

NEWS AND EVENTS, OCTOBER 29, 2010

NEWS

A LEGACY OF SCREAMS IN FLORIDA

(Tallahassee, Fla.) – Tracing back to the late 1890's, horror/thriller films have found success in providing their viewers with an unsettling sense of enjoyment that can only be found when scared senseless. They have preyed on the deepest fears, worst nightmares and most dreaded phobias of their viewers, while continuing to push the limits of the genre and uncover new fears hidden in the crevices of the human mind. From the infancy of cinema to today's era of the "Blockbuster" multi-billion dollar movie laden with special effects and captured digitally - it comes as no surprise that Florida has been the destination of some of America's most popular horror films.

Many might remember the lizard-like monster of 1954's "Creature From the Black Lagoon," but not many may recall that the film itself was shot in multiple areas throughout Florida, including: Green Cove Springs, Jacksonville, Silver Springs, Wakulla Springs, and even our dear capital – Tallahassee. In 1963, Miami got on the map with the 60's indie film "Blood Feast." The \$25,000 film ended up grossing \$4 million, and became a huge monetary success among indie horror films of that time. Who could forget the thriller film that gave the great white shark its "bad-boy" image of today – "Jaws!" In 1977, "Jaws 2" used locations in Navarre Beach and the Gulf Islands National Seashore to film the sequel to their 1975 grizzly, shark thriller. The Jaws dynasty later returned in 1983 to Orlando, Florida to film "Jaws 3-D." Then in 2001, "Jeepers Creepers" graced the shores of Florida and placed a new twist on a popular 1930's tune. Filmed in Bushnell, Dunnellon, Ocala, Wildwood, and Lake County – the film was the highest grossing film to ever be released during Labor Day weekend at the time of its debut. The record was broken by its own sequel when released in 2003.

Today, the horror genre has flourished among independent filmmaking throughout the state. "Gore-e-ography: The Making of 'Death Harmony,'" a mock behind-the-scenes documentary about the making of a Jacksonville horror film, premieres at the Florida Theater. The indie thriller "Endure," a twisted tale of a detective's desperate and dangerous hunt to find an abducted woman, will be screened tomorrow at the [Fort Lauderdale Film Festival](#). A recipient of the Florida Film & Entertainment Financial Incentive, the film has received great circulation on the festival circuit – holding screenings at the Gasparilla, Sarasota, Tallahassee, and Jacksonville film festivals to name a few. Also an incentive program recipient, Director Anthony DiBlasi's thriller about a deaf girl that connects with the ghost of a murdered woman, "Cassadaga," just completed filming in Central Florida.

For those interested in the psyche of a horror filmmaker, the [Daily Loaf](#) recently featured an article examining why making horror films makes the heart beat of some indie filmmakers. And festivals such as Orlando's "[Freakshow Horror Film Festival](#)" (held earlier this month, October 8th-10th) have dedicated themselves to highlighting the genre and its filmmakers, proudly proclaiming to be the "freakiest film festival in the world." Of course there is no way to capture Florida's extensive indie horror community in one article, but a quick email to your local [film commission](#) might help you discover locally-shot indie films that would satisfy even the goriest of appetites.

So, this weekend when you're exhausted from a long evening of trick-or-treating, dancing the night away at the local Halloween hot spot has lost its appeal, or screaming in the dark at Universal's Halloween Horror Nights is too much to handle, snuggle up on the couch and enjoy a Florida horror film – that's if you're brave enough to do so.

By: Jocelyn Mock, Governor's Office of Film & Entertainment

DSC GRADUATE SCREENS FIRST FILM IN DAYTONA

(Daytona Beach, Fla.) – The movie *ACTION!!!*, written, directed and produced by Edgewater resident and DSC class of 2005 graduate Hillary J. Walker, has been selected to be shown as part of the 8th Annual Daytona Beach Film Festival which is scheduled to run from November 12 through November 14.

In addition to Walker, the film also features the talents of many other former DSC students and even staff members Janet Rabe-Meyer and Chris Nelson.

The 82 minute comedy was honored most recently at the International Film Festival Ireland in Clomnel, Ireland September 8. At the awards ceremony held September 11 at Knocklofty House Hotel, “ACTION!!!” received the award for the Feature Film International category. Walker was there with fellow DSC grad and co-star Natalia Plaza to accept on behalf of the rest of the cast, crew and fellow executive producer Adam M. Richardson.

