

TELETOON MORE THAN DOUBLES ANIMATION SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 10TH ANNIVERSARY

Toronto – **TELETOON**, Canada's only all animation network, today announced that for the 10th edition of the **TELETOON Animation Scholarship**, the total prize money has more than doubled to over \$70,000 to support the development of nine talented animation students across Canada. As well as supporting the work of new animators, **TELETOON** is also rewarding cartoon fans. The new Voter's Choice Award will allow would be cartoon critics to have their say and possibly win \$500. Applications for the Scholarship are now being accepted until June 15, more information and rules of entry are available at teletoon.com.

Since 1997, **TELETOON** has awarded more than \$260,000 in scholarships to 96 students across Canada. As a launch pad for emerging animators, the **TELETOON Animation Scholarship** serves a vital role in the Canadian animation community. Developed with key members of the industry to highlight and encourage new talent, many past winners have gone on to forge successful animation careers and have worked with award-winning studios such as 9 Story Entertainment, Aardman Animations, Nelvana, Pixar Animation Studios, and Studio B Productions.

Until June 15, 2007, young animators from across Canada, either graduating high school students or individuals enrolled in a post-secondary animation program, can enter a short animated film to be considered in one of three categories: Entrance (for graduating high school students); Continuing Education (for students currently studying animation at the post-secondary level); and Most Promising Student (for students graduating from a post-secondary animation program). After consideration by a panel of judges, ten films from each of the three categories will be chosen as finalists. All 30 short cartoons will screen at the Ottawa International Animation Festival (September 19-23, 2007) and the top three in each category will be awarded scholarships.

TELETOON fans also get to have their say. For the first time, **TELETOON** invites viewers across the country to be involved in the competition. All 30 of the final films will be online at teletoon.com, where viewers can watch and vote for their favourite. The cartoon with most votes in each category will win the Voter's Choice Award – a \$1,500 cash prize. Voters will also be entered into a draw to win \$500.

TELETOON is Canada's first and only 24-hour-a-day animation station, and is intended for both children and adults. With English and French language services, the network offers viewers classic cartoons and new animation from Canada and around the world. Founded in 1997, **TELETOON** is owned by Canada's Astral Media Inc. (50%), and Corus Entertainment Inc. (50%).

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