

SESSION 5: How Film Industry Works, Get into the Film Community, Steps to Take, Who to Approach & How

1. How the film and TV industry works.

Studios don't make movies, they distribute.

Channels and streamers both produce content and buy/license already-made content.

Producers both buy screenplays and develop their own projects then hire writers.

Producers/production companies buy book options.

2. Ways to get your toes into the film community.

Film festivals. FilmFreeway.com

ActOneProgram.com – training for Christians.

GreenhouseProductions.com

168Film.com – See “Write of Passage” = write a short film in a week with a mentor.

Stage32.com > Script Services > Pitch Sessions \$35 pitches

NetworkISA.org – International Screenwriters' Association

InkTip.com

3. Steps you can take toward getting your book made into a movie.

Write or get your screenplay.

Option your book.

4. Who to approach & how? **DIANNE'S BIGGEST TIPS:**

Research: Study the markets.

Find movies similar to yours. Use “similar movies” on these sites.

- IMDb.com (free account, not Pro.)
- BoxOfficeMojo.com
- The-Numbers.com

IMDb.com: Find the movie/show. Click “Top Credits.” Research people involved. What have they done? (Click their name.) Find people who may like yours. Make a list. Use Excel to create your own database.

About Budgets.

Connect with whoever you can on your database list via LinkedIn (best), Facebook, Twitter.

Maybe can find their website, email, etc. Contact them professionally: Query letters. Cold calls.

Or Agents, Managers, and Entertainment Attorneys can connect/pitch for you.

Track your submissions!

Don't send your book cold. Busy people don't have time to read it.

Resources:

- FilmFreeway.com – Find film festivals. Can get email notices.
- ActOneProgram.com – training for Christians. (Please tell them I sent you.)
- GreenhouseProductions.com
- 168Film.com
- Stage32.com and Stage32.com > Script Services > Pitch Sessions
- NetworkISA.org
- InkTip.com
- Internet Movie Database: IMDb.com (free account, not Pro unless you want to.)
- BoxOfficeMojo.com
- The-Numbers.com
- LinkedIn.com – Great for making professional connections. Build a contact base here.
- Also, connect with film people on Facebook and Twitter.