“There’s something to be said for making something a reality just by willing it to be so,” Walker said during her acceptance speech. “That’s kind of what we did with “ACTION!!!” We just kind of jumped in with both feet and in three weeks we did all of our pre-production and in three days we shot a film.”

This will be the first Volusia County screening for the inaugural film of Walker and Richardson’s production company Poison Oak Inc. To date the film has screened at festivals in Los Angeles, England, Central Florida, Ireland, Buffalo, and is also scheduled for screenings at festivals in South Africa and Orlando. Additional awards include a 2010 Indie Award of Merit, a 2010 LA Movie Award Honorable Mention for Narrative Feature, the 2010 Broad Humor Film Festival Audience Award, a 2010 Accolade Award of Merit and the 2010 Heart of England Film Festival Award for First Feature Film International.

The film is currently scheduled to show at the new Cinematique Theater located at 242 S. Beach Street in Daytona Beach Sunday November 14 at 4:00pm. Prior to the screening Walker will participate in a workshop with fellow Florida filmmaker Gary Lester from 1:00pm – 2:00pm. Tickets start at \$8 per person and may be purchased online at the official film festival website www.dbff.org.

21ST ANNUAL CRYSTAL REEL AWARDS NEXT SATURDAY, NOV. 5-7

(Orlando, Fla.) The 21st Annual Crystal Reel Awards Gala will be held November 5-7, 2010 at the beautiful Hilton Orlando/Altamonte Springs. Entering the last week before the entertainment industry paints the town ‘tropical,’ that is “Florida’s Tropical Paradise,” the theme of this year’s Crystal Reel Awards Gala. Tickets for the hottest entertainment industry event this year are now all but gone, with only seminar and mezzanine seats still available, as the stars are coming out for the Crystal Reel Awards, presented by Florida Motion Picture & Television Association, Inc., and sponsored in part by the Governor’s Office of Film & Entertainment, Canon USA, Eastman Kodak and Hilton Hotel.

Crystal Reel Awards Executive Producer, Thomas P. Mitchell, Sr., announced that ticket order forms are still available online at the FMPTA website. The Friday night VIP “Floribbean” Reception/Silent Auction, Seminars (Fri & Sat) and Mezzanine seats for the Gala can be purchased at the door.

“Once we announced our host for the Award Celebration is *NSYNC founder, Chris Kirkpatrick, and our keynote speaker is Saturday Night Live’s Director of Photography (film unit) Alex Buono, the industry has been buzzing,” states Mitchell. “We are honored to award the ‘FMPTA Lifetime Achievement Award’ this year to Mr. Jimmy Buffett, a man that continues to be a beacon to our industry and the community.”

The three day event is held annually to honor and highlight outstanding achievements in motion picture, television, audio recording and digital media productions created in Florida over the past year. Judging was by Emmy, Grammy, Oscar nominated and/or awarded professionals across the country. Scoring forms were tallied by an independent CPA, who will deliver the results on stage.

Attendees will have an opportunity to rub elbows with celebrities, attend seminars, a Silent Auction (to benefit the "Save the Manatee Club"), parties, a studio tour and a special screening of Crystal Reel winners.

For more information, visit http://www.fmpta.org/crystal_reel_awards.php.

THE ACADEMY OF TELEVISION ARTS & SCIENCES FOUNDATION AND GEENA DAVIS TO HONOR STUDENT WORK ADVOCATING GENDER EQUALITY AT 2011 COLLEGE TELEVISION AWARDS

(North Hollywood, Ca.) – The Geena Davis Institute on Gender in Media and the Television Academy Foundation have partnered to create the first-ever Focus on Diversity and Gender Equality in Children's Media Award. The honor will be presented at the 32nd College Television Awards Gala which will take place April 9, 2011 at the Renaissance Hotel in Hollywood, Calif. Starting today, submissions are being accepted for all categories of the College Television Awards at <http://www.emmysfoundation.org/college-television-awards>.

