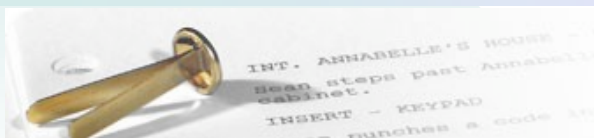


Idaho Screenwriters Association



www.idahowriters.org

- > Sherry A. E. Cann, President / Founder sherry.ae@hotmail.com 871-4501
- > Louise Luster CTP Films Executive Producer ctpfilms@cableone.net / www.ctpfilms.com 859-5123
- > Lance Thompson Script Doctor lancet@q.com 898-1451
- > Pamela Thompson Career Coach/Recruiter pamrecruit@q.com

The May meeting of the Idaho Screenwriters Association will be on Tuesday, 18th, starting at 6:30 pm.

Idaho Pizza at 7100 W. Fairview. Near Cole Rd



May Meeting
AGENDA
Bring in a 'finished project pitch'

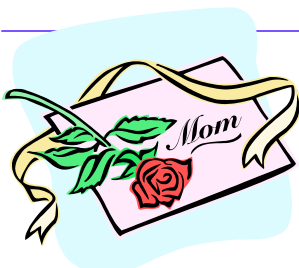
INTRODUCTIONS

(come prepared to answer the following:
What is your favorite medium that you would like to write for? Film, Video, Radio or Theater?

Guest Speaker

DOUG COPSEY

Producer, Director, Writer and Actor for Film, Video, Radio and Theater, Doug will discuss ***"What do I do now that I have a complete script?"***



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ISA Short Screenplay Contest

Start writing now! This year's winner will be produced by ISA and IMP.

- 15-20 pages
- 1—2 locations, something that can be shot on a stage like a t.v. show, sitcom
- Your chance to create a television pilot?
- Majority of characters female
- Written in industry format
- **MUST BE RECEIVED BY JULY 1ST**
- \$20 entry fee, application form, and 3 copies of the screenplay should be mailed to: ISA c/o Louise Luster, PO Box 663, Eagle, Idaho 83615. Make check payable to: Idaho Screenwriters Association.
- Prizes will also include \$50 cash to 1st place winner, and the top three screenplays will receive Professional Feedback from Lance Thompson, Hollywood Script Doctor.
- Applications can be downloaded from www.idahowriters.org

Member Spotlight Araminta Self

Araminta became involved in theater in College, where she wrote a lay for a play writing class called Life With Grandma. She directed and produced this play which was performed in a showcase at Flying M Coffee shop a few years back.

She is now working on a screen play to be entered in the up coming screen play writing contest and is also writing a novel that is near completion.

Araminta will start back to School in the fall to attain her film studies certification and hopes to learn editing and post production work.

Her life is a working quilt and when she finally has a finished screen play that is either produced locally or sold to an agency she will have more to brag about, until then Araminta enjoys Idaho Screenwriters Association group of comradeship and intends to get as much from the meetings as she can.



We would love to hear from you too, how you feel being a member of the Idaho Screenwriters benefits you. And let us know what you would like to see more of, or added to the meetings and newsletter.

MEMBERSHIP IN ISA

Dues cover website hosting, fees for guest speakers and expenses and prizes for the annual screenwriting contests. \$15 a year or \$10 a year if you're a member of IMP.



Make checks payable to:

IDAHO SCREENWRITERS ASSOCIATION
and mail that with your information to:

Sherry Cann 13350 W. Fernleaf St. Boise, Idaho 83713

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

IMP Member want information about IMP



Doug Copsey has written more than a dozen feature-length screenplays. His latest, *Bedarra*, the Basque word for Grass, is based on true events leading up to the 1936 trial of three Basque sheep men in southeastern Oregon who were arrested for protesting the Taylor Grazing Act. Implemented in 1934 as part of President Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal, it mandated that for the first time in the history of the West, the free range would no longer be free.

Doug lives in Boise, where he writes for a number of magazines as well as documentary films and corporate videos, which he also produces and directs. He has also completed one novel and has two more in the works, and is currently working on an opera.



“The stuff that dreams are made of.”
The Maltese Falcon ~ 1941



<http://idahomediapro.org>
Wednesday, May 19th
 IMP Luncheon 11 am—1pm

Sun Ray Café, 1602 N 13th Street, Boise
 Join IMP members at the Sun Ray Cafe.

