



# TIFF gifts you can afford

**W**hile Toronto gets ready to shine as Hollywood North, we get set to endure 11 days of road closures, autograph-hungry suburbanites and exhausting gala parties. But for some, the invite-only gift lounges make it all worthwhile. Usually these pockets of luxury are off-limits to us regular folk, but I have back-door access to two gift lounges, so you can see what the stars get to walk away — and track it down yourself.

## Bask-it gift lounge

The glitterati will flock to the Living Shangri-La presentation centre, the sales office for the monster 70-storey condo building. Its third floor will turn into a superstar clubhouse where all these covetable, affordable items will be given away.

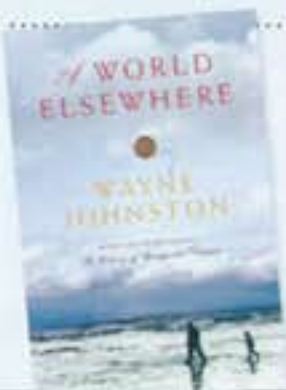


### 2 Mèreadesso

This unique face-and-neck cleanser, made from botanical extracts and vitamins, leaves your skin super-refreshed. The package comes with a facial cleansing cloth and a reusable plastic pouch. One bottle lasts up to five months — perfect for those gruelling on-location shoots. \$45. Available: [mèreadesso.com](http://mèreadesso.com)

### 1 Hair-care products by John Frieda

Visitors will get a host of hair-care products, including Luxurious Volume Shampoo and Conditioner, Luxurious Volume Anytime Volume Refresher and Full Repair Flyaway Tamer. Movie-star hair doesn't come naturally. \$50. Available: [johnfrieda.ca](http://johnfrieda.ca)



### 3 Random House books

Waiting for a gala to start can be a trifle boring, so stars who love literature will get copies of *A World Elsewhere* by Wayne Johnston. His novel deals with outsiders yearning for acceptance, dreams that threaten to overpower their makers and unlikely romance. \$32. Available: [Indigo](http://Indigo), [Manulife Centre](http://Manulife Centre), 55 Bloor St W. [indigo.ca](http://indigo.ca)

## Essentials lounge at Hotel Le Germain

This addition to Toronto's hotel scene has become a cultural hotspot. Brimming with A-list parties and events during TIFF and LG Fashion Week, it's a no-brainer why PR people clamour to book its urban-lux suites. However, red-carpet regulars will leave empty-handed, as these gift bags are for media personalities only, ranging from the *ET Canada's* camera crew to the *National Post's* Shinan Govani.

### 1 Smartwater

The fashionably hip drink pitched by Jennifer Aniston is the official water of this media lounge. Visiting press will have a 10-day supply sent directly to their front doors. \$5. Available: [Whole Foods Market](http://Whole Foods Market), 87 Avenue Rd. [wholefoodsmarket.com](http://wholefoodsmarket.com)



### 2 Calvin Klein underwear

It is a well-known fact that journalists can be so dedicated to covering TIFF that they'll sleep in an editing suite to make a deadline. To help them stay fresh, media personalities will score a pair of Essentials Boxer Briefs. \$28. Available: [Calvin Klein Underwear](http://Calvin Klein Underwear), 110 Bloor St W

### 3 Menchies frozen yogurt

Chasing Madonna at the premiere of *WE* will work up a mean hunger. Media photographers and the like will receive a 10-day VIP Menchies card to help them curb their festival starvation. Available: [Menchies](http://Menchies), 511 Bloor St W. [menchies.com](http://menchies.com)



[style@fabmagazine.com](mailto:style@fabmagazine.com)