



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**CANADA'S TOP FILM & TELEVISION GRADUATING STUDENTS
SEEKING APPRENTICESHIPS**

TORONTO, July 3rd, 2008: The Academy of Canadian Cinema & Television is proud to announce that the first wave of Canada's top film and television graduating students are now available for apprenticeships through the National Apprenticeship Training Program (NATP). This incredible, once in a lifetime experience, provides apprentices with a 12-week hands-on training program that includes an honorarium and supports an accelerated entry into the Canadian entertainment industry.

Over the last 20 years, the Academy of Canadian Cinema & Television has proudly sponsored over 234 apprentices through the NATP. Over 80% of those apprentices have continued on in the film and television industry. 75% of these have either won or been nominated for awards in their field, including 31 nominations and wins from our own Gemini, Genie & Géméaux Awards.

This year's recipients include:

Adam Crosby (Kodak Cinematography Apprenticeship, National)– A recent graduate of York University's Film Production program, Adam Crosby has spent the past 5 years cultivating a deep skill set within the realm of cinematography. From an early age Adam has recognized his admiration and respect for the power of visual storytelling through the moving image and has worked diligently to further develop his strengths in composition and lighting.

Brett Hannam (Directing Apprenticeship, Nova Scotia) – After graduating high school Brett attended a private animation school where he took a course in film, further fueling his desire to become a filmmaker. After a year he enrolled in NSCAD's film program. While at NSCAD he wrote two films as well as directing his own thesis film "New Skin". He was also responsible for assisting in the organization of a small screenwriter's circle, encouraging fellow students to focus on their scripts and stories.

Adam Higgs (Writing Apprenticeship, British Columbia) - Adam Higgs is an award winning writer and a recent MFA graduate from the University of British Columbia's creative writing program, where he specialized in screenwriting. He hopes to continue to hone his skills and craft and, through the NATP, to participate in the writer's room on a television series.

Gredel Woo (Writing Apprenticeship, Alberta) – Gredel Woo is a former accountant who waited a few years before finally deciding to follow a long-time aspiration. She recently completed the inaugural Film and Video Production program at SAIT Polytechnic in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. Her goal is to further her pursuits in filmmaking ultimately as a producer with forays in writing and directing.

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Keunyoung Yoo (Composing Apprenticeship, Ontario) – Keunyoung Yoo is an accomplished young pianist and composer. Her musicality and interest in various musical genres has provided her with opportunities to be involved in many musical activities, such as participation in jazz festivals, musicals, student composer concerts, and piano recitals. The chamber group at Western recently performed her composition for a chamber trio.

If you are interested in working with an apprentice or applying for the remaining provincial positions please contact the Academy's National Office at 416.366.2227 ext 247.

The NATP is presented through the generous support of, Canadian Heritage, Film Nova Scotia, Kodak Cinema & Television, New Brunswick Film, Newfoundland & Labrador Film Development Corporation, Ontario Media Development Corporation and the Academy of Canadian Cinema & Television Foundation.

The Academy of Canadian Cinema & Television is a national non-profit professional association dedicated to promoting, recognizing and celebrating exceptional achievements in the Canadian film and television industries. Created in 1979 and today unifying industry professionals across Canada, the Academy is a vital and integral force representing all areas of the film and television industry.

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