

SUNKLO

As a representative of Finnish scriptwriters, Finland's Play writers and Scriptwriters Guild negotiates contracts and remunerations with Film and Television producers as well as with Finnish broadcasting companies. As an active member in the copyright company Kopiosto's audiovisual section, the Guild also together with other rights-holders organizations is representing its members in discussions on subjects concerning retransmission, public recording and public presentations of audiovisual works. The last major victory was achieved this autumn when all companies providing online services agreed to pay copyright compensation fees for their selection of drama and films.

Agreements with the Finnish Broadcasting company YLE are "under construction". Broadcasters are planning radical changes in their programming. The best part, if not all, YLE's drama production will be (re)transmitted through their own net channels and would be available for the customers all times and everywhere, thus changing the way the writers would otherwise be compensated in reruns etc. Other broadcasting companies will follow the YLE example and the results of these negotiations will be closely monitored by all the "indie" companies. The worst possible outcome would of course be all rights sold out contract for audio visual field in TV.

The Guild has close connections with right holder's organizations, like Actors Guild, Directors Guild and even with societies for producers and production companies, while representing its members in negotiations with state authorities, Ministry of Culture and the Finnish Film Foundation. This collaboration profits writers in many ways and has done so during last few years. The impact for example on cultural budgets and conditions of work has been significant.

SCREENWRITERS GUILD

Screenwriter's guild is a community of 200 screenwriters writing for audiovisual field. Guild is funded by SUNKLO and works in close cooperation with it.

In 2014-2015 the Screenwriters guild organized a seminar for new members on issues like contract negotiations and writers rights and worked closely with the Finnish Film Foundation as they were re-organizing their film funding rules.

Screenwriters guild was also active towards the national broadcasting company YLE by attending their seminar on TV-dramas future and criticizing YLE:s screenwriting competitions which require a lot of free work. Several workshops for members has also been held: speed meeting with the animation producers, improvisation course for screenwriters and a football tournament with the directors, producers and film workers (screenwriters won!).

SCRIPT TAMPERE

The biggest effort this year has been the SCRIPT TAMPERE screenwriting festival on March 2015. The three day long festival consisted of seminars, workshops and discussion panels about writing for film and TV.

Over 200 paying participants attended the festival and the next year's festival (on March 2016) is currently under development with topics such as writing an adaptation, how to talk about a screenplay and the script editor's work.