

catalogue

edition 2025

young lab
horizons 





PHILIP LAZEBNIK

TUTOR

Philip LaZebnik is a screenwriter, playwright and a screenwriting consultant. Originally associated with Disney Studios and Dream Works. His screenwriting credits include “Mulan” and “Pocahontas” for Disney, and “The Prince of Egypt” and “The Road to El Dorado” for DreamWorks, among many others. He has written the book for the theatrical musical “The Prince of Egypt” with songs by Stephen Schwartz. Philip also worked as a Film/Story Consultant for: “Antz” and “Shrek” (Story consultant, DreamWorks Feature Animation and PDI), “Lion King I ½” and “Mulan II” (Disney Television Animation), and numerous other films.

MARIA DUTKIEWICZ

SCRIPT CONSULTANT AND ASSISTANT

Maria Dutkiewicz is a Master of Arts, cultural worker, communication specialist, project manager, artists consultant, film aficionado and occasional film critic. She is the author of “Three Afternoons with Pola”, an educational children’s book addressing waste management policies, published in 2023 by the City of Poznań and Estrada Poznańska. In 2023, she was recognized in the Krzysztof Mętrak Competition for film review. She participated in the “Sunday in the Country” film critics workshops organized by New Horizons and the European Film Academy, mentored by Pascal Edelman and Manolis Kranakis. She consults on artistic projects, including video arts. In 2024, she led a panel on video art&art-house cinema at U-Jazdowski Cinema in Warsaw.

THE BEAD

FEATURE FILM / DEVELOPMENT, 2ND DRAFT

POLISH TITLE: KAROLCIA

Scriptwriter: Martyna Wojcieszek

Director: Krzysztof Komander

Producer: Dana Pohl

Production company: MTL Maxfilm

Looking for: funding, broadcasters, sales agents, distributors

Contact: dana.pohl@ifilm.pl, 513 121 293

An adventure and humorous story for the whole family, based on the Polish cult book “Karolcia.”

Karolcia (9) finds a magical blue bead that grants wishes. Together with her friend Piotr (9), they embark on an emotional mission to save their beloved park, their daily playground, from closure. They encounter the sneaky witch Filomena, who wants to take the magic bead. In the end, Karolcia learns that real superpower comes from within - and that you don't always need magic to make the world better.

Przygodowa i pełna humoru opowieść dla całej rodziny, oparta na kultowej książce „Karolcia”.

Karolcia (9) znajduje magiczny, niebieski koralik, który spełnia życzenia. Wraz z przyjacielem Piotrem (9) ruszają w pełną emocji misję, by uratować ukochany park, miejsce ich codziennych zabaw, przed zamknięciem. Na ich drodze staje podstępna czarownica Filomena, która pragnie odebrać magiczny koralik. Karolcia odkrywa, że prawdziwe supermoce kryją się w nas samych – a magia nie zawsze jest potrzebna, by zmieniać świat na lepsze.

THE BEAD - TEAM



Martyna Wojcieszek is a scriptwriter. She has written scripts for short films and plays for children as well as series. She also directed her own short film, “Klara Has a Cat,” made as part of the final of the “Take and Shoot!” competition. She is the author of the scripts for the children's series “The Adventures of MiniMini Fish” and “Pucio” (Annecy official selection).

Dana Pohl has built a career shaped by international collaboration and a deep understanding of production. Since October 2024, she has been working as a producer at MTL Maxfilm, where she develops engaging, high-quality projects for broad audiences. She was associate producer of “Believe in Santa 2,” and Polish line producer on “Live a Little,” a European co-production premiered at Göteborg FF 2025. Dana has previously worked with the Polish Producers Alliance, Film Commission Poland, and the EU’s MEDIA Programme in Poland. She studied Film and TV Production, and has lived in the U.S., Egypt, and Mexico.

