

**SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION STUDENTS SELECTED
FOR CANNES FILM FESTIVAL
AMERICAN PAVILION STUDENT PROGRAM
&
ADOBE REEL IDEAS STUDIO STUDENT FILMMAKING PROGRAM**



April 14, 2008 – Katherine Densmore, Brian Lane and Mallory Yockey, majoring in Film, Video and Media Studies in the School of Communication have been competitively selected to participate in two student-oriented programs at the **Cannes Film Festival** in May 2008. Brian Lane was selected for the **American Pavilion Student Program**, and Densmore and Yockey for the **Adobe Reel Ideas Studio Student Filmmaking Program**. This is the second year-in-a-row that School of Communication students have been selected for this summer program. In 2007, FVMS major, Jacob Durrett attended and was on the first place Adobe Reel Ideas team. Following this award, Durrett was invited to attend the Project Access Hollywood in New Mexico as part of his winning endeavors in 2007 working with Chris Coppola. He also appeared as a background extra on the award-winning HBO’s “Entourage,” in a special episode titled “Cannes Kids.”

Since 1989, The American Pavilion has been the focus of the U.S. film industry's presence at the Cannes International Film Festival, serving as a communications and hospitality center for journalists, publicists, celebrities, filmmakers and motion picture executives. Lane was one of 145 students selected, which accepts less than 150 students worldwide. For the past 20 years, the American Pavilion has offered film students the chance to participate in its Student Program, completing a work placement and participating in educational workshops, seminars, pitch sessions, roundtable discussions and screenings. In 2007, 145 students from 66 schools and seven countries interacted with established filmmakers and other industry professionals.

Densmore and Yockey will participate in The Adobe Reel Ideas Studio Student Filmmaking Program at the Cannes Festival, making a short film from inside the Cannes Film Festival with

other students from around the world. The Reel Ideas Studio Student Filmmaking Program is a collaborative mentored experience where students work in diverse teams and are provided insider access to film-world luminaries and premieres.

According to their video production mentor Dr. Jennifer A. Machiorlatti, “ I encouraged all of my students to apply to this program...and we learned in March that all three who had applied were accepted. This is really a pivotal moment in their lives...to join other U.S. film school such as Chapman, NYU and USC, as well as students from some of the world’s top film programs, is a wonderful opportunity for collaboration and international exposure.”

Densmore, a junior from Augusta, Michigan is a writer and authored a screenplay that was produced and screened at the SoC Media Festival in December 2007. Kate is double majoring in Creative Writing (English) and Film, Video and Media Studies in the School of Communication. Kate admits that growing up in a small West Michigan town is vastly different from the large entertainment hubs like New York or Chicago. She has always wanted to travel and thought about it growing up...she comments “here it is now! I can’t wait to meet all the students and other filmmakers from around the globe...there may even be more people at Cannes, than live in my hometown.”

Mallory Yockey is a junior and member of the communication honors society Lambda Pi Eta. From Roseville, Michigan, Mallory majors in FVMS, and minors in Imaging. She and Densmore recently produced an experimental video short that they submitted for consideration at the Waterfront Film Festival, held annually in Saugatuck, MI during June. “Not only do I get to meet people from all over the world,” comments Yockey, I get to travel with two of my WMU peers and be immersed in the whole atmosphere of cinema production work.”

Brian Lane is a writer, director and director of photography who specializes in adapting his creative writing into video. He showcased several shorts at the School of Communication Media Festival in 2007 and has since produced “Adenosine N4,” an experimental digital film, with Jake Durrett, that they entered in the Waterfront and Battlecreek Film Festivals. Brian is a junior majoring in FVMS in the School of Communication and minors in Creative Writing. Brian is also a musician and scores many of his digital videos. He hopes to pick up the accordion while in Cannes.

The Cannes International Film Festival is the largest and most prestigious film festival in the world. On the southern coast of France every year, the best of the industry gather to exhibit, propose, network, and most importantly screen awarding winning films.