Gun Safety, Props and Pets in Free Masterclass

PAL CANADA's Next Masterclass for Indigenous Youth involves gun safety ...



Toronto, Ontario Jan 12, 2023 (Issuewire.com**)** - "Gun safety on set and on stage is paramount," says Andre Szilvassy, Chair, PAL Canada, the organization which created the Behind The Scenes Masterclass Series for youth, especially Indigenous youth, free of charge for all. "So, we are including guns and weapons safety in a Masterclass this Saturday: **SETTING THE STAGE**. There are still a few spots open," he says. All youth (ages 14-30) must **SIGN-UP** to participate this January 14 at 1 PM ET (10 AM PT) on Zoom.

Youth may register for multiple FREE Masterclasses at the same time at https://bit.ly/3CEvgx4. Space is limited.

SETTING THE STAGE will provide participants with information about the vital role of a weapons' master and the safety protocols involved, the joy and hassles of wrangling pets on a set (so they don't get nicknamed OT for 'overtime'), and placing props on a stage and film set.

The Masters are:

Fiona Andrew is a Toronto-based set decorator, property master, and buyer who has been a member of IATSE Local 873 for over 25 years. She believes that the youth are the future and has long offered mentorship to the young people at Local 873. Her many credits include DESIGNATED SURVIVOR and THE HANDMAID'S TALE. Most recently she decorated the mini-series FELLOW TRAVELERS.

<u>Dave Brown</u> is a Winnipeg-based firearms safety specialist and professional instructor who works with government, law enforcement, and military units on weapons handling, safety, and marksmanship. He has addressed the Standing Committee on National Security in Canada's House of Commons. Global TV News called him "one of the best 'gunslingers' in the business." His many credits include CAPOTE and THE PORTER.

"Everyone in the entertainment industry knows the importance of having experts and professionals on set to ensure safety at all levels, especially concerning weapons," adds Adrian Luces, Executive Director, of PAL Canada. "We are especially pleased to be able to share these important trade secrets with youth, at no cost to the students, in this Masterclass," he says.

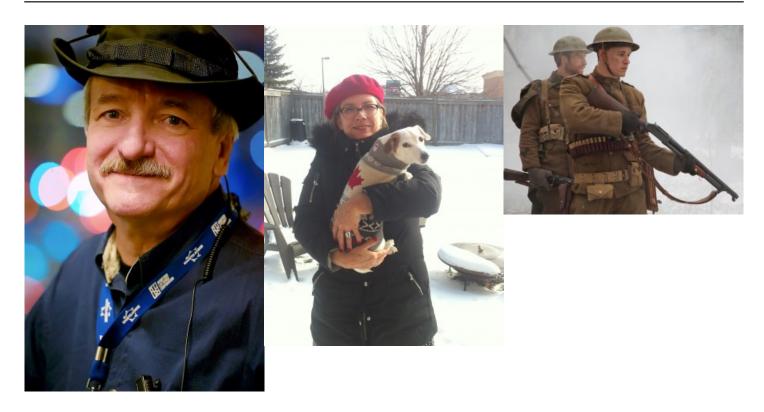
Each Masterclass will have 3-4 Masters, sharing trade secrets and engaging with youth during a Q&A, all free of charge for Canadian youth 14-30. The Masterclass Series hosted three Masterclasses in 2022 and will host up to 12 Masterclasses total through to the end of March 2023, where Masters will speak candidly on some of these topics: Masterclass Bundles for Good Jobs Behind The Scenes.

Next up will be CASTING on January 25 at 7:30 PM ET (please note the special evening time slot for this one). Each Masterclass will be announced individually as the Masters are confirmed.

Funding for PAL Canada's Behind The Scenes Masterclass Series is supported by the Government of Canada's New Horizons for Seniors Project. It is officially supported by ArtsCan Circle, a reconciliation charity that connects creative artists with Indigenous youth in remote Canadian communities.

Founded in 1986, PAL Canada Foundation is the national charitable organization that represents and supports seven individual PAL chapters across the country, including Halifax, Ottawa, Toronto, Stratford, Winnipeg, Calgary, and Vancouver. They all provide services and support for Canada's elder artists; the chapters in Toronto, Stratford, and Vancouver also provide and sustain quality affordable housing for elders and individuals within their professional and performing arts community.

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