This new honor is sponsored by the Geena Davis Institute on Gender in Media, an organization devoted to the promotion of gender equality in children's programming. The College Television Awards recognize excellence in work by undergraduate and graduate students at schools around the country in the areas of video, digital and film production.

"It is crucial that the next generation of television creators focus on gender equality and diversity in children's media," said Davis. "I know there is tremendous student work out there, and I am looking forward to recognizing it in partnership with the Television Academy Foundation."

"Geena Davis is to be commended for not just talking about gender equality, but for doing something about it," said Norma Provencio Pichardo, Executive Director of the Television Academy Foundation. "We are thrilled to collaborate with her and to honor deserving students who create original work that challenges gender stereotypes."

This new honor comes in the form of a \$5,000 cash award to the student producer who best showcases diversity and gender equality in their submitted work. Eligible entries must portray a balance between male and female roles, demonstrate diversity, dispel stereotypes about male and female characters, and target children ages 2-11.

Davis was motivated by her own experience when she started the Geena Davis Institute on Gender in Media in 2004. While watching movies and television with her daughter, she noticed the lack of strong female characters in popular culture. Davis then raised funds to underwrite the largest research project ever undertaken on gender in children's entertainment. The goal of the institute is to raise awareness and advocate for change, and its programming arm, *See Jane*, engages film and television creators to dramatically increase the percentages of female characters -- and reduce gender stereotyping -- in media made for children 11 years-old and younger.

In addition to the Focus on Diversity and Gender Equality in Children's Media Award, as part of its regular program, the Foundation will present prizes at the event including: \$2,000 to first-place recipients, \$1,000 for second and \$500 for third place in a variety of categories. Also, the Loreen Arbus Focus on Disability Scholarship which was introduced last year will again be presented this year.

All College Television Award winners will be provided with unique entertainment industry networking opportunities and some will be invited to attend "pitch" meetings. The deadline for all submissions for the College Television Awards is January 12, 2011.

Geena Davis is an Academy Award-winning performer and one of Hollywood's most respected actors, having appeared in numerous roles, several of which have become cultural landmarks. Davis broke ground in her portrayal of the first female President of the United States in a drama in ABC's hit show "Commander in Chief." Davis received a Golden Globe nomination for Best Actress for her portrayal of baseball phenomenon Dottie Hinson in "A League of Their Own." She was nominated for an Academy Award and Golden Globe for her performance as Thelma in Ridley Scott's "Thelma and Louise" and in 1989 she received the Academy Award for Best Supporting Actress for her role as the offbeat dog trainer Muriel Pritchett in Lawrence Kasdan's "The Accidental Tourist."

Established in 1959 as the charitable arm of the Television Academy, the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences Foundation is dedicated to preserving and celebrating the history of the medium, and educating those who will shape its future. Some of the Foundation's programs include the Archive of American Television, its renowned student internship program and the College Television Awards. For more information on the Foundation, please visit www.EmmysFoundation.org.

MIAMI INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL SUBMISSIONS DEADLINE EXTENDED

(Miami, Fla.) – The Miami International Film Festival (MIFF) is a world-class platform for International and Ibero-American film. Presenting its 28th edition in March 2011, MIFF showcases the work of the world's best emerging and established filmmakers to the diverse South Florida community.

The festival has extended its deadline for entry to Thursday, November 4, 2010. Interested parties can save \$5 by submitting through [Withoutabox](#). Deemed "a Sundance for Ibero-American films" by the Wall Street Journal, MIFF has become the natural gateway for the discovery of Ibero-American talent. Cash awards are given in four competition categories. Prizes of \$20,000 are awarded in the World and Ibero-American dramatic competitions, \$10,000 is awarded in the Documentary (DOX) competition, and \$2,500 is awarded in the Shorts competition. Non-competition categories include Cinema 360° and Cutting the Edge.

The 2010 Miami International Film Festival attracted more than 70,000 people and over 200 filmmakers, producers, talent and industry professionals from around the world. MIFF presented 117 films from more than 53 countries, including several international prizewinners and 72 East Coast, US, North American and World premieres. Headquartered in the heart of Miami Beach, the Festival has had the privilege of hosting a noted group of filmmakers and talent, including Pedro Almodóvar, Abel Ferrara, Spike Lee, Andy Garcia, Alfonso Cuarón, Kate Hudson, Jonathan Demme, Liv Ullman, Luc Besson, Hector Babenco, Willem Dafoe, Demi Moore, Viggo Mortensen, Patricia Clarkson, Chris Cooper, Helen Hunt, and Danny Glover.

