

NEWS AND EVENTS, JANUARY 15, 2010

NEWS

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF FILM & ENTERTAINMENT MEETING NOTICES

Florida Film and Entertainment Advisory Council members Seth Schachner, Eric Breitenbach, and Suzy Spang (Chair of FFEAC) will be holding a teleconference to discuss issues related to social media and Florida's entertainment industry on Friday, January 22nd. The teleconference will start at 10:00am and is scheduled to end at 11:30am. The call-in number is 1-888-808-6959, and the conference code is 4104765. A copy of the agenda may be obtained by contacting the Governor's Office of Film and Entertainment at (850) 410-4765.

The Florida Film and Entertainment Advisory Council will hold a Legislative Committee meeting via teleconference on Friday, January 29th. The teleconference will start at 10:00am and is scheduled to end at 11:30am. The call-in number is 1-888-808-6959, and the conference code is 4104765. If there are any questions, please contact the Governor's Office of Film & Entertainment at (850) 410-4765.

2010 OTRONICON IN ORLANDO, FL

Nothing captures our curiosity more than the future, and nothing captures the future better than Otronicon!

Event Date: January 15 - 18, 2010
Location: Orlando Science Center

Included with daily admission, free to members.

What if tomorrow's heart surgeons were trained on state of the art, simulated patients? What if, someday, you could learn from the world's most renowned companies - without leaving your desk? What if an evening on the town in ten years meant a virtual stroll through the streets of Paris?

If you have a passion for Rock Band, Simulators, and video games in general, mark your calendars for the most interactive technology expo in Central Florida - Otronicon. This event takes the world of video games and transforms it into true gaming experiences. Play Rock Band on a real stage with real fans, real lights and a real concert sound system.

There will also be classes in video game creation offered by Full Sail University, as well as exclusive peeks at simulators created by experts in the field. This is the one weekend when the Orlando Science Center leaves its doors open from 10:00 a.m. until midnight, so be sure to plan on experiencing all of the interactive fun at Otronicon.

Otronicon is a celebration of interactive technology that takes place each January at Orlando Science Center. It offers a glimpse into the future and a demonstration of how interactive technology will impact how we work, learn and play. At Otronicon, guests walk on the cutting edge through state of the art video games, digital media, digital art, competitions and workshops - not to mention military and medical simulators typically not available to the public.

Celebrating its fifth anniversary, Otronicon is open to the public for four full days. The event also adds value to the community through a strong field trip component during the balance of the event week.

For full information, visit the Otronicon website at www.otronicon.org.

THE ARTS COUNCIL IS SEEKING MARTIES NOMINATIONS

STUART — The Arts Council is seeking nominations for the 2010 mARTies awards. Nominations in the following five categories are due Feb. 1: Digital Media Artist, Performing Artist, Visual Artist, Student Media Artist, Student Performing Artist, Student Visual Artist, Volunteer in the Arts.

Outstanding artistic, voluntary and philanthropic achievement in Martin County that has inspired passion for the arts in our community will be honored at the 2010 mARTies awards, Thursday, April 1, 2010. The mARTies Awards are a time to pay tribute to the contribution that philanthropy, volunteerism and artistic excellence play in our lives and in our communities. The mARTies Arts Awards Judging Committee, with approval from the executive committee of the Arts Council, makes the selection for each award from among the nominees. Nominees will be judged on the written criteria for each category. The panel will be representative of the various artistic media and involvement in the community.

Details of the Nomination Categories can be found on The Arts Council's Web site www.martinarts.org. There are sponsor and advertising opportunities available. For more information please contact Tom Winter at tom@thomaswinter.com or (772) 463-8256.

The Arts Council is the designated local arts agency for Martin County. The Arts Council provides services to visual and performing artists, arts organizations, students and the public and strives to instill a passion for and participation in the arts. For more information, please call 772-287-6676 or visit www.martinarts.org. The Arts Council is sponsored in part by the Florida Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, the Florida Arts Council, the National Endowment for the Arts, the City of Stuart, Martin County Board of Commissioners and private contributions.

THE 2010 INTERNATIONAL SURREALIST FILM FESTIVAL CALL FOR ENTRIES!

