



# SEATTLE FILM SUMMIT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Lorraine Montez

[lorrainem@abundantproductions.net](mailto:lorrainem@abundantproductions.net)

206-200-3364

## **Seattle Film Summit Arrives with Dozens of New Guest Speakers and Learning Sessions**

SEATTLE – It's here! Coming off its most successful year in its five-year history, the Seattle Film Summit (SFS) has arrived and it's not too late to still register for the 2018 film and writing festival.

From new programs for filmmakers, help with film distribution, and screenplay pitch sessions, SFS brings together the amazing talent of Northwest creatives and pairs them with some of Hollywood's top film industry professionals.

Making an appearance at this year's event is renowned screenwriter Norman Steinberg who penned "Blazing Saddles." Also speaking will be "Blackish" Executive Producer Brian Dobbins. After their individual sessions, the two men will join a panel discussion on the current state of filmmaking and discuss what "Blazing Saddles" would look like if made today.

Also making its debut at SFS will be the new [Bigfoot Northwest Script Challenge](#) where \$6,500 and unparalleled Hollywood access will be awarded to the next great voices in screenwriting. Winners will be announced at the event on **November 17-18, 2018, at the Hotel Interurban in Tukwila, Washington.**

SFS 2018 #sfs2018 will bring in more Hollywood executives than any other Northwest-based event from pitching your film project or screenplay, to hearing studio executives explain how to get your foot in the door.

Some of the industry's top film industry experts have signed on to be panelists and presenters at the event [SFS 2018 Panelists](#).

Including:

**Chris Lockhart**, Senior Story Editor – William Morris Endeavor

**Mary Rohlich**, Producer – “Horrible Bosses”, “Gleason”

**Gary Glushon**, Producer – “24 Hours to Live”, “Valerian”, “Straight out of Compton”

**Ava Greenfield**, Literary Agent – ICM Partners

**Norman Steinberg**: Iconic screenwriter for “Blazing Saddles.”

The 2018 Summit is the brainchild of local film advocate [Ben Andrews](#). With his two partners, studio screenwriter [Jonathan Keasey](#) and local producer [Lorraine Montez](#), Andrews has assembled a self-described band of rebels to shake up the local film industry.

“We have amazing creatives right here,” said Andrews. “It’s time the industry took notice and Seattle Film Summit is that vehicle to get these two groups together.”

The November event means creators can connect with heavy-hitting decision-makers, content consumers, distributors, and panelists from Hollywood. They’ll also benefit from local panelists associated with notable organizations like the [Northwest Film Forum](#), the [Northwest Screenwriters Guild](#) and [Seattle Film Institute](#).

If that weren’t enough, film industry expert and Stage 32’s founder [Richard Botto](#) will bring an entire track of learning sessions to SFS 18, adding to an already eclectic and information-packed set of sessions.

“The amount of talent found in the Pacific Northwest was staggering,” said Botto about SFS 2017. “We’re very excited to bring our team up for this year’s event.”

SFS has grown significantly since its inception in 2013. Andrews, at that time, thought the Northwest was being overlooked as a source of content for Hollywood.

“I was determined to try and change that,” Andrews added.

Early-bird [registration](#) for SFS 2018 ends September 15. After that, prices go up slightly to attend the two-day event.

[Bigfoot](#) screenplay contest submissions will be accepted until October 15, with a tiered entry fee based on when you submit.

### **About Seattle Film Summit**

Seattle Film Summit empowers regional artists to develop innovative methods of storytelling, funding, and distribution in order to shape a new, socially responsible film culture for the Pacific Northwest.

###