



Inside: ● Dance Academy 3 ● AWGIE Awards ● MIPCOM ● What's On TV

## Jumping for Trop Jr 2013

Trop Jr organisers are expecting the 2013 competition to be the biggest yet.

Modelled on Tropfest, the world's largest short film festival, Trop Jr is a film competition for kids.

By presenting Trop Jr, the Australian Children's Television Foundation (ACTF) is encouraging young people to make films and tell stories 'for kids, by kids'.

"The ACTF loves supporting Trop Jr. Every year we are bowled over by the finalist films, which never cease to amaze us with their variety and creativity," says Jenny Buckland, CEO.

Taking part in Trop Jr encourages teamwork, creativity and an understanding of film production.

Filmmakers aged 15 years and younger are eligible to enter and they have until 3 January 2013 to do so.

Entries from Australia and around the world are accepted into the competition as long as they are 'kid suitable', no longer than 7 minutes (including titles and end credits) and have not been screened anywhere before (including online).

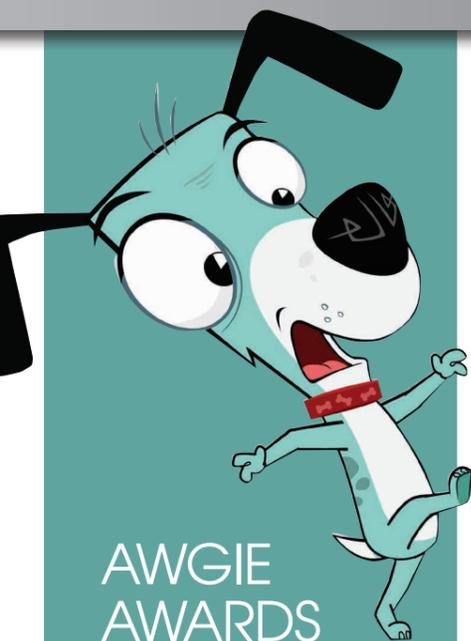
Trop Jr is also open to submissions from schools, children's clubs and groups.

In keeping with Tropfest tradition all entries must include the Signature Item (TSI).

The TSI is not a 'theme' but rather, a 'signature' or symbol that must appear somewhere in the film and acts as proof that it was made specifically for Trop Jr.

The TSI for Trop Jr 2013 is JUMP. Trop Jr will take place at venues across Australia on Sunday 17 February 2013.





AWGIE AWARDS



The Annual Australian Writers' Guild (AWGIE) Awards honour performance writers. The judges are all writers themselves and the judging is based on the written script.

In August this year, ACTF supported scripts took out the award in two children's categories and five ACTF supported scripts were nominated.

Samantha Strauss received the AWGIE Award in the Children's Television C classification category for her *Dance Academy 2* episode, "The Second".

Ray Boseley, received the AWGIE in the Animation category for his *Flea-Bitten!* script "Home Truths". The *Flea-bitten!* series recently had its Australian premiere on Channel Nine.



# MIPCOM

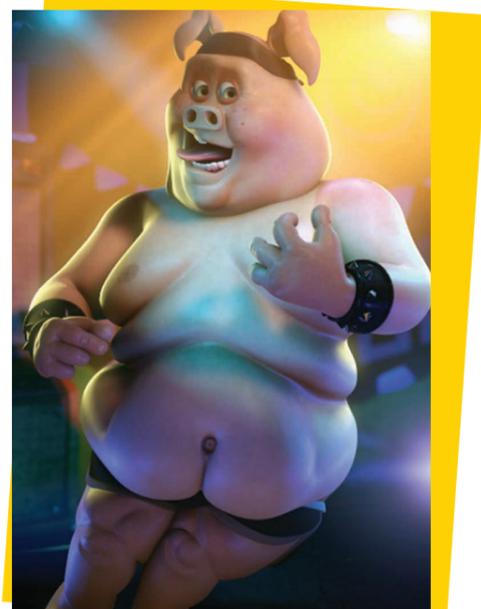
The ACTF distribution team has returned from MIPCOM, announcing a sale of *You're Skitting Me*, the sketch comedy series produced with Cordell Jigsaw for ABC3, to German public broadcaster ARD-Bayerischer Rundfunk. *You're Skitting Me* was also sold to PBS Malta, along with *Legacy of the Silver Shadow*.

Other series in the ACTF catalogue continue to sell well, too.

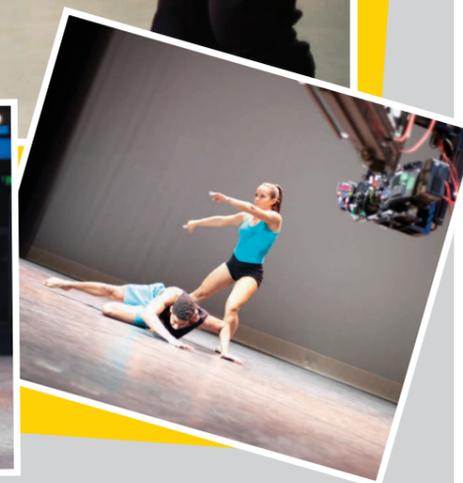
SVT Sweden has acquired the second series of *My Place*, and both series of *My Place* were sold to Strong Technologies Nigeria, Insular Challenge Brunei and KidsCo International for Eastern Europe and Africa. *Lockie Leonard* has been sold to The Dish Network USA, Terra Entertainment Latin America, Insular Challenge Brunei, the Swedish Educational Broadcasting Company and Knowledge Network and BBC Kids Canada. The first series of *Lockie Leonard* has been sold to the ABC Australia, and the second series is screening on the inflight entertainment service in Qantas Airways, Singapore Airlines and Qatar Airways.