The ISFF is searching for Surreality in all genres of film. Don't know if your film is Surreal? Not to worry! Send any film of any genre of any length that may or may not feel surreal. We will decide what is surreal!

This is our 20th anniversary...our 9th festival and we have moved to Hollywood. The festival will take place on March 21st at the Mark Goodson Theatre at The American Film Institute. The International Surrealist Film Festival will take place on March, 21 at the Mark Goodson Theatre located at the American Film Institute in Los Angeles.

There will be a live organist (or band) present (please include note, if you wish your film be shown with live accompaniment).

The GRAND PRIZE is a vintage 16mm BOLEX MOVIE CAMERA. Categories and other prizes will be decided by the judges after all films are viewed. Past years categories ranged from most abrasive to most oblique to the coveted Duchamp award.

Unlike most festivals, our panel of judges will send a personal written critique to all entrants, regardless as to whether or not they are accepted into the festival.

Regular Deadline:
Post marked by February 13, 2010

Apply online at www.withoutabox.com. For more information, visit www.theinternationalsurrealistfilmfestival.com

TAMPA BAY COMMUNITY NETWORK CALLS FOR ENTRIES INTO THE TAMPA BAY VIDEO AWARDS COMPETITION

Non-commercial video makers are encouraged to enter their videos into the annual Tampa Bay Video Awards competition sponsored by Tampa Bay Community Network, Tampa's Public Access Television station. The deadline for submissions on DVD's is 5 PM, Friday, January 15, 2010. All categories of video are welcome including those that have been shown on home computers and TV monitors, Internet websites, TBCN's cable TV channels or other new media. Home-made videos, including those produced with personal cameras or cell phones, are also accepted.

Videos entered must have been created and first shown during the 2009 calendar year. Videos of babies, children, pets, garage bands, random acts of kindness, amazing feats, news and sporting events, community happenings and the arts are all welcome as long as they are non-commercial. A panel of independent judges will decide winners in 14 categories and three divisions - professional, non-professional and student. Award winners will be announced on Thursday, February 18, 2010.

For rules and entry forms, go to www.tbcn.org, email garronp@tbcn.org, or phone Pam Garron at (813) 254-1687, extension 15.

FLORIDA ARTICLES OF INTEREST:

HUB ANNOUNCES LAUNCH OF SOCIAL MEDIA COMPANY LOCALSOCIAL

Fast Pitch Press (press release) © Jan 09, 2010

Today the HuB announced the launch of localsocial a social media marketing company that is focused on building solutions for regional and national businesses. The growth of social media has forced small, mid-sized and large businesses to shift marketing budgets toward popular websites including Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.

TALLAHASSEE FILM FESTIVAL KICKS OFF THIRD YEAR!

WCTV © Jan 11, 2010

After playing hundreds of films to thousands of visitors in its first two years, the Tallahassee Film Festival (TFF) will return April 8-11, 2010, to Florida's Capital City. This year's festival is themed See You in the Dark and will feature pre-selected films, workshops and lectures for film enthusiasts throughout the weekend.

CUT! MIAMI LOSING ITS FILM CREDIT

NBC Miami © Jan 12, 2010

"The fact of the matter is we're really worried," Peel says. "Not only do we not have the films coming, but the guys down here who work on films, the little companies who support the industry, start to run out of business, move to other states, and once we lose that infrastructure we're in real trouble here."

JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL EMBRACES DIVERSITY

Sun-Sentinel © Jan 13, 2010

The themes of aging, anti-Semitism, parental angst and homophobia, as well as Holocaust stories, are prominent in this year's festival, which runs Jan. 16-24 at locations throughout Miami. "It's just so easy in this day and age to label very quickly, but patrons would be surprised by what else we offer," she added.

UF STUDENTS SAFE IN HAITI; GAINESVILLE TRIES TO HELP

Gainesville Sun © Jan 14, 2010

(Update published 12:10 p.m.) University of Florida student Jon Bougher had been back in the U.S. less

than a day and was already talking about returning to Haiti. Bougher was one of two UF graduate students shooting a documentary in Haiti when Tuesday's earthquake struck.