NEW DATE—CHECK IT OUT!!

7-Day Mexican Riviera
 Cruise Sails out of L.A.

February 6, 2011

**First Deposit of \$250
 pp due by Sept 15th**

Final Deposit due by
 November 2010

Ports of Call:
 Cabo San Lucas * Mazatlan
 * Puerto Vallarta

Cabin Prices:
 Inside Cabin \$616 pp

Outside Cabin \$756 pp

Balcony Cabin \$866 pp

Get your deposit in now!
 Contact Diana Rolig
 Travel Consultant
 Global Travel for your place on the
 IMP MEXICAN RIVIERRA CRUISE

Call

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dianar@globaltrav.com

Or contact Sherry Cann at

sherry.ae@hotmail.com for more information



On Mother's Day this month we celebrate mothers. Your mom had a lot of sage advice and she taught you many valuable lessons. Mom might have told you that you should never brag about yourself. Recognizing that Moms are full of wisdom and usually mean well, I want to tell you that Mom was wrong when it comes to bragging. This Mother's Day and every day, honor your mother, but ignore this one pearl of her wisdom.

There are situations where you need to brag, where a bit of self-promotion is necessary to jump start your career and to keep it going.

There are ways to brag about yourself without offending a client or employer or your mom. We'll take a look at good bragging and bad bragging in three situations--when socializing and networking, on your resume and during an interview.

Networking

Be ready to tell people who you are at industry events, parties, and meetings of professional organizations. Practice your self-introduction with a friend. Your self-introduction should be short and sweet. Make yourself sound fascinating and memorable. Create an introduction with pizzazz. "I'm Jan, the entertainment marketing diva." "I'm Mike and I draw the funny cartoons your kid watches on Nickelodeon." "I'm Jim and I just directed a short that won the audience favorite award at..." Be sure to ask the other people around you about themselves and listen attentively to their answers.

Don't come across as arrogant or self-centered by dominating the conversation with a long discourse about the great job you did on the most recent short at I-48. Make sure you give kudos to others on your team and on the project and you won't come across as being too cocky. Give the other person a chance to brag. Don't interrupt and redirect the attention to yourself.

Resume

Your resume must highlight your achievements and your accomplishments. Make sure you list awards you've won and goals you've reached. What you've done for past employers gives future employers a hint at what you can do for them. You are competing with many others to get the attention of an employer so make yourself stand out.

If your film or a project you worked on has won an award at a film festival or if you have been honored by your school or a professional organization, make sure you mention it in your resume, as well as in your cover letter and at your interview.

The only way to be too boastful on your resume is to take credit for something you did not do or claim skills you do not have. Never do that.

Interview

An interviewer may ask, "Tell me about yourself." This is an opportunity for you to tout your achievements and skills which are relevant to his/her needs. What the interviewer wants to know is whether you have the skills and ability to do the job and also whether you have confidence and a positive attitude. "My biggest strength is...." is an acceptable way to brag about

yourself. Other phrases such as "The accomplishment I'm proudest of is..." or "What I'm best at is..." are also good ways to brag about yourself during the interview. Don't just talk about yourself, but while listing your abilities, show how your skills and abilities can benefit the company you're interviewing with. You can avoid coming across as too conceited by including your co-workers when you discuss projects you worked on. Employers like to know they are hiring a team player so be sure to include your teammates when you promote yourself. "With the help of my co-workers, we were able to surpass the expectations of our supervisor by ..."

Still reluctant to think about bragging and self-promotion? Some people make a living bragging-- about others. People who work in public relations, marketing and advertising, and agents and managers are all paid to brag about their clients.

You can learn to do your own PR. Write a press release about yourself. I make it known when I speak at an event (see bio below) through this column. You need to let others know what you are doing. You can do this through newsletters and web sites.

My friend Marty sends out a newsletter regularly which includes an article about some aspect of the business he is in. He sends it to his clients, potential clients and fans like me who might refer him to a client. Whenever I get his newsletter it reminds me of his expertise.

