

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!

The Man Behind The Camera.

By Whitney Nichole Stevens



Neal Bennett, a man of many talents, is said to be one of the biggest names in film within Monmouth County. Bennett is an alumni of Rowan and Rockport University and has studied and worked with the best. As he continues on his path to greatness, he has decided to leave his mark on the youth.

Neal Bennett is the founder of The Industry Film School located in Eatontown, New Jersey. The film school is open to students between the ages of 13-19, who are interested in film making. The program is geared towards teaching students the basics of film making, helping them to sharpen their skills, and encouraging them to reach their full potential. Students can also get help in developing their portfolio to assist them in their next step – college.

The film school offers a variety of classes that allow them to gain experience working in different crew positions, produce their own films, think creatively, and learn the techniques of film making. "I am grateful to have had some good experiences in the industry. Without them, there is no way I could teach my students. Anyone can regurgitate book knowledge, but you need to live the real life problems and successes to understand what these kids are going to need in this industry." Bennett added, "My main goal is to develop a film school with programs that teach students what it really feels like to work on a film or television set in the studio or the field. I like my students to experience the same pressure and deadlines as well as working with people they never met before."

Growing up in the world we live in today, it is sometimes easy for kids to become involved in the negative things life has to offer. This program gives kids the chance to channel their energy into something that's positive and meaningful. Thanks to Neal Bennett, he has made a difference in the lives of those who have the power to change their future. Giving back has not only changed the lives of the youth, but it has done wonders for Bennett as well.

"I've gained a lot of respect for teachers who do this day in and day out. It's not easy work, but to see a student learn something new and apply it in real life is really satisfying." And nothing is more satisfying for a teacher to watch its pupil become successful. Bennett has had the joy in watching many of his students accomplish great things. "My students have become involved in prestigious film companies like Chapman and Abel Cine Tech, won Telly awards, and worked on major motion pictures."

Besides giving back to the community, Bennett has big aspirations for the future. "I'd like to keep doing what I'm doing now but on a larger scale. I'd like to see the Industry Film School develop locations for student's world-wide. Possibly become the prep-school for Full Sail, SVA and other college film schools."

If you are interested in filmmaking, put your trust in Neal Bennett. Join the Industry Film School family. "This industry is very unique. The Industry Film School gives students a chance to experience aspects of what it is like to really be a part of this business and what is expected in this industry. The relationships that are developed by and between the students and instructors last well beyond the length of the course." Bennett encourages all those who are interested in film to "Get a camera and computer. Start shooting and editing. Start meeting new people (networking) and never burn bridges." Good advice, from a man with big heart and years of success under his belt. So sign up today. There is no time like the present. There is no doubt that you'll be in good hands.

For more information about The Industry Film School, go to www.industryfilmschool.com or call (877) 593-8953.

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Students learn the techniques of film making while producing their own films. All photos courtesy of Industry Film School