ARTICLES ABOUT THE COMPETITION:

MOVIE INDUSTRY STILL BOOMING IN LOUISIANA

WAFB.com © Jan 08, 2010

Even with "Pirates of the Caribbean" jumping ship to London, Baton Rouge hasn't been castaway. Louisiana Economic Development officials say there are already 16 projects ready to roll tape in the state and the big screen is no stranger to the South.

NORTHEAST OHIO ATTRACTS MOVIE PROJECTS

Akron Beacon Journal © Jan 10, 2010

Three of the first four movies to receive a Motion Picture Tax Credit under a new Ohio incentive program will be made in Northeast Ohio. The Ohio Department of Development (ODOD) last week announced the four films will share \$7 million in tax credits. Even before the legislation was signed into law in July, the tax credits were doing their job of luring films here, said Ivan Schwarz, executive director of the Greater Cleveland Film Commission.

GWYNETH PALTROW MOVIE SET FOR NASHVILLE AREA

Murfreesboro Post © Jan 11, 2010

The \$15 million project stars Oscar-winner Gwyneth Paltrow, country music superstar Tim McGraw, Leighton Meester (Gossip Girl) and Garrett Hedlund (Friday Night Lights). The production company is aiming to hire local residents for almost 75 percent of the film's crew and 90 percent of the film's cast. More than 50 Tennessee crew members have already been put to work in a variety of jobs such as camera operators, assistant directors, grips, electricians, sound mixers...

'SLUMDOG' DIRECTOR BOYLE GETS \$2.8 MILLION INCENTIVE FILM MOVIE ABOUT CLIMBER ARON RALSTON IN UTAH

Salt Lake Tribune © Jan 14, 2010

The incentive for the movie "127 Hours" is the state's second-largest ever for a film. It was approved Thursday by The Governor's Office of Economic Development board to ensure Boyle didn't take his project, scheduled to start filming in March, elsewhere.

OFFICIALS SAY FILM INCENTIVES ARE WORKING FOR BAY STATE

Boston Business Journal © Jan 15, 2010

Tax credits and other incentives that states use to lure filmmakers are not producing the expected economic benefits, according to a new report from the Tax Foundation — a claim that experts in the Bay State say has nothing to do with film production in Massachusetts.

LOS ANGELES LOCATION FILMING FALLS 19% IN 2009 FROM PREVIOUS YEAR

Los Angeles Times © Jan 15, 2010

The production sector -- a major employer and key component of L.A.'s local economy -- was buffeted on several fronts. These included the recession, which led to a decline in film, TV and commercial shoots; the ongoing exodus of production from the region; and the long-term effects of a contract dispute with actors, which caused financing for independent features to dwindle.

GENERAL ARTICLES OF INTEREST:

FX BUYS RIGHTS TO AIR 'AVATAR'

Airlock Alpha © Jan 08, 2010

Expected to show the blockbuster in 2012. Assuming that the world does not, in fact, end come 2012, FX has made a fairly lucrative business deal. The network, owned by the same company that financed the

film in the first place, has acquired the basic cable rights to a little movie by James Cameron called "Avatar."

EXCLUSIVE: VARIETY UP FOR SALE

TheWrap © Jan 12, 2010

Variety is up for sale after all, according to several people with knowledge of the dealings. Owner Reed Business Information -- which insisted as recently as July that it was not putting its top title on the block -- has been quietly dangling Variety before potential buyers for some time, according to at least five individuals.

DISNEY SAID TO BE SEEKING NETFLIX BLOCK IN STARZ PACT

Bloomberg.com © Jan 14, 2010

Starz seeks access to Disney films for as many as five years on its cable channel, as well as continued digital rights, said the people, who asked not to be named because the talks are private. Disney wants viewers watching Starz movies online through companies such as Netflix to pay more for what the studio considers a premium channel.

STATEWIDE EVENTS:

FILM SCREENING, BIG CYPRESS SWAMP: THE WESTERN EVERGLADES

Date: January 14, 2010

Time: 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Location: The von Liebig Art Center (585 Park Street, Naples, FL 34102. 239.262.6517)

Big Cypress Swamp: Western Everglades is a 56-minute documentary that shares the history of the Western Everglades preservation and showcases Big Cypress as an ever evolving, complex ecosystem. The film showcases the stunning beauty of sawgrass and sunsets in the swamp, it highlights the wide variety of plants and wildlife, and includes stories of tireless efforts to preserve and manage the Big Cypress Swamp region. Viewers will be treated to rare and primeval sights and sounds of swamp expeditions through cypress strands by foot, air boat, swamp buggy and helicopter. In the background is the "music" of Big Cypress: an ever present orchestra of croaking frogs, wading birds, flowing water, and approaching thunderstorms.

