

COLLEGE NEWS



Professor Jim Shores spent a month in Los Angeles this summer studying screenwriting at Act One. Located in Hollywood, Act One is a Christian non-profit organization that trains and mentors Christians for careers in mainstream film and television. Dr. Shores studied under film industry professionals including film writers for *Batman Begins*, *Cars*, *Deja Vu*, *Seven Pounds*, and *The Ultimate Gift*, and television writers for *Lost*, *24*, *Home Improvement*, *Malcolm in the Middle*, *Charmed*, *That 70s Show*, and *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*. Shores is working on his fourth screenplay, mentored by screenwriter, Key Payton.

Of the experiences, Shores says, "I had no idea how many Christians are working in Hollywood. It's obvious that God is calling people to be salt and light there. I met some wonderful people in the Act One program, learned so much, and I would recommend it for any of our students who want to seriously explore screenwriting as a career."

Dr. Shores here. I am trying to gather 4 students to take to Los Angeles in January for two weeks for 6 hours course credit. (I've already got two students who are interested) It would be at the Act One Screenwriting Program in LA. You would get 6 hours course credit - 3 credit hours in screenwriting, and 3 credit hours in theology & film, the business of Hollywood. They could count as Communication or General electives.

It would run from Jan 4-16th. It would cost \$3995. Room and Board is included (but not plane fare). It will likely be held on the campus of Pepperdine University in Malibu. You will be taught by industry professionals who have literally just stepped off of a studio lot to come teach your class. It's quite amazing.

If you have ever wondered if God is calling you to be a part of the entertainment industry or to write screenplays, this would be a great way of sticking your toe in the water and seeing if maybe God is calling you in this direction. You will get topnotch instruction and meet some amazing Christians working in Hollywood. It's truly one of the most influential mission fields in the world.

Please check out the Act One Program at <http://www.actoneprogram.com/writingprogram.htm> If you are interested, you need to contact me at jshores@montreat.edu - and go ahead and fill out the online application at <http://www.actoneprogram.com/contact.htm>

Student Tobacco Use

Keri Boer

The number of Montreat College students that use tobacco products is going down. We are happy to know that the vast majority of our students are making healthy decisions, at least in the choice to stay away from tobacco use.

A campus-wide survey conducted in Spring 2008 showed 24% of Montreat students used tobacco. This number decreased to 16% of students using tobacco, according to a similar survey collected in Spring 2009.

Not only have we experienced an 8% reduction in tobacco use in one year, but we are much lower than the North Carolina average for this age group. According to the NC State Center for Health Statistics, over 28% of 18-24 year olds smoked cigarettes in 2006.

Our biggest focus right now is to encourage those who wish to quit by connecting them to resources that can help. 1-800-QUIT NOW is a free service

with trained quit coaches. People are up to 7 times more likely to quit with the help of a quitline than trying to quit on their own. There are many resources available to help those who want to quit using tobacco. Montreat students are encouraged to contact nurse Linda for more information at nurse@montreat.edu.

Montreat receives support for our tobacco free education and cessation from the NC Health and Wellness Trust Fund. The NC Health and Wellness Trust Fund makes North Carolina stronger, both physically and economically, by funding programs that promote preventive health. Created by the General Assembly in 2000 to allocate a portion of North Carolina's share of the national tobacco settlement, HWTF has invested \$199 million to support preventive health initiatives and \$102 million to fund prescription drug assistance programs. For more information, please visit www.HealthWellNC.com.