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Spotlight in RI Screenplay Competition Award Announces Top Prize Winner

Peter D. Spameni from Smithfield RI wins RIFF's international competition's top screenwriting prize for story that showcases Rhode Island

(PROVIDENCE, RI) – FLICKERS: Rhode Island International Film Festival (RIFF) and the Rhode Island Film & TV Office are pleased to announce the grand prize winner for this year's Spotlight on Rhode Island Screenplay Competition.

This was the first year for Competition that invited screenwriters from around the world to submit their original screenplays set in Rhode Island that features the state's geography and demography as characters.

Steven Feinberg, Executive Director of the **Rhode Island Film & TV Office** said, "On behalf of everyone involved in this event, it was a true pleasure for all of the judges to read the many screenplays submitted by the talented writers who participated in this first competition, which we hope will be an annual affair.

"The various works were unique and covered many genres. Our goal was to find a well-written script with strong characters, themes, and a dynamic story with the State of Rhode Island as a primary location. There were many deserving scripts, but we believe there was one that stood out as the clear Winner of the Rhode Island Screenplay Competition and that special screenplay was **'The Ashes of Albion,'** which is set in Post Civil War Rhode Island."

We heartily congratulate, **Peter D. Spameni** of Smithfield, Rhode Island, the screenwriter of "The Ashes of Albion," said Michael Drwya, Esq., the Advisory Board President of the **Rhode Island International Film Festival**. "We look forward to presenting his prize at this year's **Providence Oscar Night® America** on February 26, 2012 at The Vets in Providence."

"We also want to thank everyone who supported this contest and we encourage each and every applicant to continue honing their craft, while pursuing their dream," added **Steven Feinberg**.

The Second Place winner was "Old Hoss," written by **Kevin Faria** (Bristol, RI) & **Duncan Putney** (Providence, RI). They have been invited to be guests of the Festival at this year's **Providence Oscar Night® America**.

Finalist scripts were read and judged by industry professionals: **Steven Feinberg** (RI Film Office Director & writer), **Michael Corrente** (film producer, director & writer), **Anne Mulhall** (casting director) and **Michael Corso** (film finance).



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The winning script will receive five free pitches to Hollywood studios and producers on **VirtualPitchfest.com** and a copy of **Final Draft 8** screenwriting software, plus a VIP ticket to **Providence Oscar Night® America**.

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ABOUT FLICKERS: RHODE ISLAND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL:

The mission of **FLICKERS: Rhode Island International Film Festival** is to discover and empower filmmakers. Held in Providence, and at locations throughout the state, RIIFF is one of only 65 film festivals worldwide that is a qualifying event for the Oscars. It is also New England's largest film festival. Its innovative programming, cultivated industry ties, and loyal audiences have made the Festival a strategic and desirable platform for film premieres, drawing hundreds of independent filmmakers from around the globe. The next Festival will take place **August 7-12, 2012**. For more information about the festival, please visit www.rifilmfest.org.

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