



## **TV ONE SCREENPLAY COMPETITION 2016 OVERVIEW, ELIGIBILITY & INSTRUCTIONS**

**TV One** is a fast growing cable television network that now serves 57 million households. TV One combines original and hit sitcoms, original and studio movies, entertaining reality shows and the only daily news show with an African American perspective. TV One delivers real life and entertainment programming from the African American point of view. TV One represents a connection to the authentic, rich, and diverse experience of African American life, history and culture.

### **Contest Overview**

The **TV ONE SCREENPLAY COMPETITION 2016** is meant to encourage and promote the production of creative, contemporary, engaging and relatable screenplays that can be turned into original movies for television. The competition is meant to:

- Encourage filmmakers to offer a fresh perspective and submit contemporary stories with a focus on the American black cultural experience with wide audience appeal.
- Encourage filmmakers to creatively center around entertaining, heart-felt and relatable topics that resonate and appeal to African American audiences.
- Expand upon the genres/formats that tell these entertaining stories. Genres include, but are not limited to comedies, romantic comedies, dramas, and family adventures (submissions should be non-period stories).

One (1) Grand Prize Winner will be selected from three (3) Finalists and announced at the closing night event of ABFF.

### **Eligibility Requirements**

1. Screenwriter(s) must be Twenty-One (21) years of age or older as of the Date of Submission as stated in the Submission Form.
2. The contest is only open to legal residents who are physically located in the fifty (50) United States or the District of Columbia.
3. All screenplays must be submitted in English.
4. Employees of TV One, LLC, its parent, promotional partners, affiliates or subsidiaries (whether permanent or temporary), and their respective immediate family members and/or those living in the same household, are not eligible to participate in the Contest.

5. By entering the Contest, each entrant (including the Finalists and Grand Prize Winner) agrees to execute an exclusive Option to Purchase agreement with Sponsor in order to be eligible for a prize.
6. All entrants must read and agree to the Official Rules for the contest, which are available on the promotion website at: <http://www.abff.com/tv-one-screenplay-competition/>.

### **Submission Requirements**

1. Screenplays must be creative, contemporary, engaging and relatable and suitable for TV One's audience.
2. Screenplays must be original with the Screenwriter, and must not have been produced, or be scheduled to be produced, in any form (television, live-theatrical, feature film, on-line).
3. Screenplays must be complete and have been written by the Date of Submission.
4. No individual Screenwriter can be attached (either as the sole Screenwriter or as a Co-Screenwriter) to more than three (3) submitted Screenplays.
5. The Screenplay must be the original work of the Screenwriter(s) and may not be based, in whole or in part, on any other work to which the Screenwriter(s) does/do not own the rights.
6. Screenplays must be written for a two (2) hour television movie (approximately Eighty-Four (84) minutes of content, excluding commercials and/or approximately Eighty-Four (84) pages, but a maximum of ninety (90) pages) submitted digitally as a Final Draft (if available) in PDF format (while screenplay writing software is not required, it is preferred).
7. Screenplays must be submitted in accordance with the Official Rules of the contest.

### **Submission Instructions**

1. Each Submitted Screenplay **must** be submitted and received with the following items on the list below to qualify for entry:
  - One (1) signed copy of the Submission Form;
  - One (1) original and signed copy of the Submission Guidelines and Release Form;
  - One (1) properly formatted screenplay (by industry standards) that is appropriate for a two (2) hour made for television movie (which is approximately eighty-four (84) minutes of content and/or approximately eighty-four (84) pages, but a maximum of ninety (90) pages), submitted digitally as a Final Draft (if available) in PDF format (while screenplay writing software is not required, it is preferred);
  - One (1) page synopsis of the screenplay;
  - The screenplay's log line;
  - Character descriptions for the screenplay's main characters;
  - One (1) page biography of each screenplay writer; and
  - A scene selection that could be read at a table read (not to exceed twelve (12) pages).
2. The title of the Screenplay and name(s) of each Screenwriter(s) must be on all Submission Materials.

