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## **REGENT PARK FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES 3<sup>RD</sup> EDITION OF LIVE IT TO LEARN IT**

Toronto – Wednesday, May 16, 2018: The Regent Park Film Festival announces the third annual *Live It To Learn It*, a paid-internship program with the dual goal of introducing culturally diverse youth to meaningful work opportunities and fostering greater diversity within the Film and Television industry in Toronto.

Live It To Learn It was launched in 2016 in partnership with Strada Films, Thunderbird Productions and the hit series *Kim's Convenience*. This year we are thrilled to present the initiative in partnership with Pathway2Industry by Goldelox Productions, Shaftesbury, Sim, Strada Films, Thunderbird Entertainment and NABET 700-M UNIFOR.

This year we welcome a new partnership with Pathway2Industry by Goldelox Productions, as Live It To Learn It sharpens its focus by specifically engaging Black youth.

Goldelox joins our slate of incredible industry partners, who not only share our vision for a more diverse industry and supporting young people reach new opportunities, but have also demonstrated their commitment by making critical funding and resources available towards making this initiative possible.

Participating interns are slated for a busy summer: The first internship stream will take an intern to shadow all aspects of production and post-production on the set of the hit Television show *Kim's Convenience*. The second stream will invite interns to spend the first month with Sim learning about the often-missed, but incredibly important role supply houses play in the industry, receiving set etiquette training and WHIMIS accreditation from NABET 700-M UNIFOR, a leading union for Film and Television technicians in Ontario; and culminating in a month-long assignment as a Production Assistant on one of Shaftesbury's series currently in production, *Murdoch Mysteries* or *Frankie Drake Mysteries*.

Like many industries, familiarity and proven success are key factors in hiring. Live It To Learn It provides participating interns with an opportunity to get their foot in the door, gain professional certifications and contacts to begin carving a path to a meaningful career in the industry.

The call for applicants is now open and three successful applicants will be selected to participate for the internship beginning in June 2018.

### **Project History**

Live It To Learn It was launched in 2016 in partnership with Strada Films, Thunderbird Productions and the hit series *Kim's Convenience*. It was made possible by the vision and coordination of the supervising producers of the show, Robin Cass and Sandra Cunningham. Since then it has been embraced by the industry, upholding the shared value of facilitating greater diversity behind-the-scenes in the Film and TV industry.

### **Regent Park Film Festival**

Regent Park Film Festival is Toronto's longest running free community film festival. In addition to the Annual Film Festival and Under the Stars: Movies in the Park, we host year-round film screenings, school programs and workshops at no cost.

The 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Film Festival runs November 14 – 17, 2018.

### **Pathway2Industry**

Pathway2Industry (aka BlackYouth! Pathway to Industry) Funded by the Ministry of Child and Youth Service (MCYS) through the Black Youth Action Plan (BYAP) from March 1, 2018 through March 31, 2021, Pathways2Industry is a digital media career training and job placement initiative lead by Goldelox Productions in partnership with several prominent professional media companies in the GTA such as the TIFF, Vtape, BlackWomenFilm!, Toronto Public Library, Hungry Eyes Media and Matru Media just to name a few. The initiative is focused on post-secondary educated black youth who are actively looking for gainful employment, mentorship and accessible networking opportunities in the film, television and digital media industry.

### **Shaftesbury**

Shaftesbury is an award-winning creator and producer of original content for television and digital platforms. Shaftesbury's current slate includes twelve seasons of *Murdoch Mysteries* for CBC, UKTV, and ITV STUDIOS Global Entertainment, detective drama *Frankie Drake Mysteries* for CBC, and two seasons of critically acclaimed thriller series *Slasher*. Shaftesbury's digital arm, **Smokebomb Entertainment**, produces original digital, convergent, and branded entertainment projects including the hit YouTube series *Carmilla*, funded by U by Kotex®, mystery series *V Morgan Is Dead*, brought to life by RBC, supernatural drama *Inhuman Condition*, and the *Slasher VR* app for iOS, Android, and Oculus Rift. In June 2014, Shaftesbury partnered with Youth Culture to launch **shift2**, a branded entertainment agency that drives profitable engagement with millennials using scripted series, turning brands into executive producers.

### **Sim**

Sim is a leading supplier of production equipment, workflow/dailies and post-production solutions, and has expanded to include stages and production offices in Vancouver. With offices spanning North America, Sim's team and services supported features such as "Deadpool" and Oscar-winning documentary, "OJ: Made in America," and hit series "Game of Thrones," "Mr. Robot," "Stranger

Things” and “Handmaid’s Tale.” Toronto and Vancouver facilities provide grip and lighting; our camera departments provide cinematography and playback equipment from locations in Canada, Atlanta and Los Angeles. And all of our geographic locations provide an array of services from dailies, to online and offline editing, to final color/DI and visual effects, to sound editorial and mixing. Sim Hollywood is located in the former historic Eastman Kodak building, and provides the only camera-through-post services offering.

### **Thunderbird Entertainment**

Thunderbird entertainment is a rapidly growing Vancouver-based multiplatform entertainment company with offices in Los Angeles, Toronto and London. Thunderbird creates award-winning programming for Canadian and International broadcasters and boasts divisions in scripted and unscripted development and production, theatrical distribution, and animation.

Thunderbird’s most recent projects include *Blade Runner 2049* film starring Ryan Gosling and Harrison Ford, ABC’s thriller-drama series *Somewhere Between*, #1 Canadian comedy *Kim’s Convenience*, ratings juggernaut *Heavy Rescue: 401* and the animated Netflix original series *Beat Bugs*, featuring reimagined songs from the Beatles catalogue sung by the biggest recording artists of today including Sia, Eddie Vedder, P!nk and more.

### **Strada Films**

The producing team of Sandra Cunningham and Robin Cass represent a stamp of commitment to character-driven story telling and strong working relations with the best of talent.

With titles such as Atom Egoyan’s *THE SWEET HEREAFTER*, Mary Harron’s *MOTH DIARIES*, Norman Jewison’s *THE STATEMENT*, Jeremy Podeswa’s *FUGITIVE PIECES*, Thom Fitzgerald’s *THE HANGING GARDEN*, John Greyson’s iconic *LILIES* and Gary Yate’s *HIGH LIFE*, their films screen regularly at the world’s top festivals.

Upcoming are adaptations of Ian Hamilton’s new hit crime series featuring high-end international debt collector *AVA LEE*.

### **NABET 700-M UNIFOR**

NABET 700-M UNIFOR is a union of film, television and new media technicians that has serviced the greater Toronto area for over 45 years and currently has over 3,000 qualified technicians in fifteen departments of the film and television industry.

### **Press Contact**

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