Seeing how popular and productive film festivals are in showcasing great works, the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America has developed a similar concept. The SONscreen Film Festival is the annual gathering for people of all ages who have a passion for using film and video for the purpose of creating timely and relevant productions for social awareness, outreach, and uplifting creative entertainment. Since its debut in October, 2002, the Festival has become the destination for established and up-and-coming Christian filmmakers to share their creative work, gain exposure, and network with other media and film professionals.

On April 4-6, film producers will convene at the Adventist Media Center for the SONscreen Film Festival. Themed “Chronicles: Stories that speak truth and change lives,” the Festival will feature Actor/Producer David A.R. White and special film screenings of The Record Keeper, Hell and Mr. Fudge, and The Adventists 2.

“We hope the Festival will continue to open the door for mentoring, networking and internship possibilities as well as motivate and encourage producers to keep doing what they are doing to creatively use their talents for the Lord,” said George Johnson Jr., communication director for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America and Festival executive director.

During the Festival, participants will be able to attend professional workshops dealing with writing, directing and production as well as view various films produced by the attendees. “The festival showcases a variety of films, often ones that reflect the themes of redemption, tolerance, equality, truth, and hope,” said Dan Weber, associate communication director for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America and Festival producer.

Organizers of the Festival will also host a Pitch Fest on Thursday, April 4, from 8:30-10:00 p.m. Pre-selected Festival attendees will have the opportunity to pitch a film idea to a panel of judges that will ultimately select a winner. The winning entry will receive $10,000 as seed money to work with the North American Division’s Office of Communication to produce the film as an outreach project of the Church. Interested filmmakers should submit their film treatment no later than March 25 to george.johnson@nad.adventist.org to be considered for the Pitch Fest. Film treatments should follow the themes of the Festival (redemption, tolerance, equality, truth, and hope). Note: Filmmakers that are participating in the Pitch Fest must be present at the Festival.

The Festival will conclude with an awards banquet honoring the best in various categories such as drama, comedy, animation, documentary, and public service announcement as well as the newly-added ministry-related categories for family, youth, community services, health issues.

For more information about Festival registration, please visit www.sonscreen.com.