One of the most effective means of promoting yourself to the world is to have a well-designed, user friendly website with your contact information and work samples. If you have a blog or web site, make sure visitors can contact you easily by making your email address easy to find. Web sites are one place where others can brag for you through testimonials, recommendations and reviews.

Still don't want to brag? Make friends with journalists and let them know you are available to be interviewed or quoted. Get others to write about you and collect the press clippings.

There are several situations where it is right to brag. In fact, it's necessary for career success. So get out there and toot your horn or help toot the horn of a friend or colleague. If you have learned

how to write, you can also learn the art of self-promotion. Try it. My mom would be proud of you



Pamela Kleibrink Thompson is an internationally known recruiter/hiring strategist and career coach. Clients include Lucas Animation in Singapore, LAIKA in Portland, Oregon; and Framstore in London, England. She speaks regularly on career issues at colleges, universities and conferences. For recruiting, career coaching or speaking requests contact Pamela Thompson at PamRecruit@q.com. Pamela Kleibrink Thompson The 911 Recruiter and Career Coach read my online column "The Career Coach" at <http://mag.awn.com> LinkedIn profile at <http://www.linkedin.com/in/pamelathompson>

Writing Tips from Sherry.... (Analysis of a Winner)

M. Night Shyamalan called *The Sixth Sense* a “writers final cut.” As I mentioned last month, everything in the screenplay is original. It’s a writer’s movie about characters that need to communicate. Once they learn that, they are at peace. Malcolm (Bruce Willis) wants to help Cole because Cole reminds him of Vincent, another child that he was unable to help (Malcolm’s back story). So he seeks redemption. He has a clear and personal motivation. He has a second, lesser goal which is to save his marriage. His unconscious need is to communicate with his wife and accept his separation from her (his death). But Malcolm has a flaw: he only sees what he wants to see. Cole wants the ghosts to go away because he does not want to be afraid anymore (his personal motivation). His need is to communicate with the ghosts and his mother, but he won’t (and that’s his flaw) because he is afraid that his mother and others will think he’s a freak. That is his deepest fear. So he has nowhere to go emotionally until Malcolm comes to him. Things get scarier and scarier for Cole; that is, there is a rising conflict with people both dead and alive. At last, Malcolm has a breakthrough and tells Cole that maybe the ghosts want something. Essentially, he tells Cole to try to communicate with them. Along comes a very scary Kyra. Cole finds the courage to say, “Do you want to tell me something?” In other words, he opens the lines of communication. Once he does, everything goes well for him. It’s a wonderful twist, and now the story moves forward in a different



way. The final two sequences serve well the theme of *Communication overcomes fear*.

In the first of these two sequences, Cole finally tells his mother his secret, risking the relationship. Will she think he’s a freak? It’s an emotional, cleansing scene that is very touching. It is successful not just because it is a memorable movie moment, but because of what preceded it in terms of character development and story.

In the final sequence, Malcolm communicates with his sleeping wife. It is then that he realizes he is dead (another memorable movie moment), but now he is able to accept it. The characters are healed, at peace.

Catalyst—Malcolm, the central character, is shot.

Big Event—Malcolm decides to help Cole.

Pinch—Malcolm and Cole share secrets—Malcolm is sad; Cole sees dead people.

Cole’s Crisis—Kyra comes to Cole. He decides to communicate with her.

Showdown—Cole reveals Kyra’s secret to Kyra’s family.

Cole’s Realization—I don’t have to be scared.

Cole’s Second Crisis/ Showdown—He

communicates with his mother. Malcolm’s Crisis/Showdown—Malcolm communicates with his wife.

Malcolm’s Realization—I am dead. In effect, “I can rest in peace.”

Because Malcolm’s goal is to help another character, that other character becomes extremely important to the story, which is why Cole is so prominent in the end. The rules are bent ever so slightly in this story.

The heart of the story is Malcolm and Cole. There is a second heart of the story, and that’s Cole and his mother.

Besides Malcolm and Cole, there are three other key characters.

Cole’s mother is a lioness whose goal is to protect and understand her son. She is motivated by her son’s many problems.

Kyra’s goal is to resolve family issues, to tell the secret of how she died.

Malcolm’s wife needs to accept her husband’s death.

Most of the characters have a flaw rooted in some kind of fear. The point of the story is communication dissipates and even destroys fear.



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