

## About our Film School

The FSU Film School is one of the most highly-ranked in America. Its students have won over 700 awards, honors, prizes and featured screenings at both national and international festivals and competitions.



### The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences

FSU's Film School has won a total of nine "Student Oscars" from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, and has placed as a regional finalist eleven times (four times in the year 2003 alone). Four student titles have gone on to win top awards in festivals that qualified them for entry into the non-student Oscars.



### Academy of Television Arts & Sciences

The FSU Film School has won a total of 26 student Emmys from the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences. In 2003, the Film School was the first school in the history of the Academy to place First, Second, and Third in the Comedy category. In 2004, the Film School set another record in the Academy's history by being the first school to win five student Emmys in one year (two First place, two Second place, and one Third place).



### Director's Guild of America Awards and Honor

The FSU Film School was honored in 2004 by the Directors Guild of America for its "Distinguished Contribution to American Culture." In the 2005 DGA Student Filmmakers Awards for African Americans, Asian Americans, Latinos and Women, the FSU Film School took home half of the honors awarded, winning first place in both "Best Woman Student Filmmaker" and "Best Latino Student Filmmaker."

## Unique Educational approach

The Film School provides a one-on-one setting for the majority of instruction. Its curriculum focuses on the art, craft, and business of storytelling. The faculty of filmmakers is a blend of senior industry members all of whom have a record of excellent teaching in addition to their impressive industry credits.

FSU is the only film school in the country that pays for the production costs of all of its students' films, thereby creating a level playing field for students to focus on art, craft and imagination, instead of fundraising. To ensure that this high caliber of education is available to the most talented student regardless of financial means, the university offers generous scholarships and assistantships, and tuition costs that are among the lowest in the country.

## Distinguished Alumni

Alumni are highly involved with the school and actively work to transition graduates into the industry. We assign mentors to every graduate, and then coordinate with faculty and staff to create career plans for students before they leave the program. This provides virtually 100% of the school's graduates with meaningful work in the film and television industry within 12 months of graduation.

# THANKS TO YOU !

*Without the generous help of the individuals, businesses and community of Tallahassee, none of these accomplishments would have been possible!*

For more information about the Film School and current events and screenings please visit our website at: [film.fsu.edu](http://film.fsu.edu)

Or, if you have specific questions about one of our student productions, call our Community Liaison at 850-644-7910.

# A GREAT COMMUNITY

MAKES

# FSU FILM

A GREAT FILM SCHOOL

## A community guide to Florida State University's College of Motion Picture Arts Student Productions



# Roll Sound... Roll Camera... ACTION!

Dear member of the community,

If you are reading this then most likely one of our students has asked to use your home or place of business as a film set.

We appreciate you taking the time to consider it and sincerely hope you can help our students. We make nearly 200 films a year and without the generous support of people like yourself, we simply couldn't do it. But before you say yes there are some things we want you to know about what to expect.



The amount of manpower and equipment required to make a movie often takes people by surprise. At the Film School we teach our students to work as professionals, so their productions are just as big and complex as any professional shoot.

In this brochure we will try to help you understand the basic filmmaking process and outline

some questions you should ask before agreeing to let our students shoot on your property. We sincerely hope that this information will help to inform you in making the best choice for you and our students.

## ***What are they going to shoot?***

All our student scripts are supervised and approved by our faculty, but you should know that we support freedom of expression and do not censor our students' work. You may object to the content, so it is important that you take the time to read the script. But also remember that moviemaking is all illusion, and your impression of the script may be quite different than the way the student director has envisioned it. So please take the time to sit down with the director and discuss how they intend to shoot the script before you make any decisions on the content.

## ***How many people will be here?***

It takes many people to make a film. A typical student crew consists of 12-15 students, plus actors and other non-student volunteers (such as makeup artists or stunt coordinators). Depending on the script, there are typically 2-3 main actors plus additional background extras if necessary. So you can expect 15-20+ people at your location. Be sure to ask how many students, actors, and volunteers will be involved.

## ***How long will they be here?***

Our students work by union rules, which stipulate the number of hours they are able to work. A typical work day is 13 hours including 1 hour for lunch. However, the crew will begin arriving approximately a half hour before work and usually take a half hour at the end of the day to pack up and clean. In addition, students are permitted to use a certain amount of "overtime", typically 1-2 hours per day. So in reality, the work day may be 13-16 hours. Also, the students may wish to come to the location to plan and decorate in the days leading up to the shoot. Be sure to ask what time the crew will begin to arrive and what time the last person will leave.

## ***What will they bring with them?***

It takes a lot of equipment to make a movie; cameras, sound, lights, stands, sand bags, rigging gear, generators, cables, camera dollies, and more. To safely store and move this equipment we employ a 16 ft box truck and a 12 ft generator truck. Our students are trained to operate this equipment safely and securely. Be sure to ask where this equipment will be "staged" when not in use, where the main cables will be run, and where trucks and cars will be parked.



## ***Our Assurances***

Your gift to our students and to the Film School is important to us. We hold our students to the highest standards of professionalism, and stress the importance of working safely, courteously and professionally. We know how valuable your property is to you, and we understand that asking you to share that with us is a huge imposition. The protection of your property is our number one priority. In return for your help you will have the satisfaction of knowing that you are helping to make possible the education of a number of talented young people. In appreciation, our students will provide you with a copy of the finished film, credit in the film itself, an invitation to the screening, and in some cases we have opportunities for you to advertise at no cost at our screening.

If you choose to donate the use of your property, be sure that the following happens:

1. The student gives you a copy of the script and answers any questions you may have.
2. The student completes with you a Location Shooting Plan Agreement (LSPA) that states in written form exactly where they may work, where they may park their vehicles, what times they have access and any other terms which you may wish to stipulate.
3. The student presents you with a location agreement to sign (this allows us to use the location and waives your liability should one of our students get hurt) and provides you with copies of both agreements prior to shooting.

## ***Your help is our successes***

The Film School alumni include screenwriters Ron Friedman ( Chicken Little and Open Season) and Melissa Carter Newman ( Little Black Book and Life As We Know It), executives Jonathan King, ( An Inconvenient Truth and Good Night and Good Luck) and Amy Kennedy, of Princess Pictures, and directors Greg Marcks ( 11:14) and Frank Longo (National Lampoon's Repli-Kate). In addition to their industry work these alumni currently serve as mentors to recent graduates of The Film School.