

From: [Film1](#)
To:
CC:
Subject: News & Events- Governor's Office of Film & Entertainment
Date: Friday, February 29, 2008 5:08:18 PM
Attachments:



news:

51 FULL SAIL GRADUATES WORK ON OSCAR-NOMINATED PROJECTS AT THE OSCAR AWARDS

WINTER PARK, FL, February 21, 2008 - Working behind the scenes, 51 graduates from Full Sail Real World Education (www.fullsail.com) were involved in the production of 18 films nominated for an OSCAR Award in 18 separate categories. Full Sail graduates have worked on the previous four consecutive OSCAR-winning Best Picture films and a total of seven Best Picture winners over the past 13 years (since 1996).

This year, alumni from programs such as: Film, Digital Arts & Design, Recording Arts and Computer Animation, are all represented on projects for the 80th Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences OSCAR Awards to be held on February 24th in Los Angeles, CA at the famous Kodak Theatre.

Graduates this year again earned production credits in the Best Picture category such as Christian Labarta for *There Will Be Blood* starring Daniel Day-Lewis, and Aaron Randall, for his work on *Michael Clayton*. Also credited are graduates Daniel Cramer, H. Haden Hammond and Darrick Akey for their work on the film, *No Country for Old Men*, also nominated in the Best Picture category.

Full Sail graduates are represented across many OSCAR-nominated categories overall including: Best Picture, Best Directing, Best Cinematography, Best Costume Design, Best Sound Editing, Best Film Editing, Best Visual Effects, Best Art Direction, Best Original Song, Best Original Score, Best Screenplay and Best Animated Feature. Contributing as Digital Artists, Sound Re-Recording Mixers, or serving in Set Production, Full Sail graduates were responsible for creating some of this year's finest visual masterpieces including: *Elizabeth: The Golden Age*, *Transformers*, *American Gangster*, *Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End*, *Bourne Ultimatum*, *Ratatouille*, *Across The Universe*, *Sicko*, *Into The Wild* and *The Golden Compass*.

Since 1979, Full Sail Real World Education, a college outside of Orlando, FL, has been an innovative educational leader for those pursuing careers in the entertainment industry. With over 27,000 alumni, graduate credits include work on Oscar, Emmy and GRAMMY-winning projects, best-selling video games, and the #1 grossing U.S. concert tour seven out of the last seven years. Full Sail's 178-acre campus proudly welcomes over 6,000 students from 50 states and 47 countries.

For more information about Full Sail, please visit www.fullsail.com.

JOHN TRAVOLTA STEPS UP FOR SUNSCREEN FILM FESTIVAL

Actor John Travolta has volunteered to lend his name to the Sunscreen Film Festival project and make a brief appearance on its behalf.

"People who know me know that I am a great believer in the creative process," he said. "I love Florida and support Sunscreen because it supports creative film-making in Florida."

On March 4th Travolta will join a group of Sunscreen supporters for an informal meeting and discussion about the current state of film-making in Florida, what it could be, and what Sunscreen is doing to help.

The Sunscreen Film Festival shows selections of films made by Florida filmmakers. This year it received 47 submissions for the Florida category among 240 entries. The Festival will be held in St. Petersburg March 19-22 at the Renaissance Vinoy Hotel and at the Baywalk Movico, a short walk from the Vinoy.

Tony Armer is the executive director of the festival. He said that the support of John Travolta and others is taking the festival to a new level. "Each year the festival grows and attracts more attention," he said. "We are extremely grateful and honored by this support from Mr. Travolta, an accomplished artist and an industry leader. He is making a tremendous contribution."

For more information visit: <http://sunscreenfilmfestival.com/>.

PALM BEACH FILM SCHOOL STUDENT'S FILM GOES TO CANNES

When Palm Beach Film School student Keri Lurtz wrote, directed and edited her first film "Unconditional" in October 2006, she had no idea her life was about to change. With nine years ingrained in the advertising business, film school was almost a sideline at the time.

