

2009 CinemaSpoke Screenplay Competition
Presented by Cinema St. Louis
Entry Form

Title of Script _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Daytime Phone _____

Evening Phone _____

Cell Phone _____

Fax _____

E-Mail _____

- I/we have read, understand, and have complied with all CinemaSpoke Screenplay Competition rules.
- I/we am/are the present and sole owner(s) of all right, title and interest in and to submitted material. I/we have the exclusive, unconditional right and authority to submit and/or convey said material. If submitted material is based on previously existing material, I/we have the right or permission to use and adapt such material. Ownership of submitted material, or of previously existing material on which submitted material may be based, is not under dispute.
- I/we agree to indemnify Cinema St. Louis (CSL), its affiliates, sponsors, and judges against any and all claims, expenses, or liabilities that may be asserted against you or your associates in connection with my/our submitted material.
- It is understood that I/we retain complete rights to the material submitted and that CSL may use excerpted portions for the exclusive purpose of promotion, publicity, and marketing as it relates to the CinemaSpoke Screenwriting Competition.
- I/we have retained at least two copies of the submitted material and hereby release CSL from any and all liability for loss of or damage to the copy of the submitted material.
- I/we understand that if my/our screenplay is selected, I/we must be present at the CinemaSpoke reading.
- I/we agree that I/we will not be entitled to any compensation because of the use or creation by CSL, its affiliates, sponsors, and judges of material similar or identical to the submitted material. I/we do not hold CSL, its affiliates, sponsors, and judges responsible for any use or creation of material identical or similar to the submitted material.
- To the best of my knowledge, all of the statements herein are true and correct. I/we understand that failure to comply with CinemaSpoke Screenwriting Competition rules will result in disqualification.

Signature(s) _____

Print Name(s) _____

- Checklist:** _____ **Completed and signed application** _____ **\$25 application fee**
 _____ **Brief synopsis (not to exceed 1 page)**
 _____ **Complete original script (blank card-stock cover, 2 title pages per rules, script)**
 _____ **PDF version of script (sent to brian@cinemastlouis.org)**

Submission Guidelines and Information

CinemaSpoke is an opportunity for local screenwriters to have their work read aloud in a public forum by professional and amateur actors and to receive feedback from a panel of film industry experts experienced in producing, screenwriting, filmmaking, development, and criticism.

Selection and Reading Process

A committee of three selection judges (composed of local filmmakers and teachers) will read the first 30 pages of each submitted screenplay. Based on these 30 pages, the judges will then select up to, but no more than, five scripts. The first 30 pages of each selected script will be given a public reading. A 30-page segment will be read one evening a month from April through August. The location and dates of these readings will be announced later. Writers will be allowed to play a role in casting the actors who will do the live readings of the competition scripts.

A panel of five film professionals will offer criticism and feedback based on these readings. The writer then has the option to rewrite the script based on feedback from the panel or to allow the panel to read the script, as it exists in its entirety. If the writer chooses to revise the script, the writer has two weeks following the CinemaSpoke reading to complete and submit this rewrite.

Once the panel has read all five scripts in their entirety, a winning script will be selected from the five. Include a self-addressed, stamped postcard if you want acknowledgement of screenplay receipt. CinemaSpoke reserves the right to refuse or disqualify any screenplay. Screenplays not selected for competition will be returned if writer picks them up in person at Cinema St. Louis offices.

Prizes

The winning script will be given a full public reading in September 2009. The writer will be given the option to direct this reading with guidance from the CinemaSpoke committee. In addition, the winning script will be submitted for consideration to an accredited literary agent and/or production company.

Rules for Submission

- All entrants must reside within a 120-mile radius of St. Louis.
- Screenplays must be the original work of the applicant(s). If based on existing copyrighted material (novel, newspaper or magazine article) or a story drawn from a published account of another person's life, the applicant(s) must provide proof of their rights to use such existing material for adaptation.
- A completed entry form must accompany each submission.
- Submit 1 (one) original single-sided and a PDF version (sent to brian@cinemastlouis.org).
- Screenplays previously submitted to the CinemaSpoke competition, in any of its previously existing entities, will not be considered.
- You may submit more than one screenplay. Each submission must be accompanied by a separate \$25 entry fee.
- Screenplays must be feature-length -- i.e., not less than 88 pages and no more than 120 pages. Any script not meeting this criterion will not be considered. The entire script must be submitted; partial or incomplete scripts will not be considered. No revisions will be accepted once the entry has been received.
- Submissions must include a synopsis no longer than one page.
- Entry must be postmarked no later than Feb. 28, 2009.
- Make check or money order payable to Cinema St. Louis.

Format Rules

All submitted scripts must be in U.S. motion-picture-industry standard screenplay format as follows:

- Left Margin: 1.5 inches
- Right Margin: 7.5 inches
- Scene Heading: left margin 1.5 inches
- Character Name: left margin 3.5 inches
- Dialogue: left margin 2.5 inches, right margin 6 inches
- Transition: left margin 5.5 inches
- Font size: 12 point
- Font: Courier or New Courier
- Pages must be numbered.
- The first title page of the screenplay should include the title of the screenplay along with the author's name, address, phone number(s), and e-mail address.
- As submissions will be judged anonymously, a second title page should include the title only WITHOUT the author's name.
- Original copy's pages should be printed on three-hole-punch paper, bound between white-card-stock covers with two or three metal brads. Double sided-copies should be printed on three-hole-punch paper fastened by loose-leaf rings. Include both versions of single-sided title pages with each script. Spiral-bound, stapled, or loose scripts will not be considered.