



VANCOUVER  
**SHORT**  
FILM FESTIVAL

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## **Former Student Film Festival Kicks it Up a Notch** *1<sup>st</sup> annual Vancouver Short Film Festival Calls for Professional Entries*

**Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada** – Vancouver's first annual **Vancouver Short Film Festival (VSFF)** – formerly the Vancouver Student Film Festival – is gearing up to showcase professional short filmmakers this Fall to fill a current niche in the BC short film market. With the encouragement of audience members and post-secondary film schools in 2008, the VSFF Society made the leap to change the name and nature of the festival.

*"We're excited to transition into the first Vancouver Short Film Festival in Western Canada,"* says Sandra Garcia, Festival Director. The 1<sup>st</sup> annual Vancouver Short Film Festival will run Friday to Saturday, **October 23-24, 2009**, at the Vancity Theatre, 1181 Seymour Street.

Garcia continues, *"With so much talent in BC, it's surprising that an official short film festival hasn't emerged yet. This event will give us a chance to showcase both emerging and established artists with a student night, professional night, and other key industry events."*

The original Vancouver Short Film Festival Society registered in 2006 with the intent to someday expand, and recently executed the change in brand with a new logo and website. The **deadline for entries under 15 minutes is Saturday, August 8, 2009**. Professional artists and current post-secondary students or graduates in BC are encouraged to submit their films and videos at **[www.vsff.com](http://www.vsff.com)**.

The VSFF also recruited a new Board of Directors lead by former judge, producer, and Chief Executive Director, Jun Paul Obayashi. The VSFF Board of Directors includes: George Harris and Nick Middleton of the Gulf Island Film & Television School, Celluloid Social Club producer Paul Armstrong, Capilano University film professor Seanna McPherson, *Crazy 8s* founder Andrew Williamson, and VSFF Founder Brian Danin.

The original Vancouver Student Film Festival was conceived in 2005 by several students and graduates who felt a need to showcase the best post-secondary films from across BC. The festival has screened 58 films in its three years of production, and awarded over \$30,000 in cash and prizes. For more information or to submit a film, please visit **[www.vsff.com](http://www.vsff.com)**.

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### Media Contact:

Sandra Garcia  
Festival Director, Vancouver Short Film Festival  
[sandra@vsff.com](mailto:sandra@vsff.com)  
(604) 721-0030  
[www.vsff.com](http://www.vsff.com)