But all that would change. This heart-warming film about unconditional love, karma and incarnation would strike a cord, not only with the audience who saw the screening shortly after its completion, but also with the Cannes Film Festival, where she submitted it shortly thereafter. "I submitted it to the Short Film Corner," she said, not knowing it would be accepted and she would be on her way to France, the first stop in a life-changing experience.

"Unconditional's" merit was not unnoticed by distribution companies. Lurtz was able to sell it to the Mini Movie Channel for \$1500 and it will be distributed to TV/ Internet in the United States and Europe.

The Palm Beach Film School teaches students of all ages to write, shoot, direct and edit their own short, character-driven drama, comedy or horror films in 8 or 16 weeks at an affordable tuition. New sessions start each year in March, June and November. Visit PalmBeachFilmSchool.com or call 561-242-9190 for more information.

HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE STUDENTS INVITED TO CREATE SHORT FILMS FOR FYI - FILM YOUR ISSUE GLOBAL COMPETITION

Deadline: April 14, 2008

USA Today, the United Nations, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and other organizations and media leaders have joined forces to engage young adults (14-24) in contributing to the public dialogue on pressing social issues using the power of the Internet and user-generated content.

In its 4th year, FYI - Film Your Issue has grown into a global Internet-based competition that invites high school and college students in the United States and around the world to express themselves on pressing contemporary issues by creating and uploading short two-minute films on issues that impact them and their generation.

Beginning February 15, films can be uploaded to multiple participating platforms, including MTV, YouTube, and American Film Institute Screen Nation, as well as promoted on MySpace TV.

Awards and prizes include internships at USA Today, the United Nations, the award-winning PBS Series "P.O.V.", and the Humane Society of the United States; a \$5,000 college scholarship from the Gates Foundation; having your film broadcast on Starz; having entries distributed by the Associated Press to its 1,800 Online Video Network media outlets; being profiled on MTV News and presented at the NAACP annual conference; VIP Pass/film presentation at AFI Silverdocs; the Walter Cronkite Civic Engagement Leadership Award and Eleanor Roosevelt Humanitarian Award; and many more.

Visit the program's Web site for complete program information, filmmaking tips, and full descriptions of the program's awards and prizes.

Contact: <http://www.filmyourissue.com/index.shtml>

AMELIA ISLAND FILM FESTIVAL (AIFF) HAS EXTENDED THEIR INVITATION TO SUBMIT FILMS THROUGH MAY 3, 2008

AIFF calls for Film Festival film submissions starting February 1, 2008 with a May 3, 2008 deadline.

A total of over \$5,000.00 in judged awards will be presented in 11 categories including Best Director, Best Actor, Best Actress, Best Animation, Best Short, Best Documentary, Best Cinematography, Best Student Film, Best Non-English Film, Best Comedy/Farce, and Best Film About Amelia Island or of Local Interest to Northeast Florida & Southeast Georgia.

Click here to print the entry form: <http://www.ameliainlandfilmfestival.org/images/FilmSubmissionForm.pdf>

The festival will take place from September 25, 2008 until October 1, 2008.

For more information, email: tmcadoo_ameliainlandff@hotmail.com or write:

Amelia Island Film Festival
P.O. Box 504,
Fernandina Beach, FL
32035-0504

Phone: 904-335-1110

www.ameliaislandfilmfestival.org

NFOCUS PRODUCES REGIONAL SPOT FOR W.S. BADCOCK CORPORATION

W. S. Badcock Corporation, which has over 350 stores throughout the southeast, selected NFocus to produce a 30 second commercial spot highlighting dealer opportunities for their Badcock & more Home Furnishing Centers. From script development to fulfillment, NFocus worked with Badcock and its agency FKQ to deliver the final product. The spot will first air in test markets of Raleigh, NC and Richmond, VA.

To view the spot, you can go to NFocus' newly created blog (<http://getnfocus.blogspot.com>).

