

*Transcript written by: Pat Mills*

## **High School Film Boot Camp**, January 2009

**Narrator:** Alright, when we come back we'll look at making movies without hearing them...a new film boot camp, right after the break.

**News Man:** students from 3 hearing impaired schools are meeting in Milton this week to learn about making movies

**News Woman:** The film bootcamp is designed to show the students they can reach their goals no matter what obstacles they face.

**Voiceover:** 14 year-old Dara Sok (?) loves watching movies and wants to be a star one day.

**Dara:** Just being able to see the movies and I really would like either to be an actor and find out how they get involved in the different genres, you know...horror movies, things like that.

**Voiceover:** Sok is deaf and so are the 34 other students taking part in a 3 day workshop at Milton's Ernest C Drury school. The bootcamp of sorts is put on by the Toronto International Deaf Film and Arts Festival.

**Dara:** You know, the people who are presenting here are...you know, they've got experience in the field and they're all deaf and I'd like to learn as much as I can from them and everything that they have to offer.

**Voiceover:** 18 year old Keri Wu considers herself to be a movie buff and is interested in what it takes to put a film together.

**Keri:** I'm sure if I go to a movie after all that I've learned here I'll be able to identify different things and how they did things on screen.

**Catherine:** It's important for youth to be provided the exposure to develop their confidence, to have an idea of what all of it means and know that they can be a part of the global community of filmmakers.

**Voiceover:** Organizers hope that some of the students will take what they've learned over the 3 days and make a film of their own for this summer's deaf film festival. Adam Atkinson, CHCH News, Milton.

## **GLOBAL:**

**Anchor:** Well, today Global News was the news at a school in Milton as our Mina Ree kicked off a media workshop for young people looking to break into the business.

**Mina:** Well, the great thing about being a journalist is you never know what's around the corner.

**Voiceover:** Today, students at the E.C Drury School for the deaf kept a close watch on Mina. These budding Television and film Students got the message that working in the media is really a daily adventure. Mina's talk sparked a lot of lively debate among students who are taking part in the 3 day workshop.

## **TV CEGECO NEWS:**

**Narrator:** Thursday January 8th was a wrap up for a series of workshops that were being run at EC Drury School for the deaf where students from across the province were given the opportunity

to learn about the film industry from professionals from all over North America and how to achieve their career goals and overcome their disability. I spoke with Toronto Deaf Film and Arts Festival Director and Co-Founder Catherine MacKinnon who gave us the details on the workshops.

**Catherine:** Ok, well, this is the first time ever that we've had a deaf youth high school workshop related to film. It's actually a film camp and it's a 3 day camp. The entire purpose of the camp is for kids to understand and get some exposure to stage combat to some of the production qualities and skills that are needed to make a five minute short film and the films that the students do make, using the skills that they've learned here will be in the Toronto International Deaf Film and Arts Festival in Toronto - it's May 21st to 23rd. So the students are going to show some of their work on the big screen and family and friends are more than welcome to join the audience and that's why we're trying to squeeze all of these skills into the three days so they can apply them to the film festival and we do have some presenters from Los Angeles who have come out as well for the week.

**Narrator:** The students had the opportunity to learn not only from film professionals in their field but also film professionals who are deaf who could share their experiences to the students about how they succeeded in the film industry.

**Catherine:** There are no barriers within that. There are no language barriers between our presenters and some of the students and our presenters and teachers have actually been from, some of them, from the American Film Institute who are teachers - and they are actually deaf themselves so they have a lot of experience and we are very honored to have them here. We also have a script writer who are deaf and experienced in screenwriting and very experienced in that field who are helping to present. And we do have some hearing presenters that have alliances with us and with the deaf community who have been very supportive of us in the past and we have worked together, so we have developed a great relationship with them and we asked them if they'd mind coming out to present for example, on being a director of photography, and they've been more than willing to come out, so it's been wonderful so far.

**Narrator:** After speaking with students, it appears that they've learned a great deal from this experience.

Ashley Bergeron: Well, I've learned how to put together some ideas and input conflict into script, some of the things that we should and shouldn't do, actual scriptwriting, some ideas of production and what the role of producer is v.s director and some of the different roles are on a movie set, different acting ideas, how to do stage combat, and some fake fighting. Today we've been doing some lighting, setting up some different lighting concepts and how to set up different lighting set ups versus cameras, things like that.

**Narrator:** And the overall response to the workshops has been very positive.

**Catherine:** Well, you just see it in their faces and in their facial expressions. I don't really know how to explain the actions I've seen from them, but you can see the motivation just in their faces alone and I think that some of them are really ready to make movies today! Right now! So I can see that they're also very motivated and I'm hoping that some of them will be included in the film festival and that the festival will show the purpose of us encouraging Canadians and developing their skills here as deaf Canadians in the film industry.

**Narrator:** Reporting for TV Cogeco News, I'm Chris Kox.