For more information about the festival, visit <http://www.miamifilmfestival.com/>.

SUNSCREEN 2007 BEST DIRECTOR NEIL MANDT GETS SHOWTIME TV SERIES

Neil Mandt's film "Last Stop for Paul" won him the 2007 Best Director Award at the Sunscreen Film Festival. Three years later that film has become a weekly TV Series on Showtime.

Neil talked a little about the process "Showtime approached me last December and asked me if I could create an original series based off of the movie which would air on the network. Each episode would need to be a half hour scripted comedy, with a series arc, and each episode would need to be shot in a different country. Like the movie, nothing was going to be set up or scripted in advance and I planned on using locals off of the streets as actors. The new TV series is called "Next Stop for Charlie."

"Next Stop for Charlie" premieres on Showtime next week, November 4th at 11pm. The series will run for 10 weeks, every Thursday at 11pm, with re-airs regularly.

You can watch the trailer here at http://www.mandtbros.com/video/nsfc_trailer26JUL.html.

FLORIDA ARTICLES OF INTEREST:

NORTHEAST POLK MAY BECOME A HUB FOR DIGITAL MEDIA STARTUPS

The Ledger © Oct. 22, 2010

From Davenport to Haines City and down into Winter Haven, a cluster of new jobs gets created, centered on digital media and information technology: the Internet providing new opportunities to entrepreneurs with lots of ideas and the perfect high tech vehicle for creating them. If that sounds pie in the sky to a region that's relied more on the citrus industry in the past, it doesn't seem far-fetched at all to Eddie Hill.

GARBARINO NOMINATED FOR EMMY

Seminoles.com © Oct. 22, 2010

D.D. Garbarino, a senior producer at Seminole Productions at Florida State University, has been nominated for an Emmy Award by the Suncoast Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Science. Garbarino was nominated for her skills in producing the program "Seminole Gametime: Florida State Women's Basketball for Fox Sports.

GULF ISLANDS SEASHORE FILM UP FOR EMMY

Pensacola News Journal © Oct. 28, 2010

Now, a documentary about the largest national park, which stretches along the Gulf Coast from Florida through Mississippi, is an Emmy contender. "Gulf Islands National Seashore: Treasure of our Gulf Coast," by WSRE filmmakers Jill Hubbs and Ted King, has been nominated for an Emmy Award in the Suncoast Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.

DIRECTOR'S HORROR-THEME MOCKUMENTARY OPENS TODAY IN JACKSONVILLE

Florida Times-Union © Oct. 28, 2010

It's a mock documentary that purports to be a behind-the-scenes look at an ill-equipped Jacksonville film troupe as it makes "Death Harmony," which tells of an uneasy alliance between the undead, brought about by the marriage of a zombie queen and vampire king. Or something like that.

JEEPERS, THIS FLEMING ISLAND HOUSE IS CREEPY!

Clay Today © Oct. 28, 2010

When Reynolds, a defense contractor, moved to Florida with the Navy, he continued to watch monster movies with his family and became a fan of "Jeepers Creepers," a horror movie series that was filmed in Ocala. "The Black Lagoon Monsters -- they were the first Florida monster, and then the Creeper is the second one," Reynolds said.

FILMING WRAPS ON DIBLASI'S CASSADAGA

ShockTillYouDrop.com © Oct. 28, 2010

Anthony DiBlasi's sophomore directorial effort Cassadaga has called it a wrap in Florida and a few images have trickled in from the production's Facebook page. The supernatural thriller is the latest film from the director of Dread. This time, he tells the story of a seance gone awry and a young woman who is haunted by a murder victim.

ARTICLES ABOUT THE COMPETITION:

'EYE OF THE HURRICANE' MOVIE IS FILMING IN ST. MARYS

First Coast News © Oct. 22, 2010

You could say that a piece of Hollywood is right here on the First Coast. A full-length feature film called "Eye of the Hurricane" is being filmed in St. Marys, Ga. The movie tells the story of what happens in a Florida town after a hurricane comes through. Although the movie is set in a fictional town in Florida, the

director chose St. Marys because of the great scenery. In fact, the movie is scheduled to shoot the whole film in St. Marys for about four weeks.