*Mal.com* is also showing in various inflight entertainment services and has been sold to PBS Malta. *Flea-bitten!* was sold to UBC Kids Thailand, TG4 Ireland and Middle East Media. The animated shorts *Dukes of Broxtonia* were sold to Disney Channel USA and CSC Media Group, whilst *Horace In Slow Motion* was sold to TVNZ.

Sales of *Mortified* have been made to Canal 8 Ecuador, Terra Entertainment Latin America, Australia Network Asia, Once TV Mexico, the CSC Media Group for Ireland and the United Kingdom, SVT Sweden and Knowledge Network and BBC Kids Canada. BBC Kids Canada acquired *Worst Best Friends* as well. *Holly's Heroes* was acquired by Hulu and the Dish Network in the USA, Insular Challenge Brunei and both SVT and the Swedish Educational Broadcasting Company in Sweden.



# In Production: DANCE ACADEMY



## FILMING OF THE THIRD SERIES OF *DANCE ACADEMY* STARTED ON 27 AUGUST AND IS SET FOR COMPLETION THIS MONTH.

The series is again filming in and around Sydney. Locations include the Opera House and the Harbour Bridge, and the cast and crew also travel to the Blue Mountains for some "on tour" locations. Ian Watson, Ian Gilmour and Daniel Nettheim are directing this series.

The first two series proved incredibly popular in Australia and around the world with their target audience but also struck a chord with younger and older fans. In the third series the main characters are in their final year at the National Academy

and it's make or break time for Tara, Christian, Kat, Ben, Abigail, Grace and Ollie. They are learning to live without Sammy; they are competing with each other for a contract with the National Ballet and looking at a life beyond school. Friendships are renewed and tested, new opportunities explored, and as always, lots of fun, laughter and fabulous dancing along the way. Series 3 is about finding out what you really want, finding yourself and what's important for you.

The third series consists of 13 x 24 minute episodes and brings the total number of episodes to 65.

Created by producer Joanna Werner and head writer Samantha Strauss, *Dance Academy* is a Werner Films Production for the ABC and ZDF Television Germany in association with the Australian Children's Television Foundation, Screen Australia, Screen NSW and Film Victoria.

*Dance Academy* is distributed in Australia and New Zealand by the ACTF and the rest of the world by ZDF Enterprises.



## FUNDING APPROVALS

At its meeting on 4 September 2012 the ACTF Board approved development investment in the following projects:

### Handball Heroes

(Documentary Series)  
Carbon Media (QLD)  
\$25,000 towards research, development and production of the series.

**Prisoner Zero** (Animation Adventure Series)  
Theta-Sigma (NSW) \$18,750 towards revising the artwork and existing bible, developing 10 storylines, scripting 3 episodes, creating character designs and a full series budget.

**Rogue Five** (Multiplatform interactive series)  
Hoodlum (QLD) \$7,072 to develop the series bible, character breakdowns, sample storylines and multiplatform strategy.

**My24** (Documentary Series)  
Second round funding  
Essential Media (NSW) \$8,300 of second round funding was approved to hold a workshop for further development of the series format, visual style, budget and proposed schedule.

## NEW BOARD MEMBER



The ACTF has welcomed a new member to its board: Leanne Wright.

Leanne Wright is the Director of Learning and Teaching, ACT Education and Training Directorate. Leanne has responsibility for Curriculum Support,

Professional Learning, Early Childhood Education, Literacy and Numeracy and the Instrumental Music Program. Leanne has been a primary school teacher and was Principal of three ACT Primary schools before being appointed to her current position within the Directorate in June 2012. Leanne represents the Australian Capital Territory Government on the Board.

## Vale Suzie Howie

Suzie Howie, the Melbourne doyenne of publicity, passed away on 25 October 2012.

Suzie was the publicist for the ACTF over more than two decades and she, together with her husband Paul Taylor, played a key role in building the organisation's profile and position. She organised numerous inventive launches to promote ACTF TV shows, including putting David Hill, Hazel Hawke, Janet Holmes à Court and Patricia Edgar on toilet seats for the launch of Round The Twist. But Suzie did much more than that - her first job for the ACTF was promoting a supporters conference back in 1981 before the ACTF was even incorporated. Suzie was a great strategist, and when the ACTF held the World Summit on Television and Children in Melbourne in 1995 she made sure the Summit was in all the mainstream papers, current affairs shows and talked about on



Suzie Howie and Paul Taylor at 2001 ACTF Christmas Party

radio all through the week. There wasn't an international speaker at the event who did not achieve excellent PR that week, and in the process she put the ACTF on the map. We remember Suzie as an influential player in ACTF history and we are deeply saddened by her passing.

## WHAT'S ON TV?

### AFTER 20 NOVEMBER 2012

*Lockie Leonard series 2:* Saturday 3pm ABC 3

*Double Trouble:* Friday 10am ABC1

*You're Skitting Me:* Friday 5.35pm ABC3 and Saturday 6:50pm ABC3

*Mal.com:* Sunday 6.10pm ABC3

*My Place series 2:* Tuesday 10:30am ABC1