COMPASS OF THE HEART

FEATURE FILM / DEVELOPMENT, TREATMENT

POLISH TITLE: KRYŚIA I KOMPAS SERCA

Scriptwriter: Paulina Korzeniewska

Director: Karolina Porcari

Producers: Małgorzata Jurczak, Magdalena Koszalińska

Production company: Constantin Entertainment Polska

Looking for: funding, co-producers, sales agents

Contact: Malgorzata.Jurczak@constantin-entertainment.pl,

Magdalena.Koszalińska@constantin-entertainment.pl

Ten-year-old Kristie isn't thrilled about her mom's new boyfriend, Paddy. But when she discovers a mysterious notebook in her great-grandmother Eleonore's old house, she accidentally unleashes Hurricane—a mad scientist who was magically imprisoned a hundred years ago. Now he's determined to take over their quiet town, and only Kristie can stop him. Together with her best friend Jerry and the most unexpected ally—Paddy—Kristie sets off on a thrilling quest to find the three enchanted stones that can rebuild the legendary Compass of the Heart. With its power, they might just be able to spoil Hurricane's evil plans. Along the way, she'll face danger, laughter, and discover that family isn't just who you're born to—it's who you choose to stand beside. A funny, touching, and magical story about growing up, opening your heart, and finding your true north.

Pełna humoru i wzruszeń opowieść o rodzinie, odwadze i sile serca. Kryśia (10) nie akceptuje nowego partnera mamy, Tymka. W starym domu prababci Eleonory odkrywa tajemniczy notatnik z opisem legendarnego Kompas Serca i przypadkiem uwalnia Huragana – szalonego naukowca uwięzionego magicznie przez Eleonorę sto lat wcześniej. Huragan planuje przejąć kontrolę nad miasteczkiem i tylko Kryśia może go powstrzymać. Razem z przyjacielem Jurkiem i niespodziewanym sojusznikiem – Tymkiem – wyrusza w niezwykłą podróż, by odnaleźć trzy kamienie potrzebne do złożenia Kompas. Tylko dzięki jego mocy mogą pokrzyżować plany Huragana. W tej niezwykłej podróży Kryśia odkryje, że prawdziwa rodzina to nie tylko więzy krwi, ale miłość, zaufanie i wspólne działanie.

COMPASS OF THE HEART - TEAM



Paulina Korzeniewska, PhD, is a literary and audiovisual translator, academic, film scholar, screenwriter, and a poet with three volumes of poetry to her name. She was a finalist in the Script Fiesta Festival's 2025 script contest and is currently attending the StoryLab.pro course (2024/2025).

She is in development with a producer on her first dramedy, "Every Other Weekend." She is the author of the children's book "Always by Your Side," which explores themes of shared custody and family dynamics after divorce.

Małgorzata Jurczak is a film producer, a member of EFA, and a member of the Producers Guild of Poland and Polish Film Association. She produced over 50 long-features films, tv series and tv theatres. Since 2025 she has been working as Head of Drama at Constantin Entertainment Poland.

Magdalena Koszlińska is a manager, film and TV producer, and story development consultant. She has worked on more than 100 short and documentary films, including the Oscar-nominated "Joanna" and the EFA-winner "Communion." She worked at Andrzej Wajda Film School, TVN Warner Bros Discovery, and the Off Camera Film Festival as well as BNP Paribas Warsaw SerialCon Festival. Since May 2025 she has been working as development producer at Constantin Entertainment Poland.

LONE RIDER

FEATURE FILM / DEVELOPMENT, 2ND DRAFT

POLISH TITLE: SAMOTNY JEŹDZIEC

Scriptwriter: Mateusz Białas

Director: Maria Zbąska

Producer: Barbara Palka

Looking for: co-producers, sales agents, distributors, funding partners

Contact: barbara.palka@atmgrupa.pl, 519 520 469

Bruno (9) is a wild-hearted cowboy in a kid's body — fearless, stubborn, and born to ride.

Life on the farm is all gallops and games with Dad—until loss knocks him off course. Uprooted and grieving, Bruno finds hope in the unlikelyst place: a stick horse and a crew of fierce girls. His journey from rodeo dreams to hobby horse hero is a ride full of grit, heart, and the courage to grow up on his own terms.

Blending a youthful western spirit with the hobby horsing craze, “Lone Rider” bursts with energy, humor, and emotional depth.

Bruno (9) to prawdziwy kowboj - uparty, nieustraszony i stworzony do jazdy. Po śmierci ojca opuszcza wieś i przeprowadza się do surowego dziadka, z którym nie miał kontaktu.

