

THE VIDEO COLLEGE OFFERS ONE YEAR OF INDUSTRY FILM TRAINING TO TEN LUCKY LONDONERS

Ten young people from London's black and ethnic minority communities will be given the chance to join a year-long programme of film training with The Video College. *Move on Up* is for 10 young men and women who are motivated, committed and serious about gaining the skills and knowledge that will help them make a career in film.

The Video College, one of London's leading independent providers of training in digital video production, is one of only three organisations nationally which have been selected to run the new, UK Film Council and Skillset-funded Second Light film training scheme.

Hands-on, production-based training will be delivered by experienced industry professionals and enable the group to gain creative, technical and production skills and, just as importantly, a deep understanding of the practice and protocols of the film industry. They will produce a short film, a 10-minute drama and at the end of the programme be invited to produce their own shorts.

An extra industry focus will be provided by *Move on Up* masterclasses with leading producers and directors including Mike Hodges (*Get Carter*), Menelik Shabazz (*Burning an Illusion*) and Don Boyd (*Scum*) and specialist courses with the Production Guild of Great Britain, FT2, VET, BBC Multiplatform Productions and leading distributors in the UK.

Sarah Martin, Director of the Video College said: "We're looking forward to seeing a group of well-trained, motivated young people ready for long-term careers in the industry. This is a great opportunity and we want young people passionate about getting into film to apply for *Move On Up*."

The group will also visit Skillset Screen Academies: the National Film & Television School, the London Film School and Bournemouth Skillset Screen and Media Academy. Continuous mentoring, career advice and industry work placements will mean that by the end of the programme each young person will be able make informed decisions about what area of the industry they want to work in and their next steps to achieve success.

Move On Up is open to any young people aged 18 to 23 from black or ethnic minority communities in London. Closing date for applications: 4th December with interviews taking place in the week of 14th December. *Move On Up* starts on 4th January 2010.

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Notes to Editors:

- *Move on Up*, is focused on supporting individuals to develop skills and a real knowledge of how the industry works right through from initial idea to distribution and exhibition.

They'll be looking at the film industry as it is now with its range from low-budget to major feature films and the impact that digital technology has made on production and exhibition.

- Second Light is a new programme developed by First Light, the UK's leading initiative that provides funding and expertise to enable young people to create their own short digital films and media projects.

The other organisations running Second Light are Calling the Shots in Bristol and Glasgow Media Access Centre.

- Skillset is the Sector Skills Council (SSC) for Creative Media which comprises tv, film, radio, interactive media, animation, computer games, facilities, photo imaging and publishing. Jointly funded by industry and government, our job is to help the UK creative media industries have the right people, with the right skills, in the right place, at the right time, so that our industries remain competitive. For more information visit: www.skillset.org <<http://www.skillset.org/>> .

A Bigger Future is a strategic plan for delivering industry relevant skills in the UK film industry. The result of 12 months research and consultation with the industry - from those involved in script development to those working in exhibition - it is a £50m, five-year plan. It is funded by the National Lottery through the UK Film Council, and from contributions made to the Skills Investment Fund (SIF) from feature films, and additionally-levered sources of finance.