3. Each submitted Screenplay must be submitted with a separate Submission Form, separate Submission Guidelines and Release Form, and separate related documents as outlined in bullet 1 above.
4. All Submission Materials should be sent by e-mail to [screenplaycompetition@tvone.tv](mailto:screenplaycompetition@tvone.tv).
5. **All Submission Materials must be received by 11:59 pm EST on Friday, April 22, 2016.** If any Submission Materials are received after 11:59 pm EST on Friday, April 22, 2016, the Screenplay will not be considered.
6. Please note that Submission Materials will not be returned.

### **Selection and Prizing**

There will be three (3) Finalists chosen. One (1) grand prize winner will be chosen from the three (3) Finalists.

The potential Finalists will be notified by e-mail, telephone and/or mail by May 13, 2016. The potential Winner will be notified in person during the “Best of the ABFF” awards ceremony taking place on June 18, 2016 in Miami, Florida.

TV One will award 3 Finalist prizes and 1 grand prize. Each Finalist will receive a trip to the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual American Black Film Festival in Miami, Florida, taking place June 15, 2016 through June 19, 2016 and the opportunity to have a scene from their screenplay read by actors at a Table Read. The Grand Prize winner will receive Five Thousand Dollars (\$5000.00) and the opportunity to have their screenplay developed and produced to premier at the 2017 American Black Film Festival.

### **Press and Marketing Commitments**

For any Finalist chosen, the Finalist must agree to participate in any press and marketing opportunities, interviews and photos in connection with the contest, including participation and attendance at both the Table Read and the Awards Ceremony taking place during the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual American Black Film Festival 2016.



**TV ONE SCREENPLAY COMPETITION 2016  
SUBMISSION FORM**

**Screenplay Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total # of Pages:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Screenwriter(s)\*:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**\*Please note: (i) ALL Screenwriters should be listed on this Submission Form; (ii) ALL Screenwriters must sign the Submission Guidelines and Release Form. If there are more than two Screenwriters, please make additional copies of the Submission Guidelines and Release for each Screenwriter to sign.**

**Primary Contact:**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Street Address**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Street Address**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**City, State, Zip Code**

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Submission:** \_\_\_\_\_



**TV ONE SCREENPLAY COMPETITION 2016  
SUBMISSION GUIDELINES & RELEASE**

**TV ONE, like many other entertainment networks, receives numerous submissions and materials for programming, content, and projects of all kinds.**

**A lot of the material we each receive includes and/or is comprised of materials, suggestions or ideas which are identical or substantially similar to those which have been previously developed by our respective staffs. Also, a lot of the materials we each receive includes and/or is comprised of materials, suggestions or ideas which are identical or substantially similar to those which have been submitted by other people outside of our respective companies.**

**Therefore, TV ONE and/or ABFF may begin using material similar or identical to yours which we received after the date of your submission.**

**To protect both you and our respective companies, TV ONE and ABFF have outlined a policy regarding such submissions and materials in order to explain the process of reviewing, investigating, inspecting and evaluating these materials.**

**Based on this policy, TV ONE and ABFF can each receive and review materials only if it is left up to either of us to determine whether either of us has in fact used these ideas and to decide what compensation, if any, should be paid in event of use.**

**Also, before we can receive and consider any unsolicited submissions and materials, everyone must sign the enclosed Release.**

**Please carefully read the enclosed Release and then return a signed copy with the materials you'd like to submit.**

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Dear Sir/Madam:

You acknowledge that you would like to submit certain materials to the TV ONE SCREENPLAY COMPETITION 2016. For purposes of this release and agreement (the "Release" or the "Agreement"), "TV ONE" shall refer to TV ONE, LLC, 1010 Wayne Avenue, Suite 1000, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Such materials may include proposals, outlines, treatments, presentation tapes, scripts, ideas, marketing or promotional plans, program formats, or other material, or any portions thereof (the "Material").

By signing this Release and returning it to us, you confirm that you have read TV ONE's policy regarding the acceptance and review of the Material and you hereby accept the terms of this letter agreement.

