



Navigating Fear: How Risk Shapes Our Industry

Description

Francis Ford Coppola is taking his 2025 Razzie win for Worst Director in stride, demonstrating grace even in the face of criticism.

The esteemed director, now 85, received this dubious honor for his 2024 sci-fi drama “Megalopolis,” which featured an impressive cast including Adam Driver, Aubrey Plaza, Jon Voight, and Shia LaBeouf.

The ambitious project, boasting a budget of \$120 million, fizzled at the box office, garnering only \$14.6 million in ticket sales and drawing negative reviews from critics, including The Post’s Johnny Oleksinski.

Francis Ford Coppola attends the “Megalopolis” premiere. WireImage

In response to the Razzie, Coppola took to [Instagram](#), expressing his pride in receiving the award. He stated, “I am delighted to accept the Razzie award in significant categories for @megalopolisfilm, including Worst Director, Worst Screenplay, and Worst Picture. This recognition comes at a time when many shy away from challenging the status quo in filmmaking.”

He reflected on the current state of Hollywood, lamenting that art is often evaluated as if it were merely a sporting event. Coppola emphasized the importance of taking risks in storytelling to ensure the art form remains vibrant and relevant. He expressed admiration for filmmakers such as Jacques Tati, who fearlessly pursued his vision despite financial struggles.

Coppola concluded with gratitude for his collaborators, acknowledging their shared commitment to craft: “Let us remember that box office numbers are not the sole measure of success.”

Adam Driver in “Megalopolis.” ©Lions Gate/Courtesy Everett Collection

Vocabulary List:

1. **Esteemed** /ɪˈstiːmd/ (adjective): Respected and admired.
2. **Ambitious** /æmˈbɪʃ.əs/ (adjective): Having a strong desire for success or achievement.
3. **Fizzle** /ˈfɪz.əl/ (verb): To fail to perform or to be as successful as expected.
4. **Lamenting** /ləˈmen.tɪŋ/ (verb): Expressing sorrow or regret for something.
5. **Recognition** /ˌrɛkəgˈnɪʃən/ (noun): The acknowledgment of something’s existence or validity.
6. **Collaborators** /kəˈlæbəˌreɪtərz/ (noun): People who work jointly on an activity or project.



Comprehension Questions

Multiple Choice

1. What award did Francis Ford Coppola win in 2025?
Option: Best Director
Option: Worst Director
Option: Best Screenplay
Option: Best Picture
2. Which movie did Francis Ford Coppola win the Razzie for in 2025?
Option: Megalopolis
Option: The Godfather
Option: Apocalypse Now
Option: The Conversation
3. How much was the budget for the film "Megalopolis"?
Option: \$50 million
Option: \$80 million
Option: \$120 million
Option: \$200 million
4. Which actor was NOT part of the cast of "Megalopolis"?
Option: Adam Driver
Option: Aubrey Plaza
Option: Jon Voight
Option: Johnny Depp
5. Who did Francis Ford Coppola express admiration for in his response to the Razzie award?
Option: Steven Spielberg
Option: Martin Scorsese
Option: Quentin Tarantino
Option: Jacques Tati
6. What social media platform did Coppola use to respond to the Razzie award?
Option: Facebook



- Option: Twitter
- Option: Instagram
- Option: LinkedIn

True-False

- 7. Francis Ford Coppola received the Razzie award for Worst Screenplay.
- 8. The film "Megalopolis" was a box office success.
- 9. Coppola emphasized the importance of taking risks in storytelling.
- 10. Jacques Tati was known for playing action heroes in his films.
- 11. Box office numbers are the only measure of success according to Coppola.
- 12. Francis Ford Coppola thanked his critics in his acceptance speech.