Tam, w tajemnicy, dołącza do dziewczęcej ekipy hobby horsiar, dowodzonej przez Gabi (10) – i odkrywa świat przyjaźni, pasji i siły ducha. Razem z dziadkiem uczą się siebie nawzajem, a Bruno przekonuje się, że prawdziwe męstwo nie tkwi w medalach lecz w sercu i w odwadze, by iść własną drogą.

„Samotny jeździec” łączy dziecięcy western z magią hobby horsingu, tworząc opowieść pełną śmiechu, wzruszeń i nieposkromionej energii.

LONE RIDER

- TEAM



Mateusz Białas is a member of the Polish Screenwriters' Guild and is currently participating in the 2024/2025 year-long screenwriting course at StoryLab.pro. "Lone Rider" is his feature-length screenwriting debut. He was a finalist in the Gdańsk Script 2024 competition organized by the Gdańsk Film Fund and a semifinalist in the Imagine 2023 competition. He is also the author of the narrative for the Forgive Me Father game, released on Steam and highly rated by users. (It ranked among the Top 100 independent games worldwide in 2022). He teaches a creative writing course for film students at the University of Gdańsk. He is also the initiator and organizer of the Tricity Screenwriting Meetings, which have been running since October 2023.

Barbara Palka is an experienced Development Executive, Creative Producer and Showrunner responsible for development of scripted content at ATM Grupa and PSP. Barbara studied film production and cinematography in Los Angeles. She got her experience working on multiple American features and TV series for ABC Studios, CBS Paramount, Dreamworks Television, and Hallmark Channel. In Poland, she served as the Head of Script Development at Discovery Warner Bros TVN. She was responsible for numerous Polish series, e.g., "Medics," "True Law," "Belfer" (Canal+).

Barbara is armed with in-depth knowledge of screenwriting, hands-on production experience, and a solid grasp of the practical and logistical elements involved in transforming a project from page to screen. Barbara's passion is effective storytelling.

POLA AND THE CHRISTMAS CATASTROPHE

FEATURE FILM / DEVELOPMENT, 1ST DRAFT

POLISH TITLE: POLA I ŚWIĄTECZNA KATASTROFA

Scriptwriters: Marcin Osiadacz, Karolina Przeklasa, Katarzyna Warzecha

Director: Katarzyna Warzecha

Production company: Watchout Studio

Looking for: distributor, co-producer, sales agents, broadcasters

Contact: antonina@watchoutstudio.pl

Love, presents, ice cream, and... frozen food? A comedy full of adventure and magic about what really matters during Christmas*.

Pola is in trouble. She plans her dream Christmas, but her busy parents leave her for the holidays with her demonic uncle, Frostislav Rime - a mustard-smelling frozen food magnate. Can it get any worse? It can... The girl discovers that Frostislav has stolen the book containing all the children's Christmas wishes and plans to ruin the holidays once and for all. Pola teams up with Christmas geek Romek and together they embark on a mission. They have one day to stop Rime and save the Christmas. Little do they know that Pola's family is hiding a secret that will change Christmas forever.

*Love, of course!

Miłość, prezenty, lody i... mrożonki? Czyli pełna przygód i magii komedia o tym, co naprawdę liczy się w święta*.

Pola ma przechłapanie. Planuje wymarzoną Gwiazdkę, ale zapracowani rodzice zostawiają ją na święta u demonicznego wujka Mroziśława Szrona - śmierdzącego musztardą mrożonkowego magnata. Nie może być gorzej? Może... Dziewczynka odkrywa, że Szron ukradł księgę, w której zapisane są gwiazdkowe marzenia wszystkich dzieci i planuje ostatecznie zniszczyć święta. Pola łączy siły ze świątecznym geekiem Romkiem i wspólnie ruszają na misję. Mają jeden dzień, by powstrzymać Szrona i uratować święta. Nie wiedzą jednak, że rodzina Poli skrywa tajemnicę, która odmieni Gwiazdkę na zawsze.

*Wiadomo, że miłość!