The following shall constitute our agreement with respect to the Material:

1. **RELATIONSHIP OF THE PARTIES:** You acknowledge that there does not now exist, nor has there ever existed, nor will there exist, a fiduciary relationship between you and TV ONE. You acknowledge that you have requested this opportunity to submit your Material to TV ONE, and that you make this submission, voluntarily and on an unsolicited basis.
2. **AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE PARTIES:** You acknowledge that you and TV ONE had not yet reached any agreement whatsoever concerning the use of the Material. You realize that no obligation of any kind is assumed by, or may be implied against, TV ONE unless and until a written agreement has been entered into between you and TV ONE, and then the obligation shall only be as expressed in such written agreement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, you understand that TV ONE assumes no obligation to proceed with negotiations of any kind respecting the Material.
3. **REVIEW & RETURN OF THE MATERIAL:** In consideration of your agreement to the terms of this Release, TV ONE agrees to cause its employee with appropriate responsibility of evaluating the Material to review your Material. You acknowledge and agree that you have retained a copy of the Material and that TV ONE assumes no obligation to return the Material to you. You understand that TV ONE is not under any obligation to furnish you with any information about the results of its review of the Material or its reasons for not proceeding further if TV ONE so decides. TV ONE's review of the Material constitutes TV ONE's acceptance of the terms and conditions of this Release, and TV ONE shall have relied upon your agreement herein in considering your Material for review. TV ONE agrees to use reasonable efforts to keep all the Material confidential.
4. **SCOPE OF RELEASE:** You acknowledge that this Release covers and governs any and all of the Material, whether first submitted to TV ONE contemporaneously with, prior to, or following the execution of this Release, and that this Release also applies to any submission of the Material made to TV ONE by another source, directly or indirectly, by or through you.
5. **SUMMARY OF MATERIALS:** The Material being submitted with this Release is outlined on the attached Submission Form. You declare that all of the important features of your Material, and the particular items being submitted by you are stated on the attached Submission Form and you have not disclosed any other features to TV ONE.
6. **OWNERSHIP OF MATERIALS:** You represent and warrant that you are the sole and exclusive creator(s), author(s) and owner(s) of the Material, that to your knowledge no one else has any right to the Material, that you have the right to submit the Material to TV ONE, and that you have the power and authority to enter into this Release regarding the Material. You further warrant that no rights in the Material have previously been granted to anyone nor has the Material otherwise been exploited in any way.
7. **NOVELTY OF IDEAS:** Although TV ONE may accept and review the Material, you cannot and will not assume or infer that TV ONE regards your Material as unique, novel, valuable and/or usable. You understand and acknowledge that similar or identical materials may have been or may be submitted to TV ONE by others, including TV ONE'S employees; may have originated or been developed or made public by others, including TV ONE'S employees; or may hereafter originate, be developed, be submitted or made

public by others. TV ONE shall have the right to use, and you understand that you will not be entitled to any compensation because of TV ONE's use of such other similar or identical material. Subject to the foregoing, TV ONE will not make any use of any legally protectable portion of your Material unless you and TV ONE have agreed in a writing concerning your compensation for such use, which compensation shall in no event be greater than the compensation normally paid by TV ONE for similar Material from comparable sources.

**8. INDEMNIFICATION AND LIMITATION OF LIABILITY:** You indemnify TV ONE, its parent, affiliates, subsidiary companies, assignees, associates, judges and sponsors against all claims, losses, expenses damages and liabilities, from and against any claim or cause of action arising out of any claim for infringement of intellectual property rights. You release and hold harmless TV ONE, its parent, affiliates, subsidiary companies, assignees, associates, judges and sponsors, and any agents involved in the development, production, handling implementation and/or distribution of this Contest, and their respective parent companies, subsidiaries, affiliates, partners, representatives, agents, successors, assignees, employees, officers and directors, from any and all liability, for loss, harm, damage, injury, cost or expense whatsoever including, without limitation, property damage, personal injury and/or death which may occur in connection with or resulting from preparation for, or participation in this Competition, or possession, acceptance and/or use/misuse of the prize or any participation in any Competition-related activity, any typographical or other errors in the printing, offering or announcement of the prize, selection and announcement of the winner, distribution of the prize, or errors in any printing or posting of these instructions, and for any claims based on publicity rights, defamation, invasion of privacy, copyright infringement, trademark infringement or any other intellectual property-related cause of action. Entrants also agree to waive any right to claim ambiguity in these official rules. In no event shall TV ONE be responsible for printing, typographical, human or other errors in any Competition-related materials; or for transactions that are processed late or incorrectly, or are lost in the mail. TV ONE reserves the right to cancel, suspend or modify the Competition for any reason. If any event should occur that may compromise the integrity of the Competition as determined by TV ONE in its sole discretion, TV ONE may choose to award the Prize from among all eligible non-suspect entries received prior to action taken.