Gap-Fill

- 13. In which year did Francis Ford Coppola win the Razzie for Worst Director? _____
- 14. What was the total ticket sales for "Megalopolis"? \$ _____ million
- 15. Francis Ford Coppola expressed his admiration for filmmaker _____ in his response to the Razzie award.
- 16. Coppola emphasized the importance of taking risks in _____ to ensure the art form remains vibrant and relevant.
- 17. Let us remember that box office numbers are not the sole measure of _____.
- 18. According to the text, how much was the budget for the film "Megalopolis"? \$ _____ million



Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Worst Director 2. Megalopolis 3. \$120 million 4. Johnny Depp 5. Jacques Tati 6. Instagram

True-False: 7. False 8. False 9. True 10. False 11. False 12. False

Gap-Fill: 13. 2025 14. 14.6 15. Jacques Tati 16. storytelling 17. success 18. 120

Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. Which term refers to the period after childbirth?

Option: Heartbreaking

Option: Navigate

Option: Postpartum

Option: Lamenting

2. Which word means to be praised or recognized for excellence?

Option: Burden

Option: Acclaimed

Option: Casual

Option: Cunning

3. Which word describes someone or something famous and respected?

Option: Poignant

Option: Prowess

Option: Renowned

Option: Nurturing

4. What term refers to unforeseen issues or problems?

Option: Scrubbing

Option: Complications

Option: Esteemed

Option: Ambitious

5. Which adverb means to be honest and straightforward?

Option: Pervasive

Option: Candidly

Option: Collaborators

Option: Autopsy



6. What term describes expressing sorrow or regret?

- Option: Climax
- Option: Lamenting
- Option: Accolades
- Option: Acclaimed

7. Which word means easily noticeable or clear?

- Option: Prowess
- Option: Pronounced
- Option: Spokesperson
- Option: Cunning

8. What term means to fail or peter out gradually?

- Option: Acknowledging
- Option: Fizzle
- Option: Recognition
- Option: Spokesperson

9. What term refers to cleaning intensely?

- Option: Casual
- Option: Scrubbing
- Option: Recognition
- Option: Collaborators

10. What term means to accept or admit the existence of something?

- Option: Ambitious
- Option: Acknowledging
- Option: Accolades
- Option: Esteemed

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11. In unfamiliar territory one needs to _____ carefully to reach the destination.

12. Carrying such a heavy load can be a significant _____ on one's back.

13. His _____ to the project was invaluable without it the success would not have been possible.

14. The influence of social media is becoming increasingly _____ impacting every aspect



of our lives.

15. Each person plays a distinct _____ in the success of the team.

16. After the mysterious death of the celebrity an _____ was performed to determine the cause.

17. The success of the project was largely due to the dedication of all the _____ involved.

18. Many women experience emotional changes during the _____ period following childbirth.

19. She was an _____ member of the community highly regarded for her charitable work.

20. His martial arts _____ was unmatched earning him numerous tournament victories.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

21. The film's ending was so that many in the audience were moved to tears.
22. He wore a outfit to the formal event not realizing the dress code.
23. Her kind and nature made her an excellent teacher for young children.
24. The fox's nature allowed it to outsmart the other animals in the forest.
25. Understanding your in the team helps promote effective collaboration.
26. The movie reached its with a dramatic car chase scene.
27. Her talent as an artist earned her numerous awards and .
28. His goal was to climb the highest mountain on every continent.
29. The excitement over the new product seemed to as sales declined.



30. Her hard work and dedication finally led to the she deserved.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Postpartum 2. Acclaimed 3. Renowned 4. Complications 5. Candidly 6. Lamenting
7. Pronounced 8. Fizzle 9. Scrubbing 10. Acknowledging

Gap-Fill: 11. navigate 12. burden 13. contribution 14. pervasive 15. role 16. autopsy 17. collaborators
18. postpartum 19. esteemed 20. prowess

Matching sentence: 1. poignant 2. casual 3. nurturing 4. cunning 5. role 6. climax 7. accolades 8. ambitious
9. fizzle 10. recognition

CATEGORY

1. Entertainment - LEVEL4

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