What I want out of the program is knowledge. If you give a man a fish, he eats for a day. Teach a man to fish and he can eat for a lifetime. What I want is the know-how to accomplish all of my personal goals. My personal goals include finishing a feature length screenplay and also getting that screenplay made into a movie. A lesser goal I have for myself is to become the director of the movies I write. This program is the first step in my plan to get there.

Screenwriting is not a difficult task for me. I have written several screenplays in fact. But they are all shorts. None of my screenplays are long enough to become features. There may be many reasons for this. Perhaps I don’t know enough about story structure to stretch an idea out long enough, or maybe the idea wasn’t good enough to be a feature in the first place. So I can to this program to learn how to become a better writer. Making shorts is fun but I want to sink my teeth into a larger story.

Funding is another big obstacle for me. I have little or no idea how to sell my ideas. Many of my shorts were made with less than a few hundred dollars. I want to learn how to speak the language of investors so that my ideas can come to life on the screen. I have self-confidence but not many investors seem to share that confidence.

I also want this program to help me find a directing style. However it is not as important to me because directing can be tedious and stressful and it’s more about the technical side. My mind is more on the creative side, and no one wants more stress. However I have found that writers who direct their own movie do a very good job. Not only do they know everything there is to know about the story, but they have had the vision of how it should turn out before the story was started. My screenplays are like my babies, very important to me. I don’t want someone else to mess up my story with their idea of how it should look. I know how it should look; I don’t necessarily know how to make the final product look that way.

My short term plan to meet these goals starts with this program. I have a screen writing mentor that will be helping me turn an idea into a screenplay. Also this program will help me make a sales pitch so I can possibly sell the screenplay and get it made into a movie. Also filmconnection will be getting me a meeting with producers to use the sales pitch. Even if they don’t buy this particular screenplay I will be networking so in the future I will know who to go to and they will have already met with me once. As for the directing goal I am now an apprentice at a local film studio where I will be able to study a real director in action but also have the opportunity to try directing things myself to get a feel for it. Once I am finished with the program I will be using all the knowledge I have gained to sell future ideas and screenplays and also raise funding for projects I want to do myself, where I can direct. This program will give me the knowledge to reach all my goals and I am so excited to have the opportunity.

MY MOVIE IDEAS

1. Set in the 1960s, based on actual events, following the life events of a brilliant young man who throws away his future and risks losing the love of his life to enlist in the army to protect his twin brother.

2. Two screenwriting brothers go to a secluded cabin to work on their next project. Their imaginations get the better of them as they struggle with their demons, both past and present.

3. In the future the Witness Protection Program sends witnesses to a colony on the moon to keep them safe because criminals don’t have a space program. The mafia has a hit man train as an astronaut to find a certain witness before the trial on Earth. It’s a sci-fi noir movie.