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Contact: Joseph Kenny
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Joseph Kenny's Epic Fantasy Screenplay "The Swimmer Manuscript" Named An Official Selection, 2007 Great Lakes Scriptwriting Competition

Scottsdale, Ariz., (August 20, 2007) – Arizona-based screenwriter Joseph Kenny's epic fantasy screenplay, *The Swimmer Manuscript*, has been named an official selection and participant in the **2007 Great Lakes Scriptwriting Competition**.

Set against the spectacular backdrop of the Great Smoky Mountains, in Tennessee and North Carolina, *The Swimmer Manuscript* is a coming of age story based on the legends of the region and the sacred myths of the Cherokee. It pits a young, untested conjurer named Swimmer against the Widderman and a cadre of demon witches, as Swimmer seeks to avenge the death of his father and learns to utilize the powers he has inherited.

Kenny created this original story, written in an epic fantasy genre and style reminiscent of such classics as The Lord of the Rings trilogy, after ethnographic research that included personal visits and study with a noted Cherokee Indian Medicine Man, who lived in Old Fort North Carolina. Kenny also conducted an extensive review of the folklore of the Smoky Mountains, and of numerous journals and materials contained in the Bureau of American Ethnology archives of the Smithsonian.

About Joseph Kenny:

Joseph Kenny is a professional writer who helps individuals and businesses enhance their written communications and tell their unique and powerful stories. Mr. Kenny was the Outstanding Graduate of the College of Fine Arts at Arizona State University (ASU) and a graduate of the Master of Professional Writing program at the University of Southern California (USC). He has studied with luminaries and mentors including, Academy Award-Winner Robert Pirosh (*Battleground*), Jerome Lawrence (*Inherit the Wind*), James Ragan (*Lusions*), Paul Gillette (*Play Misty For Me*), Shelley Berman (*Up In The Air*), John Rechy (*City of Night*), and in workshops, masters classes, and seminars with Neil Simon (*The Odd Couple*), Edward Albee (*Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf*), Peter Stone (*1776, Father Goose*), and others.

Mr. Kenny is a member of the Dramatists Guild and Authors League of America. He served as a writer and producer on *The Exceptional Child* television series (PBS), and as the writer of *Pete Rose's Reach For The Sky* (Appledown Entertainment). His stage play, *In August The Jewelweed Cried*, was produced as part of Jerome Lawrence's *Octet* play series at USC. And, his play *Out of the Shadows* was produced in Los Angeles. His earlier screenplay draft titled, *The Conjur' Man*, received recognition from the New Century Writer Awards, The Chesterfield Writer's Film Project, and the Writers Guild of America, East

(MORE)

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Foundation Fellowship Awards. Mr. Kenny has worked as a consultant and marketing professional with leading Hollywood talent and film production entities, and served as the director of the 1986 Scottsdale Film Festival, produced in association with the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences and the American Film Institute. Joseph Kenny is currently developing stories for film and television.

For more information contact Joseph Kenny, JFK & Associates -- jfk.associates@earthlink.net.
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About The Great Lakes Independent Film Festival:

The Great Lakes Independent Film Festival is dedicated to showcasing independent films in the digital medium.

Considered among the top 100 film festivals in the world, The Great Lakes Independent Film Festival was started with imagination and vision, dedicating itself to presenting the works of independent filmmakers and outstanding achievements in cinema. The Great Lakes Independent Film Festival showcases the hybrids of filmmaking in the digital age.

The 2007 Great Lakes Independent Film Festival will take place September 26th-September 30th 2007 at The Roadhouse Theatre for Contemporary Art, in Erie, Pennsylvania. The fun filled event will include celebrities, parties, film screenings, award ceremonies, industry professionals, and much more.

From the feature narrative genre to documentary to animation and experimental "film", the Great Lakes Film Association celebrates the film arts in dynamic transition. As emerging technologies continue to redefine the form, filmmakers from the Great Lakes, across the country and around the world express the common and the diverse through an age-old tradition – *The art of the story*.

For more information about The Great Lakes Independent Film Festival and screenwriting competition, please visit, <http://www.greatlakesfilmfest.com/Scriptwriting.htm>.

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