Producer Elam Stoltzfus is a nationally acclaimed and award winning filmmaker. He is a master cinematographer whose projects capture the essence and glory of nature. In Big Cypress Swamp: Western Everglades Elam invited fine art photographer Clyde Butcher to host the project and capture Big Cypress Swamp through his large format camera lens. Butcher is a nationally renowned nature photographer who specializes in black and white images. The final touch in this stunning documentary is the narration by the golden voice of Peter Thomas who resides in Naples.

This film screening is open to the public for \$50 per person, which includes a full-length version of the documentary on DVD. Clyde Butcher and Elam Stoltzfus will be available to autograph DVD's and other related merchandise, available in the art center's gift shop, during the event. The evening begins at 5:30 p.m. with a 30-minute wine and cheese reception. The film and lecture will begin at 6 p.m. and feature a 20-minute version of the film plus a presentation and Q&A session by Butcher and Stoltzfus. A share of the proceeds from the film screening, as well as a percentage of DVD and gift shop related sales, will benefit the South Florida National Parks Trust's campaign to purchase permanent exhibits for the Big Cypress Swamp Welcome Center being built on U.S. 41 near State Road 29.

Tens of thousands of visitors are expected to visit the new Big Cypress Swamp Welcome Center each year to learn about the Big Cypress, its wetlands and wildlife. The Big Cypress National Preserve is building the \$2.2 million center on U.S. 41 (Tamiami Trail) in Collier County. Construction began in late 2008 and is now nearly complete, but the project itself won't be finished until the center's exhibits are installed. The South Florida National Parks Trust-- 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization that supports

South Florida's four national parks--is seeking to raise \$250,000 in matching funds to purchase 19 permanent exhibits that will explain the Big Cypress, its history, hydrology and habitats to visitors. All gifts will be matched dollar for dollar by the Big Cypress National Preserve. This event is sponsored by Fifth Third Bank, City Mattress, Gulfshore Life and Comcast.

FMPTA METRO ORLANDO MEETING

FMPTA's Metro Orlando Chapter is back. With elections being held in November, the new Board of Director's led by President Thomas P. Mitchell, Sr. is off to a great start in 2010. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 18th at 7:02pm at the Hampton Inn (151 N. Douglas, Altamonte Springs, FL). For more information, visit www.fmpta.org.

ONE-DAY PROFESSIONAL SCRIPTWRITING WORKSHOP & CLINIC

Workshop Date: Sunday, January 31, 2010, 9:30am – 5:30PM
Workshop Location: Sean's Dance Factory (4275 Okeechobee Blvd. West Palm Beach, FL 33409)
Restrictions: This Workshop is Limited Enrollment
Early Bird Special: Register by December 24th for only \$85

Register online at <http://sorentertainment-inc.ticketleap.com>. For more information please call SORentertainment, Inc. at (561) 429-8063 or send an email to events@SORentertainment.com.

During one intense day long workshop, you'll get the opportunity to interact and study under the guidance of top screenwriting guru, author and multi-award winning scriptwriter Alyn Darnay, a man who has been recognized as 'one of the best screenwriting lecturers in the country'.

The workshop is designed to help every struggling, discovered or undiscovered screenwriter, enhance their ability to develop and execute a superior script while striving to improve their ability to create imaginative and emotionally layered characters, expressive and dynamic dialogue, controlled and pivotal plot twists and turns, and the all important creation of sequences that generate a life experience of their own.

Everyone is writing scripts, most haven't a clue as to how to do it right. By the time you finish this professional level workshop, you'll gain new insight, a deeper understanding of your writing skills, and new abilities that will give your writing career increased positioning against the competition.