FILM COMPANY EYES WARREN FOR MOVIE STUDIO

Royal Oak Daily Tribune (Michigan) © Oct. 26, 2010

A Los Angeles-based movie and television company plans to open a studio in Warren, a nearly \$22 million project expected to create 350 jobs in within six months. But prior to lights and cameras, action is requested of city officials to approve a property tax break on Mound Road. Krane Media is scheduled to produce five feature films annually, and each will have a crew between 125 and 135 members, according to documents filed with the city.

STATE FILES LAWSUIT IN FILM OFFICE FIASCO

Radio Iowa © Oct. 26, 2010

Iowa Attorney General Tom Miller filed a lawsuit today against several film makers who are accused of conspiring to defraud the state out of millions of dollars in tax credits. Miller filed the civil lawsuit in Polk County District Court against five individuals and four companies involved in producing or pursuing 15 movie projects in the state.

IS MILWAUKEE BECOMING A FILM TOWN?

Milwaukee News Buzz © Oct. 27, 2010

Milwaukee's film festivals are growing in size and national import. Could Milwaukee garner a wide reputation as a film lover's town? Later this week, the Milwaukee Short Film Festival begins at the Milwaukee Art Museum. Organized by the Milwaukee Independent Film Society, more than 30 films will be screened in the museum's Lubar Auditorium on Friday and Saturday, including some premieres of Milwaukee-made films.

LACK OF INCENTIVES BLAMED FOR STATE'S FAILURE TO LURE FILMMAKERS

Las Vegas Review – Journal © Oct. 28, 2010

Nevada's film industry is hurting because other states are offering tax credits or rebates to production companies that shoot within their borders, an official says. Nevada offers no formal incentives to entice moviemakers. "Incentives that other states are offering are hurting us," said Charlie Geocaris, director of the Nevada Film Office.

SHOT IN TEXAS: EVEN FAILED, STRUGGLING TV SHOWS ADD TO LOCAL COFFERS

Dallas Morning News © Oct. 29, 2010

Before you deem the North Texas-shot television series Lone Star a failure, consider that it pumped about \$7 million into the local economy. Just two episodes aired before Fox pulled the plug on the ratings-poor show that many critics lauded. The sixth episode, though, was in production by that point. Figure \$1 million in spending for each episode and double that for the pilot, says Janis Burklund of the Dallas Film Commission.

GENERAL ARTICLES OF INTEREST:

WHAT GOOGLE TV AND APPLE TV SHOULD DO

Wall Street Pit © Oct. 25, 2010

Just because it seems like much of the internet wants television to be delivered outside traditional platforms doesn't mean that it's a good business to pursue. As anyone who reads this blog knows, I think the future of TV is TV. But what is the future of entertainment on your TV? Entertainment on your TV and TV (video programming) on your TV are not the same thing.

STATEWIDE EVENTS:

FLORIDA FILM FESTIVAL 2011 PRESS EVENT AND PARTY

The curtain will rise on the 2011 Florida Film Festival (April 8 - 17, 2011), and we invite you to see what's in store for the Festival's 20th anniversary. Get the scoop on this year's special guests, new events, and film programs as we unveil our exciting anniversary image.

Be the first to know and have a great time finding out! Cocktail and appetizer tastes will be provided.

Where: Eden Bar (1300 South Orlando Avenue Maitland, FL 32751)

When: Wednesday, November 10, 2010 5:30PM – 7PM

To RSVP or for more information, email Mara at mshorr@enzian.org.

4TH QUARTER FFEAC MEETING

The 4th Quarter FFEAC meeting is scheduled to be held Friday, December 3rd from 10:00AM till 11:30am via teleconference. This is a full Council meeting, and participation is required for all members. An agenda will be made available closer to the date of the teleconference. The call-in number for teleconference is 1-888-808-6959, and the conference code is 4104765. All meetings are open to the public. For more information, please contact the Governor's Office of Film & Entertainment at (850) 410-4765.

CASTING CALL:

NONE AT THIS TIME.

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.

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