

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** There are many screenwriting competitions that honor wonderful, exciting and entertaining scripts, and some that honor moral scripts, but the Kairos Prizes for Spiritually Uplifting Screenplays endeavors to encourage the production of feature films that are wholesome, uplifting and inspirational and which result in a greater increase in either man's love or understanding of God. Our intention in setting up the *Guidelines and Criteria* is to clearly define the competition so that you will be successful in your submissions. A word of warning: This competition is not for the nominalist, occult, new age, or other non-Judeo-Christian spirituality. **Please read and follow these guidelines and Rules Of Entry. Submissions that do not follow them will be disqualified.**

- 1> In selecting the winners of the contest, judges consider not only a script's entertainment value and craftsmanship, but also whether or not the script in question is, uplifting, inspirational, spiritual, and if it teaches lessons in ethics and morality.
- 2> Furthermore, the judges consider whether the script is primarily spiritual, rather than merely humanitarian, and whether it resulted in a dramatic increase in either man's love or understanding of God. Considering this, the judges will decide whether the script communicates God's wisdom and infinite love in new, effective and creative ways, thereby helping people understand the relationship of God.
- 3> Primarily scripts should be suitable for a G or PG rating. Adult themes will be accepted with the following warning: Action and/or dialogue must not be gratuitous in nature or form. Given the reality of creating recognizable, identifiable and realistic environments within the storytelling process - these themes must be handled with great care.
- 4> The script may be allegorical but should refer implicitly and/or explicitly to biblical principles, values and virtues, and/or refer specifically to the Bible. To define this more clearly, judges will take into account the criteria that Movieguide® Magazine uses to evaluate films and television programs. These criteria include looking at each script:

- *Aesthetically* by looking at the artistic value of the script, and by looking at how well the script is written.
- *Emotively* by looking at how it captures and amuses the audience as entertainment and amusement.
- *Semantically* by looking at the individual elements and their meanings, just as many parents do.
- *Syntactically* by looking at how the elements come together and how the characters relate to each other, just as many teenagers and young adults do.
- *Propositionally* by looking at what the script is communicating, as summarized in its premise.
- *Generically* by comparing it to other scripts in its genre.
- *Thematically* by looking at the themes that are present in the script.
- *Morally* by looking at its moral perspective and content.
- *Biblically* by looking at the biblical perspective and principles in the script.
- *Systematically* by looking at how the script relates to other scripts.
- *Intellectually* by looking at how the script fulfills its goals and premise.
- *Sociologically* by looking at how the script relates to culture and society.
- *Politically* by looking at the political perspective of the script.
- *Cognitively* by looking at the age group to whom the script is marketed, the age group for whom it is suitable, and how it will impact a particular age group.
- *Psychologically* by looking at how the script deals with mind and soul.
- *Historically* by looking at how accurate the script is in presenting history.
- *Sexually* by looking at how the script deals with sex and sexual relationships.
- *Philosophically* by looking at the philosophical perspective and worldview of the script.
- *Ontologically* by looking at how the script deals with the nature of being.
- *Epistemologically* by looking at how the script deals with the nature of knowing.
- *Spiritually* by looking at how the script deals with God, faith and religion.

- 5> The script should adhere to the short form of the Motion Picture Code:

The basic dignity and value of human life shall be respected and upheld. Restraint shall be exercised in portraying the taking of life. Evil, sin, crime and wrong-doing shall not be justified. Detailed and protracted acts of brutality, cruelty, physical violence, torture, and abuse, shall not be presented. Indecent or undue exposure of the human body shall not be presented. Illicit sex relationships shall not be justified. Intimate sex scenes violating common standards of decency shall not be portrayed. Restraint and care shall be exercised in presentations dealing with sex aberrations. Obscene speech, gestures or movements shall not be presented. Undue profanity shall not be presented. Religion shall not be demeaned. Words or symbols contemptuous of racial, religious or national groups, shall not be used so as to incite bigotry or hatred. Excessive cruelty to animals shall not be portrayed and animals shall not be treated inhumanely.