

NEWS AND EVENTS, DECEMBER 30, 2009

NEWS

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF FILM & ENTERTAINMENT NEW YEAR HOLIDAY CLOSURE

The Governor's Office of Film and Entertainment will be closed on Friday December 31st in observance of the New Year's Day and will re-open for normal business hours on Monday, January 4, 2010. Please make note of this when contacting the office regarding filming in Florida. Happy New Years!

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

[Tampa] Non-commercial video makers are encouraged to enter their videos into the annual Tampa Bay Video Awards competition sponsored by Tampa Bay Community Network, this community's public access cable television station. The deadline for submissions on DVD's is 5 PM, Friday, January 15, 2009.

All categories of video are welcome including those that have been shown on home computers and TV monitors, Internet websites [e.g., google, facebook, youtube, myspace, etc.], 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 – just as long as they are non-commercial.

A panel of independent judges will decide winners in 14 categories and three divisions – professional, nonprofessional 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.

Tampa Bay Community Network is a service of Speak Up Tampa Bay Public Access Television, Inc., a nonprofit agency that has been managing the local public access facility since April 2000. TBCN provides City of Tampa residents with TV video production training, facilities and equipment to get their messages out on cable television. Amenities include multi- and single-camera studios, edit suites and a remote production vehicle. The facility, located on the grounds of the University of Tampa, is used by members, UT communications students and TBCN's Outreach Department. Outreach and member volunteers cover local non-profits, neighborhood groups, political forums and all manner of community events. They also produce seven series programs including Community Forum, Culture Vultures, Hispanic Outreach, Speak Up Presents, Spotlight on Government, The Scoop and Tampa Bay Insiders. TBCN programming can be viewed on Verizon channels 30 and 36, Bright House Network channels 949 and 950, Comcast channel 20 and via www.tbcn.org.

FLORIDA ARTICLES OF INTEREST:

FULL SAIL UNIVERSITY NAMED FIRST SCHOOL TO HOUSE A DOLBY DIGITAL PRINT MASTER FACILITY IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA

PR Web (press release) © Dec 25, 2009

Full Sail University (www.fullsail.edu), an award winning media institution, is pleased to announce our professionally designed postproduction Dubbing Stage has now received the honor of being the first school named as a Dolby® Digital print master facility in the state of Florida. Full Sail joins an exclusive list of professional facilities approved for Dolby Digital print masters.

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ORLANDO!

Metro Orlando EDC © Dec 28, 2009

Women in Film and Television Florida's recent "Jingle Mingle" event gave the EDC's Metro Orlando Film & Entertainment Commission a chance to do some filming of its own. We asked attendees a question to help in our ongoing promotion of this region as a location for their industry....

JAMMER THE SINGING STRAWBERRY IS STAR OF NEW ANIMATED FILM

Tampa Tribune © Dec 28, 2009

Plant City video producer Ben Rawnsley of Simply Video Productions recently delivered the final edit of the DVD to the Florida Strawberry Growers Association. The film, geared for students in kindergarten through third grade, shows how strawberries are brought to the table. The feature is full of information such as the importance of irrigation in freeze protection, the role bees play in pollination and the nutritional benefit of strawberries.

ARTICLES ABOUT THE COMPETITION:

GREATER PHILADELPHIA FILM OFFICE SAYS '09 PRODUCTIONS HAD \$500M IMPACT

Philadelphia Business Journal © Dec 24, 2009

Film production in the Philadelphia area created 2,000 jobs and generated nearly \$500 million in economic impact this year, the Greater Philadelphia Film Office said Monday. Philadelphia hosted a total of 11 productions. Feature films shot here included M. Night Shyamalan's fantasy adventure film, "The Last Airbender," which will be released in July 2010.

WYOMING LANDS ROLE, NOT CAMERAS, IN FILM

NewsOK.com © Dec 26, 2009

"Did You Hear About the Morgans?" purports to give a view of life in small-town Wyoming, but it was actually filmed in New Mexico. The movie, starring Sarah Jessica Parker and Hugh Grant, chronicles the story of a Manhattan couple that moves to the fictitious town of Ray, Wyoming.

SPAIN TURNS TO HOLLYWOOD TO BOOST TOURISM

AFP © Dec 27, 2009

"This is part of efforts by the municipality to promote the city, attract film producers and project Cadiz's tourism image internationally," Cadiz councilman Bruno Garcia who is in charge of tourism told local media. With Spain facing a slump in the number of tourists, several local governments in Spain are encouraging movies with an international scope to be made in their backyards in a bid to reverse the trend.

MUSIC, FILM CONTINUED TO BOOST CITY'S IMAGE, ECONOMY

Austin Business Journal © Dec 25, 2009

The city saw the entrance of the Austin City Limits music festival in 2003, a return of filming thanks to state incentives, a new performing arts center and a blossoming South by Southwest festival. "Every year, the coverage we get as a city, and all the things that make up our city, solidifies our reputation," said Rose Reyes, director of music marketing at the Austin Convention & Visitors Bureau.

GIVING FILMS A STARRING ROLE IN NJ'S ECONOMY

NJBIZ © Dec 28, 2009

The legislation aims to get more cameras rolling by increasing the state's tax credit incentives for film and digital media production, raising the annual cap to \$50 million, from \$10 million. It faces an uphill fight with

New Jersey facing a multibillion-dollar budget deficit, but advocates said the credits pay for themselves through increased economic development that boosts tax revenues.

WASHTENAW COUNTY'S YEAR IN, AND ON, FILM

[AnnArbor.com](#) © Dec 29, 2009

Thanks to the state's aggressive film incentive legislation — which offers filmmakers tax rebates up to 42 percent — Washtenaw County became the backdrop for several feature films in 2009. This year started with big local buzz about a Hilary Swank vehicle titled "Betty Anne Waters," based on a true story about a working single mother in Massachusetts whose brother was sentenced to death.