2010 ACTING FOR THE SCREEN, CLASSES

DATES: Saturday January 30, February 20, March 14, and April 10
COST: \$250

The Acting for the Screen course will help instruct students on the Meisner and Judith Weston techniques. Scenes will be video taped and screened at the 2010 Sunscreen Film Festival! Course Instructor Dave DeBorde is an award-winning filmmaker whose work has screened at over 50 film festivals, domestically and internationally, and has garnered over 27 major awards.

[Click Here to Register! and for full info](#) Registration includes a VIP Pass to the Sunscreen Film Festival!

2010 FILM SCHOOL FOR MOVIEMAKERS AND ACTORS

One - January 23 - Screenwriting
Two - February 13 - Film Production and Line producing
Three - March 27 - Directing and Shooting
Four - April 3 - Post Production and the basics of video editing
Five April 14-18 Your Movie at the Sunscreen Film Festival!

All sessions are 9 am to 5 pm. In St. Petersburg, FL. Your movie will screen at the Festival. You will get to do a Q&A with the audience about your film.

Four-month course in filmmaking

Sunscreen Film Festival is offering a four-month course to teach filmmakers how to take off-the-shelf equipment and make a movie out of original stories. Participants will learn how to write and pitch a script; set up production schedules; plan and shoot shots; direct actors; work with lighting and sound; edit and assemble rough-cuts; insert credits and much, much more.

COST:\$250 [Click Here to register! and for more Info](#)

SCREENWRITERS OF TOMORROW MEETING

Welcome, Screenwriters of Tomorrow! We are a group dedicated to bringing screenwriters and actors, new and not-so-new, young and old, together to hone and nurture their skills in a friendly unbiased and uncensored environment.

"Think for yourselves and let others enjoy the privilege to do so, too." -- Voltaire

Our curriculum is formed around the teachings of David Trottier and his book "The Screenwriter's Bible" and Michael Hauge's "Screenwriting for Hollywood." The group's fundamental goal is to teach the group member the proper structure, format, and story development. The group member will learn to give and receive constructive criticism to and from their peers while building confidence in their abilities as a creative story teller and writer.

"A good writer will accept the opinions of his/her peers, good or bad, and use those opinions to become a great writer." -- Michael Hauge

Our next meeting is Feb 27th at Clearwater Public Library East (2251 Drew St., Clearwater, FL) from 12pm-3pm. We hope to see you there!

"It doesn't matter if you write novels or stage plays. Find a writers group near you and join." -- Syd Field

Contact: Eric Bean 813.264.6780 screenwritersoftomorrow@gmail.com

CASTING CALL:

POLK COUNTY PRODUCTION COMPANY CASTING FOR 2010 CENSUS COMMERCIAL

(Champions Gate FL, 12/29/2009) With the 2010 Census set to kickoff in February, a Polk county production company is creating a series of locally-based ads featuring county residents and landmarks. The ads are designed to help educate residents about the importance of participation in the Census and encourage everyone to be counted.

The shooting will take place in various locations throughout Polk county beginning on January 16 and ending January 20. Any resident of Polk County is eligible to participate.

"We are looking for people of all types, not just models and actors," says Madison Paige, the company's producer in charge of the census project. "We want these commercials will be a real reflection of the diversity and strengths of the people of our county. We're casting people from ages 3 to 80 or even older!"

The commercials will be produced in English and Spanish and the company encourages people of all ages, races and physical abilities to participate.

"It's going to be great fun. It's also a great way to do something to improve our county," says Paige.

Polk County receives \$1500 in federal funding for every resident counted. The numbers collected by the census guide such things as funding for roads, schools, job training programs and senior services. Many non-profits rely on the census numbers for grants and most businesses examine census data when evaluating whether to open stores in specific cities.

Residents who wish to participate are encouraged to apply by going to www.OasisMediaProductions.com/census.htm as soon as possible. No prior experience is necessary. For questions about the project that are not answered on the website, please call 877-460-7700.

Oasis Media Productions, Inc. is a Polk county-based production company.

PLEASE NOTE – If you have a press release, event or an educational function that you would like included in our News & Events, please contact our communications office via e-mail at Film1@MyFlorida.com. The Governor's Office of Film & Entertainment reserves the right to edit or exclude any content not deemed appropriate.

If you wish to be removed from this newsletter please reply with "**Remove**" in the subject line.

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