



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Tuesday 19 October 2010

EM Media joins forces with Skillset and the University of Lincoln to Kickstart movie careers

EM Media, Screen Agency for the East Midlands, today launches a new initiative to place students from one of the best media production courses in the country on feature length drama, documentary and animation productions.

Kickstart will place five final year students, selected from those studying the University of Lincoln's acclaimed Media Production undergraduate degree course and postgraduates in related disciplines, on **productions shooting between November 2010 and May 2011.**

The **interns will be placed in production and technical roles** within the art, production design, sound, camera, editing, locations, production, hair and make up or costume and wardrobe departments.

Heads of Departments will mentor and be the intern's production contact for the duration of the internship. In exchange, selected **production companies will receive a contribution of up to £2,000 per intern** towards the costs of engaging them on the production.

Production companies willing to offer an internship must have a track record in production (at least one feature or documentary production behind them) and **have a current production** with partnership finance in place which is **due to be in preparation, production or post production between November 2010 and mid March 2011** inclusive.

Production companies can find out more about **Kickstart** and how they can apply now on EM Media's website (www.em-media.org.uk).

Debbie Williams, Chief Executive of EM Media comments,

“The East Midlands is a key hub for UK film talent. Kickstart, by providing opportunities for emerging film talent from the region’s higher education sector, will be instrumental in continuing the success story of the East Midlands as the natural out-of-London home for the UK’s most exciting up-and-coming film talent.”

Dr Sarah Barrow, Head of the University of Lincoln’s School of Media, comments,

“The School of Media at the University of Lincoln is committed to providing as many opportunities as we can for our students to gain experience of working in the media industries. This internship project offers them a fantastic chance to work with top film-makers, to develop their creative and technical skills, and to get their foot in the door of an increasingly competitive world of work.”

Kickstart has been funded by the Skillset Film Skills Fund as part of ‘A Bigger Future 2’, the UK film skills strategy. Neil Peplow, Director of Film at Skillset comments,

“Supporting new entrants is a key priority for the UK film skills strategy, A Bigger Future 2. We are confident that Kickstart’s internship scheme will supply new entrants in the East Midlands region with the professional guidance and experience they need to work towards their career ambitions within the UK film industry. “

To discuss **Kickstart** and making an application to the programme, please contact Alison Whitlock, Skills Development Executive, EM Media on 07792 688 406 or via email at alison.whitlock@em-media.org.uk.

For press and media enquiries please contact Emma Hewitt, PR and Marketing Executive, EM Media on 07967 217 994 or via email at emma.hewitt@em-media.org.uk

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Notes to editors

EM Media

EM Media is the Screen Agency for the East Midlands region of England.

In less than a decade the profile, the reputation and impact of East Midlands’ filmmaking has transformed through EM Media’s interventions, which have driven creative excellence and economic growth:

- **£179m** economic benefit has been generated for the region’s economy
- **42 feature films** have been co-financed by EM Media, from *Control* and *This Is England* to the forthcoming *Tyrannosaur* and *Oranges and Sunshine*, many achieving international acclaim winning 8 BAFTAs, 10 BIFAs and 3 Michael Powell awards
- **6 video games** have been co-financed and released to the global market
- **45 film projects** in development
- **75 high quality short films** have been completed launching the careers of the region’s brightest new filmmaking talent

Visit www.em-media.org.uk

University of Lincoln

The University of Lincoln has around 10,000 students and 1,200 staff spread across its campuses in Lincoln, Riseholme, Holbeach and Hull. Lincoln was the biggest climber of any UK university in The Times Good University Guide 2011. The University achieved an increase in national research funding of more than 600 per cent following the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise (RAE). It has received the highest possible rating in its two recent Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) inspections. Students rated Lincoln's courses among the best in the country for student satisfaction in the 2010 National Student Survey, with Accounting ranked number one overall.

For more information visit www.lincoln.ac.uk

Skillset

Skillset is the Sector Skills Council (SSC) for Creative Media, with responsibility for 60 per cent of the UK Creative Industries. This comprises TV, film, radio, interactive media, animation, computer games, facilities, photo imaging, publishing, advertising and fashion and textiles. SSCs are licensed by the UK Government and by Ministers in the devolved administrations to tackle the skills and productivity challenges by sector. They are independent, UK-wide organisations, are employer-led, and actively involve trade unions, professional bodies and other stakeholders in the industry. For more info visit www.skillset.org

A Bigger Future 2 is the second phase of 'A Bigger Future', the UK film skills strategy developed by Skillset and the UK Film Council and funded by the Skillset Film Skills Fund. The Skillset Film Skills Fund is supported by the National Lottery through the UK Film Council and the film industry through the Skills Investment Fund. For more info visit www.abiggerfuture2.co.uk

