnering with Maranatha Chapel to present the Act One Screenwriting Weekend, a conference for professional and aspiring screenwriters. The workshop, slated for June 23-24, 2006, at the church, is an intense, practical overview of screenwriting basics and the current film market.

Participants will study the craft of screenwriting – from story development and structure to character, dialogue and screenplay format – with a panel of accomplished Hollywood professionals, led by Barbara Nicolosi, a screenwriter (*The Work*, *Select Society*), author (*Behind The Screen*), columnist, and Executive Director of the Act One programs. In addition to his teaching post at Azusa Pacific University, Dr. Thom Parham is a screenwriter and script consultant whose credits include *JAG*, *Touched By An Angel*, *Steeplechasers*, and *Inside Out*. Jack Gilbert, the head of Act One's television program and former director of the prestigious Warner Bros. Writers Workshop, has consulted on numerous Hollywood scripts (including *Batman Forever* and *The Addams Family*) for companies like the William Morris Agency, NBC, and MTM Productions. Karen Covell, an author, producer (MSNBC), and the founding director of the Hollywood Prayer Network, and Michele Suh, a professional musician and Director of Hollywood Connect, round out the faculty.

“San Diego's significant and ongoing contribution to film and television makes it the perfect city for one of our conferences,” says Conference Coordinator Lauri Evans Deason. “And we're thrilled to be working with Maranatha Chapel to provide new inspiration and community for local writers who share our common goals of excellence, artistry, professionalism, and spirituality.”

The seminar begins with a 7 p.m. Friday evening screening and panel discussion with the faculty, open to anyone interested in film and its impact on popular culture. The conference continues Saturday from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. with the intensive screenwriting workshop. The registration fee (which includes study materials and breakfast and lunch on Saturday) is \$175. Further information and online registration is available through the Act One website at www.actoneprogram.com. Space is limited, and early registration is encouraged.

Tickets for the Friday evening session only are \$10 and are available at the door.

MEDIA REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Lauri Evans Deason

lauri@actoneprogram.com

323-898-5528