**9. DISPUTE RESOLUTION:** Any controversy arising out of or in connection with this Release, including without limitation any claim that TV ONE has used any legally protectable portion of your Material in violation of the terms hereof, shall be governed by the laws of the State of Maryland, and the parties consent to the jurisdiction of the state and federal courts of Maryland for the resolution of such matters. In the event of such controversy you agree that you shall assert such claims not later than six (6) months after the date on which you first learned (or reasonably should have become aware) of TV ONE 's use or intended use of any portion of the Material and thereafter you shall be barred from asserting any such claims. You further agree that your rights and remedies, if any, shall be limited to an action to recover compensatory money damages in an action at law, and without limitation of the foregoing, you expressly agree that you shall not seek to enjoin or restrain the production, exhibition, distribution, licensing, advertising, and/or promotion of any of TV ONE's programming, promotional or marketing plans, and/or any of the subsidiary rights in connection therewith.

**10. ENTIRE UNDERSTANDING:** This Release constitutes our entire understanding and agreement, and supersedes all prior understandings, whether written or oral. Any subsequent modification or waiver of this Release must be in writing, signed by both of us. The invalidity of any provision hereof is not to affect the remaining provisions.

**11. MISCELLANEOUS:**

(a) You are executing this Release voluntarily, without coercion or undue influence from any source, and do so with complete understanding of all of its terms and effects, and every portion thereof.

(b) The captions used in this Release are for convenience only and shall not be used to interpret, define or construe any terms hereof.

(c) As used in this Release, the terms "you" and "your" includes and binds the undersigned and any and all legal representatives of the undersigned. As used in this release, the terms "TV ONE" and "we" includes and inures to the benefit of TV ONE's successors, assigns, employees, officers, directors, licensees, and associated companies and individuals.

**By signing this Release and returning it to us, you confirm that you have read TV ONE's policy regarding the acceptance and review of the Material, that you have read and, understand, agree to and complied with the "Official Rules" of this Competition, which includes granting TV One an exclusive option on the Material and a purchase price of \$5000 for the Grand Prize Winner and \$3500 for the Finalists and entrants, and you hereby accept the terms of this letter agreement (the "Release" or the "Agreement").**

**PLEASE SIGN WHERE INDICATED AND RETURN EVERY PAGE OF THIS RELEASE TO:**

screenplaycompetition@tvone.tv

Sincerely,

TV ONE, LLC

**(PLEASE SIGN BELOW and NOTE: Each SCREENWRITER(s) should complete and sign this section below. If necessary, please make additional copies of this entire Submission Form, and Submission Guidelines and Release):**

**SCREENWRITER #1**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Sign Your Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Your Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Your Address, City, State, Zip Code)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Your Email and Phone Number)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Title of Screenplay)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Today's Date) "Date of Submission"

**SCREENWRITER #3**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Sign Your Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Your Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Your Address, City, State, Zip Code)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Your Email and Phone Number)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Title of Screenplay)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Today's Date) "Date of Submission"

**SCREENWRITER #2**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Sign Your Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Your Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Your Address, City, State, Zip Code)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Your Email and Phone Number)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Title of Screenplay)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Today's Date) "Date of Submission"

**SCREENWRITER #4**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Sign Your Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Your Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Your Address, City, State, Zip Code)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Your Email and Phone Number)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Title of Screenplay)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Today's Date) "Date of Submission"