



**Crazy8s Returns for its 11<sup>th</sup> Crazy Year!  
Applicants invited to submit pitches on video for first time.**

**Vancouver November 27, 2009 – Vancouver’s much-anticipated film extravaganza, Crazy8s, is back for its 11<sup>th</sup> year!** This whirlwind event challenges local filmmakers to prepare, shoot and edit a short film in just 8 days with \$800 and 60 minutes of HD tape.

Last year **Crazy8s** capped an incredible run of 10 years and 54 brand new short films created with a gala screening to a packed house at the Vogue Theatre in downtown Vancouver. 2008 also saw hopefuls lining up hours in advance to get a crack at one of 60 coveted spots to pitch their film idea to a jury of industry professionals, with dozens of others turned away once the pitch slots were filled.

*“Last year’s response was spectacular,”* says event producer **Erik Paulsson**, *“and underscores the appetite for this kind of film event, where emerging filmmakers can tap into a process that provides creative support and arms them with everything they need to make their debut before an audience of their peers and future employers. That’s why we wanted to come up with a creative solution to open the contest up to wider participation.”*

To that end, this year Crazy8s is inviting an unlimited number of filmmakers to submit their film ideas in a 5-minute video pitch. To submit a pitch, would-be directors must register at an Info Session at the Vancity Theatre from **noon – 2:00 pm on Dec.13<sup>th</sup>**, then they’ll have a month to get their video pitch together. The top 40 projects will be invited back to pitch in person in late January. The jury will select the top 12 teams and pair them up with professional story editors to hone their scripts. In the end, the top 6 teams will be selected for a package of support that includes tens of thousands of dollars worth of production and post-production services generously donated by the local film community, and shoot their films over 8 Crazy days in late March/early April, 2010.

Crazy8s short films have screened at over 150 international film festivals, winning numerous awards - including *Best Canadian Short Film* at the Toronto International Film Festival for Dylan Akio Smith’s *Man Feels Pain* - secured international distribution deals, been licensed on-line, and attained television broadcast nationally and internationally. Crazy8s also serves as an incredible launch pad for talent - many Crazy8s alumni have gone on direct feature films, including Kaare Andrews (*Altitude*), Katrin Bowen (*Amazon Falls*), Cam Labine (*Control Alt Delete*), Penelope Buitenhaus (*AWake*) and Dylan Akio-Smith (*Cabin Fever*.)

*“Crazy8s is truly the single best way in BC to launch your career,”* says Crazy8s alumni **Zach Lipovsky**, whose Crazy8s film *Crazy Late* landed him the opportunity of a lifetime as a contestant on Steven Spielberg’s reality series *On the Lot*, where he placed in the top 5. Zack has since signed as a Director with the Endeavor Agency in LA, and is working on his first feature film.

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*“Crazy8s provides an amazing opportunity to showcase some of the incredible filmmaking talent we have in this city,”* said event producer **Marc Stephenson**. *“By providing resources to emerging filmmakers, Crazy8s fosters the growth of our domestic film industry, while providing a vital social networking opportunity for the film community to come together, be inspired and celebrate.”*

Application forms and additional information can be found on the Crazy8s website at [www.crazy8s.cc](http://www.crazy8s.cc).

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