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Contest extended to students

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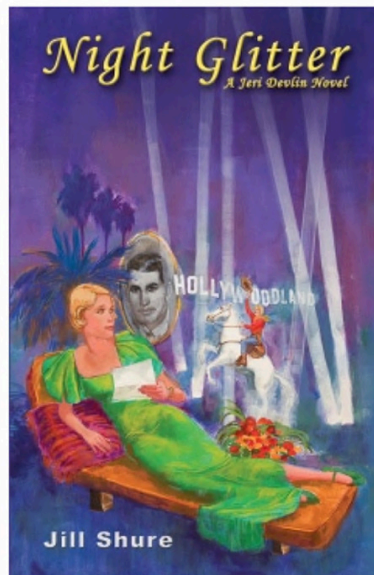
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Calling all aspiring filmmakers and musicians. Award-winning author Jill Shure has launched a unique media contest for her latest novel "Night Glitter," complete with a hefty cash prize and media exposure for the lucky winners.

Shure's latest novel is going to be transformed into a full feature film. She is now looking for interpretive works created by Southern California film and music students. Film students are asked to write, produce and edit a three to five minute film based on a select scene they have interpreted from "Night Glitter." Music students are invited to create a two-three minute theme song based on the time period and theme of "Night Glitter." The Daily Aztec was fortunate enough to speak to Shure about her recent novel, the student contest and her advice for aspiring media makers in today's competitive field.

The Daily Aztec: Tell me about "Night Glitter."

Jill Shure: "Night Glitter" is the sequel to "Night Jazz," which introduced readers to Jeri Devlin Rose, a woman who was mysteriously transported back in time from 1997 to 1929. "Night Glitter" picks up her story two years later and follows Jeri through the turmoil of the Great Depression, her husband's battle with tuberculosis, mobsters that pursue her across the country, brothels, casting couches and a turbulent affair with a cowboy movie star. It's a fast-paced romantic story with a time travel twist.



Courtesy of Marich Communications

DA: What prompted you to extend this opportunity to students?

JS: I've always been a huge supporter of the arts, and I can think of no better way to support talented students than by offering a hands-on experience, complete with a paycheck! I'm excited to be able to provide a creative challenge with the incentives of prize money and media exposure.

DA: Will there be a story after "Night Glitter?"

JS: Yes. "Night Glitter" is the second book in a trilogy of novels that follow the story of Jeri Devlin Rose.

DA: How did you decide to transform the written story onto the silver screen?

JS: A lot of the story takes place in 1930s Hollywood, which has the glamour of Hollywood's golden years as well as the hard times of the Great Depression. Writing about these contrasts inspired me. I think the decade is so visually stimulating that it lends itself to the screen. However, the novel is not all glitz. Because in "Night Glitter," Jeri finds herself living in a brothel, which is the opposite of her former lavish lifestyle. I believe that the backdrop of that period, along with the heartbreak and numerous complications make this an excellent candidate for a film adaptation.

DA: As far as aesthetics go, what is the film and music style you will be looking for?

JS: I hope that students will be as creative and innovative as they can be! One of the things I'm most excited about regarding this contest is seeing how students interpret what I've written. Creative liberties are part of show business, and I encourage students to make the story their own, to put their own mark on it.

DA: Why would you recommend students to apply for this music and film opportunity?

JS: An entry in this contest would be an excellent addition to any student's portfolio. Completing the project will give students an idea of the joys and obstacles they may encounter while working in the music and film industries. The best part is that students are calling the shots and get to be in charge. Students also retain full copyright of their final products, which is very important to me. Plus, there's a \$500 prize. That's not too shabby, either.

DA: Any words of wisdom to aspiring musicians, filmmakers or writers?

JS: Be thoughtful, be patient and believe in yourself and your work. Be open to criticism and take it constructively, but always be persistent and passionate about your craft. Do what you love, write what you love, film what you love — whatever it may be.

Some contest details to keep in mind: Submissions are due no later than midnight on Jan. 31, 2010 and winners of this contest will be announced Feb. 18, 2010. Unlike the time travelling conditions found in "Night Glitter," time is running out for this film and music contest, so get those cameras and recorders reeling! Film students should download the select scenes and write and produce a film, complete with actors and appropriate props and upload the video onto Shure's YouTube channel at <http://www.youtube.com/user/jillshure>. Music students should create their music piece and post it on this YouTube channel as well.

For more information on contest details, "Night Glitter" synopsis, author biography and copyright information, visit <http://www.marichcom.net/clients.php?id=27>.