POLA AND THE CHRISTMAS CATASTROPHE - TEAM



Marcin Osiadacz is a journalist. He graduated from the screenwriting programme at the Documentary and Feature Film Studios (WFDiF) and Script Atelier. He is a writer of comedic texts for television, a co-creator of the series “The Mission” for TVN Player, and the screenwriter of the comedy show “Last One Laughing” for Amazon Prime. He is also a laureate of “Imagine That” screenwriting contest organized by Watchout Studio.

Katarzyna Warzecha is a director and scriptwriter. She is a co-director of “Green Border” by Agnieszka Holland. The film was awarded at 80th Venice International Film Festival (Special Jury Prize). She directed Netflix series “Absolute Beginners.” Her short documentary “We have one heart,” was the most frequently screened polish film at the most important international festivals in 2021 (such as Visions du Réel, Doc Leipzig, Chicago IFF). She is a member of the Polish and European Film Academy.

Karolina Przeklasa is a graduate of the Łódź Film School, the Script Atelier, and the Jagiellonian University. In the past, she has collaborated with the Etiuda&Anima International Film Festival, the portal naEKRANIE.pl, and the advertising agency DDB Warsaw. Executive producer of several short films and co-founder of One3 Studio. Her credits include “Be somebody” (dir. Michał Toczek) and “Nothing Else” (dir. Jakub Prysak). Currently, she is developing several feature film projects as a screenwriter.

TORU SUPERFOX. SUPERHERO

FEATURE ANIMATED FILM / DEVELOPMENT, 2ND DRAFT

POLISH TITLE: TORU SUPERLIS. SUPERBOHATER

Scriptwriter: Maciej Dobosiewicz

Director: Marek Lachowicz

Production company: Animoon

Looking for: co-producer, funding, distributor, sales agents

Contact: kostrzewa@animoon.pl

Being a hero isn't about being fearless. It's about stepping out and facing your feelings.

Toru, a sensitive young fox, has just moved in with his parents and his eccentric grandmother — a retired superhero. When his efforts to make new friends go wrong, he looks for acceptance elsewhere. That's when the real trouble begins. A warm and emotional story about family, friendship, and finding the strength to face your feelings — one small step at a time.

Animated Feature Film for Children (Ages 5–8).

Bycie bohaterem to nie brak strachu. To odwaga, by stanąć twarzą w twarz ze swoimi uczuciami.

Toru, wrażliwy lisek, właśnie przeprowadził się do nowego domu z rodzicami i ekscentryczną babcią — emerytowaną superbohaterką. Gdy próby zdobycia sympatii rówieśników kończą się porażką, Toru zaczyna szukać akceptacji gdzie indziej. I wtedy zaczynają się kłopoty. Film opowiada o sile emocji, potrzebie bliskości i o tym, że nawet największy bohater czasem potrzebuje pomocy. Ciepła, wzruszająca opowieść o rodzinie, przyjaźni i o tym, jak uczyć się odwagi — krok po kroku.

Pełnometrażowa animacja dla dzieci (5–8 lat).

TORU SUPERFOX. SUPERHERO - TEAM



Maciej Dobosiewicz is an award-winning writer whose work has appeared in Znak, Czas Literatyczny, and Fabularie. He's the author of children's books, a detective novel, and the acclaimed short story "Rocket to Heaven." His latest collection, "Laszowanie," was published by Nisza in 2024. He works across animation, games, and advertising, crafting scripts and storylines for studios such as Letko, Animoon, and Game Dust.

Marek Lachowicz is a director, screenwriter, and comic artist working in animation since 2012. He has directed episodes of "Toru Superfox" (Animoon) and "Grand Banda" (GS Animation), and leads the storyboard team on "Odo" (Letko/I6South). He has worked on "Hug Me," "Mami Fatale," and numerous animated commercials.



Young Horizons Lab is a script development programme focused on script development of live-action and animated films and series.

The programme works on projects at different stages of its development (concept phase, early development, pre-production phase).

Workshops is organised by Young Horizons and co-organised by the Creative Europe Desk Poland. Programme is co-funded by the Polish Film Institute.

Creative
Europe
Desk Poland



Contacts:

Zofia Horszczaruk, Head of Industry Projects

zofia.horszczaruk@nowehoryzonty.pl

Magda Wylężałek, Promotion Coordinator

magda.wylezalek@nowehoryzonty.pl

More information

industry.younghorizons.pl/lab