GENERAL ARTICLES OF INTEREST:

BIGGEST WKND B.O. EVER: 'AVATAR,' 'HOLMES' LEAD RECORD \$263M

[TheWrap](#) © Dec 27, 2009

The 3D epic "Avatar" dropped off only 3 percent from last week's \$77 million premiere, taking in \$75 million over the holiday weekend, bringing its North American gross to \$212.3 million in two weeks of release. It may have ruled the pack -- but the pack wasn't far behind. The overall box office generated at least \$263 million (with some estimates ranging as high as \$285 million) of business over the three-day weekend period -- shattering the previous record of \$253.6 million set July 18-20 of 2008 amid the premiere of Warner's "The Dark Knight."

SPN IN-DEPTH: THE FATE OF MIDWEST GAME DEVELOPMENT

[Silicon Prairie News \(blog\)](#) © Dec 28, 2009

But despite all the newfound growth in the business, there's a large pocket of inactivity marring an otherwise unified landscape: the Midwest. Although a few states, such as Michigan and Wisconsin, have made efforts to lure video game development (and all the highly sought after jobs and tech dollars that flow in tandem) across their borders, most of America's breadbasket remains oddly silent.

SKIRMISH ARISES IN HOLLYWOOD OVER ACTORS BEING PERSUADED TO QUIT 'SAG'

[Examiner](#) © Dec 28, 2009

According to a report by Dave McNary of Variety on Sunday, a skirmish broke out pertaining to the industry actors being persuaded to quit the Screen Actors Guild. Actress Anne-Marie Johnson, the SAG First VP and a number of board members including actor Kent McCord, left leaflets outside about how to exit the guild during a seminar at a Los Angeles workshop studio that was presenting a method to performers to file for "financial core."

GAME VOICE ACTORS PAID POORLY

[Otago Daily Times Online News](#) © Dec 29, 2009

Despite his extensive credits, Wittenberg earns roughly \$US30,000 (\$NZ43,000) a year from his video-game work and, like most of his peers, supplements that income by doing voice work for animated TV shows. Wittenberg is one of hundreds of Hollywood actors who perform in the heard-but-not-seen world of voice acting, breathing life into the virtual worlds of such blockbuster game franchises as Halo, Call of Duty and Grand Theft Auto.

SAG MAILS FINAL BALLOTS

[TheWrap](#) © Dec 29, 2009

Final ballots to select the recipients of Screen Actors Guild awards for the year's best performances in film and television were mailed Tuesday to the organizations' nearly 100,000 members, the guild said in a statement. Nominations were announced earlier this month.

STATEWIDE EVENTS:

CINEMA PARADISO'S TEEN FILMMAKER PROGRAM

A very special after school workshop will be presented at Cinema Paradiso from November 16th thru January 14th. The FLIFF Teen Filmmaking Program is designed to instruct teenagers in all aspects of filmmaking. Join us at Cinema Paradiso as we offer a hands-on filmmaking course for teenagers, taught by highly respected professional filmmakers.

The course consists of detailed instruction in scriptwriting, directing, cinematography, editing, acting, set design, sound, and music: culminating in the active creation of a major short film, a gala film premier, and a Teen Filmmaker Awards Ceremony. As a participant in the program, you'll learn everything you need to know to make your own films and you'll have a great time doing it.

Classes will be held at Cinema Paradiso on Monday and Wednesday afternoons from 3:30 – 5:30pm. There will be a break for the Holidays. Tuition is \$275. To register, visit www.FLIFF.com. For further information, call (888) 436-2168.

Class size is limited, so register early. Early registrants will receive four vouchers for the Fort Lauderdale International Film Festival.

8-WEEK VOICE OVER WORKSHOP AT VENUE ACTORS STUDIO STARTING WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2010

The workshop will cover all aspects of breaking into the voiceover business, as well as voice techniques, developing your own style and demo CD's, and much more. Interested participants should contact Venue Actors Studio at 727-822-6194 or by e-mail at VenueActorStudio@gmail.com. Venue Theatre is located at 9125 US 19 N., Pinellas Park, FL in the Broyhill Furniture Plaza 2 lights north of Gandy and Park Blvd.

Fee: \$320 for 8 weeks – There is a minimum \$100 deposit to hold space and Venue Membership is available for only \$25 per year extra.

Size: The workshop is limited to 12 participants.

About the Instructor

Ginny Kopf is well known throughout Florida as a voice, speech and dialect coach for actors and singers. For over 25 years she has been a college and acting studio instructor in Orlando, currently at Valencia and Seminole Community College and L.A. Acting Workshop in Orlando. She has given thousands of workshops nationally and has done extensive coaching for Disney and Universal Studios and numerous theatres, drama departments, films and television series. Kopf also gives private lessons in singing, voiceover, dialects, and public speaking. She holds a Masters degree in Theatre Voice and an MFA in Vocal Science. Kopf has produced a 3-CD set titled "Accent Reduction Workshop," and her textbook "The Dialect Handbook" has received international recognition.

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.

FILMMAKERS SOCIAL EVENT

Eye on Talent is putting together a Film Makers Social Event slated for Feb. 26, 2010. The purpose of this purpose is to bring film makers together to meet and pitch film ideas. If you are a Director or Producer looking for talent and crew, and industry professional working in front of the camera or behind the scenes, or just someone wanting to see the film industry flourish in Tallahassee and North Florida, this event is for you. Experienced filmmakers and film students will be able to present their work at this event.

More information will be coming as plans are finalized. If you want would like to participate in the event or volunteer, please send an e-mail to Eyeontalentpr@aol.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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