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## CANADIAN PAY-TV ORIGINAL SERIES *TERMINAL CITY* GARNERS RECOGNITION ALONGSIDE ITS INTERNATIONAL PEERS

### Original Pay-TV Series is the only Canadian Miniseries Honoured by Banff World Television Awards

(April 10, 2006 - Toronto, Canada) The critically-acclaimed Canadian original pay-TV series *Terminal City* has been honoured as a **Hors Concours selection**, becoming the only Canadian miniseries to receive recognition by the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Banff World Television Awards. Co-produced by Crescent Entertainment and Big Dog Productions in association with Corus Entertainment's **Movie Central** and Astral Media's **The Movie Network**, *Terminal City* is one of six miniseries from around the world to receive this honour. In addition, *Movie Central* and The Movie Network's pay-TV original series, *ReGenesis*, has garnered Canada's only nomination for a continuing series in this international competition.

"The Banff jury's recognition of these two particular series confirms that Pay-TV has an important role to play in supporting outstanding drama production in this country," says Shelley Gillen, Head of Creative and Business Affairs, Movie Central. "Ranked shoulder to shoulder, beside the best in the world, *Terminal City* and *ReGenesis* both stand out, illustrating what Canadians are capable of, working in partnership with broadcasters committed to creative excellence and vision."

"Our pay-TV originals strategy is founded on producing quality, entertaining dramatic series that play well both in Canada and internationally and the Banff World Television Awards' selection of these series is a testament to the standard of programming we are delivering," says Erica Benson, Director of Canadian Independent Productions, The Movie Network. "We are very proud of these series and congratulate each of the respective producers on their achievements."

Launched on Movie Central and The Movie Network in fall 2005, *Terminal City* is a darkly comedic exploration of a family living on the edge and in the shadow of cancer. The miniseries won unanimous praise from critics citing the production as a major step forward for Canadian television drama. *TV Times*, a nationally syndicated TV book, described the series as "one of the most original, intricate explorations of family dynamics ever created for television in Canada". And the syndicated wire service, Canadian Press commented: "Canadians, it seems, can create a show of HBO calibre with world class writing, acting and production values." *Terminal City* can be seen in Canada on Movie Central and The Movie Network.

*ReGenesis* is an internationally-renowned Canadian original drama series that explores the threat of science on society. Produced by Shaftesbury Films, the series' second season currently airs Sundays on Movie Central at 7 p.m. PT and on The Movie Network at 8 p.m. ET.

Banff World Television Awards nominees and Hors Concours selections are chosen via an independent judging process by the Festival's selection jury. In addition to nominations, programs are also selected as Hors Concours (out of competition) presentations, an honorific designation for programs that, while not selected as nominees, were deemed worthy of particular attention and recognition. For the complete list of nominees and Hors Concours selections please see [www.banff2006.com](http://www.banff2006.com). The 2006 Banff World Television Awards will be presented at the 27th Banff World Television Festival in June, 2006.

**Movie Central** is a 24-hour-a-day, commercial-free premium pay-TV service available to Western Canadians. Exclusive multi-year output agreements with major Hollywood studios ensure that Movie Central is the preferred destination for box office titles. In addition to being the first window, Canadian home to the best of HBO and Showtime, through its investments, pre-buys and licence fees for Canadian feature films and original series, Movie Central is recognized as a major force in the Canadian independent film and television production industry. The launch of Movie Central EXPRESS in October 2002 and the launch of a 24/7 Movie Central High Definition service in December 2004, demonstrate that Movie Central remains committed to being first with innovations that enhance the viewing experience. Visit the Movie Central website at [www.moviecentral.ca](http://www.moviecentral.ca).

Movie Central is owned by **Corus Entertainment**, a Canadian-based media and entertainment company. Corus is a market leader in both specialty TV and Radio. Corus also owns Nelvana Limited, an internationally recognized producer and distributor of children's programming and products. The Company's other interests include music, television broadcasting and advertising services. A publicly traded company, Corus is listed on the Toronto (CJR.B) and New York (CJR) Exchanges.

**The Movie Network** is an Astral Media network available in eastern Canada. With premiere access to Hollywood hit movies, critically-acclaimed HBO and Showtime series, and first-rate Canadian programming, this pay-television service presents Canadians with some of the best television entertainment available. The Movie Network service includes five 24-hour multiplex channels – M, MMore, MExcess, MFun! and MFest – which deliver diverse and entertaining programs in an uncut and commercial-free television environment. The Movie Network also offers *The Movie Network HD*, a dedicated high-definition channel providing hundreds of titles in HD; and *The Movie Network OnDemand*, a Subscription Video On Demand (SVOD) service, available in select areas across eastern Canada. For more information, please visit [www.themovienetwork.ca](http://www.themovienetwork.ca).

**Astral Media** is one of Canada's leading media companies, active in specialty, pay and pay-per-view television, radio and outdoor advertising. Astral Media's solid and dynamic presence in the country's major markets rests on its commitment to offer a unique combination of high-quality, targeted media for all its audiences. [www.astralmedia.com](http://www.astralmedia.com).

#### **About the Banff World Television Festival**

The Banff World Television Festival is owned by the Banff Television Festival Foundation and is produced by Achilles Media Ltd. in conjunction with the Foundation's Board of Directors and Board of Governors. The Foundation's Board of Governors is international in scope and represents the crème de la crème of producers and broadcasters. Achilles Media is a management organization for some of the world's leading television and new media industry events including the Banff World Television Festival, the World Congress of History Producers and nextMEDIA – The Future of Digital Content.

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