



For Immediate Release:

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**Contact:** Samantha Jessome, [pr@artscentre.ca](mailto:pr@artscentre.ca), 902-582-3842

**Ross Creek Centre for the Arts brings 20 Nova Scotian youth to the silver screen this summer.**

**CANNING** –The Ross Creek Centre for the Arts is currently looking for 10 African Nova Scotian and 10 First Nations youth to participate in a 2-week long academy camp experience.

Ross Creek's summer camps will be lighting up the silver screen this year, as this special academy will produce a 22-minute film, "Shortcut," written and directed by Ann Verrall.

"Shortcut" is a fusion of a rap musical and a drama, using humor, dance and music to tell a story that explores the layered complexities of the cultural/racial divides in Nova Scotia and what happens when youth from different cultural communities are forced to deal with each other.

The film will be developed and created through July 26 – August 6. Youth will be involved in an extensive workshop process that will cover screen and song writing, developing characters, exploring story ideas and improvising scenes. Two songs will be written and recorded. The performers will also take part in acting workshops leading up to the 5-day film shoot.

10 full bursaries are currently available for youth who are interested in participating in the Shortcut: TV Drama Academy. Applications can be found online at [www.artscentre.ca](http://www.artscentre.ca), or can be requested by phone at 582-3842. All applications must be in by June 15<sup>th</sup>, and selection will be based on merit of the submission, or audition where required for the acting roles.

Youth should be interested in either attending the Shortcut: TV Drama Academy as budding filmmakers, or any of the Ross Creek Academies in Theatre, Choreography, Music Performance, (etc) and help to create work for the TV drama through the work they create in those camps.

Ross Creek would like to thank the sponsors of this project, the Canada Council for the Arts, the Centre for Art Tapes, William F. Whites, the CBC Broadcast Fund, the Department of Education African Canadian Services Division.

There are still 10 bursaries needed to provide all 20 youth with the opportunity to join in on this once-in-a-lifetime experience. If you or your organization may be interested in providing funding to support the Shortcut Academy, please contact Chris at [chris@artscentre.ca](mailto:chris@artscentre.ca), or at 582-3842.

Youth can apply for bursaries to the Shortcut Academy or learn more about the experience online at [www.artscentre.ca](http://www.artscentre.ca), or call 582-3842 for more information.