

THE OTTAWA INTERNATIONAL ANIMATION FESTIVAL WANTS YOU TO PITCH THIS!

Get Your Idea Noticed – And Win a Prize Package to Make it Happen!

OTTAWA, July 4, 2019 – Have a great idea for an animated series, but don't know how to bring it in to reality? The Ottawa International Animation Festival (OIAF), North America's leading animated film festival, returns with Pitch This! – a competition with the power to turn creative ideas into real shows.

Pitch This! is a highlight of The Animation Conference (TAC), the OIAF's industry forum that runs September 25-27, 2019. For over 15 years, TAC has presented Pitch This!, a contest where two finalists get the rare opportunity to pitch their new project to a room of influential industry decision-makers, and win a prize package courtesy of Pitch This! partners.

Ten semi-finalists will be partnered with a seasoned industry mentor to help perfect their concept for the big pitch, and give them invaluable feedback on their project. Sylvie Rochon is a former mentor and jury member for Pitch This!, as well as a Content Producer for the competition's presenting partner, Digital Dimension.

"This is a solid opportunity to bring your magic to a room filled with industry professionals and creatives. Don't stress out; this is not Shark Tank," says Rochon. "Pitching in front of a crowd might sound daunting so just focus on telling your story in your own, unique way. This audience is longing for engaging storytelling. If your story resonates with them, you will make connections. Start here."

The ten selections go head to head on Wednesday, September 25 during TAC, where each contestant must impress a small committee of experts in under 10 minutes. The two candidates that nailed their presentations in round one will be selected for the official event on Thursday, September 26. Finalists pitch to a panel of platform executives, and the entire TAC audience – that includes over 350 potential buyers and financiers within the industry.

“The OIAF can’t wait to see the fresh, Canadian ideas that come to this year’s Pitch This! We’ve partnered with Digital Dimension, a Montreal-based studio that is providing the successful pitch with a \$5,000 cash prize – as well as software and legal services from returning partners,” says Azarin Sohrabkhani, Director of Industry Programming at the OIAF. “This package is designed to provide the successful pitch with all the ingredients to get their idea off the ground.”

Pitch This! 2019 is open to Canadian projects only, and pitched series should be aimed at children ages 2-11.

Do you have what it takes? Send your Pitch This! proposals to:

presentations@animationfestival.ca

THE DEADLINE FOR PITCH THIS! SUBMISSIONS IS AUGUST 15, 2019 at 5 PM EST.

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About Digital Dimension

Montreal-based Digital Dimension is a forward-thinking 3D animation production house. Specialized in producing original IPs and service work, the studio takes a 360 approach to create series, short form and interactive content. Recent collaborations include Mighty Mike, Sadie Sparx and Zafari. In an artform where creativity and technology intersect, Digital Dimension is at the forefront of innovation, giving creatives the means to make impactful changes in the way stories are told.

About the OIAF

The Ottawa International Animation Festival (OIAF) is one of the world’s leading animation events providing screenings, exhibits, workshops and entertainment since 1976. The OIAF is an annual five-day event bringing art and industry together in a vibrant hub, attracting more than 28,000 artists, producers, students and animation fans from around the world. This year’s OIAF runs September 25-29, 2019. Visit the OIAF website at: www.animationfestival.ca.

For more information, please contact:

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