FLORIDA ARTICLES OF INTEREST: (EDITOR'S NOTE: Please click on the HEADLINE for link)

CRIST WANTS \$40 MILLION FOR FILM INCENTIVES

[Bizjournals.com](#), NC © Feb 29, 2008

TALLAHASSEE -- Gov. Charlie Crist is proposing a \$15 million increase in the state's film incentive fund that industry officials say is needed to keep its work force and maintain the state's competitiveness with others in luring productions.

JENNIFER TILLY...SPECIAL GUEST OF FLA. FILM FESTIVAL

[Orlando Sentinel](#), FL © Feb 28, 2008

"Festival goers and Tilly fans can get up close and personal during "An Evening with Jennifer Tilly" at Enzian Theater, Friday, April 4 at 7:15 p.m. Attendees will enjoy a screening of the Woody Allen film *Bullets Over Broadway*, the 1994 sensation that earned Tilly an Academy Award nomination for her portrayal of the aspiring but hopelessly untalented actress Olive Neal. A question and answer session with Tilly will follow."

FLORIDA FORECASTS PRODUCTION SWELL

[Variety](#), CA © Feb 26, 2008

Mirroring its status as a multinational hub, Miami's film and TV production biz is a wide-ranging mix of features, skeins, Spanish-language telenovelas and commercials.

ENZIAN FLORIDA FILM FESTIVAL TO DEBUT WORLD PREMIERES IN UPCOMING COMPETITION

[HotIndieNews.com](#), NY © Feb 22, 2008

Orlando, FL - ENZIAN announced today the line-up of films selected for the Documentary Film and Narrative Feature Film categories of the American Independent Competition for the 17th Annual Florida Film Festival, March 28 through April 6. Two world premieres and seven East Coast premieres were selected, with 15 filmmakers making their feature debut and 5 female directors are represented among the 10 narrative films and 10 documentaries.

SMALL SCREEN FLORIDA: 50 YEARS OF TV

[Florida Trend](#) © Feb 29, 2008

Early on, Florida in the national mind was a place of sea, national parks, outdoor adventure, family and charismatic mammals: "Sea Hunt" (1958-61), "Flipper" (1964-68) and "Gentle Ben" (1967-69). Next arrived the Florida of the golden age of space flight, albeit in the form of the California-taped "I Dream of Jeannie" (1965-70). (There's an I Dream of Jeannie Lane in Cocoa Beach.) By the 1980s, however, Florida had taken two paths in the national TV mind.

DESPITE SPOTLIGHT, FILM FEST'S STILL A HOMETOWN EVENT

[MiamiHerald.com](#), FL © Feb 28, 2008

The 25th anniversary of Miami's acclaimed film festival will have more money, films and stars but less box office clout.

ORLANDO SCREENWRITER BRINGS FILM FOR VIEWING

[Orlando Sentinel](#), FL © Feb 28, 2008

The maybes added up for DeRosa -- formerly with Orlando's improv group Them -- and director and co-writer Jieho Lee. The Air I Breathe went before the cameras in Mexico City. It had a cast that included future Oscar winner Forest Whitaker, Sarah Michelle Gellar, Kevin Bacon, Brendan Fraser, Emile Hirsch (Into the Wild) and Andy Garcia. It premiered last year at New York's Tribeca Film Festival.

LA SUNSET TAN COMING TO JACKSONVILLE

[Bizjournals.com](#), NC © Feb 28, 2008

LA Sunset Tan is bringing Hollywood-style tanning to Jacksonville, Miami and Orlando.

The luxury-tanning salon made famous last year by its own reality TV show about the tanning salon business on E! Entertainment Network is making Florida the first phase of a 500-unit national expansion plan that will be caught on tape during the second and third seasons of the show.

A CONVERSATION WITH FILMMAKER GEORGE BUTLER

[Tampa Tribune](#), FL © Feb 27, 2008

Award-winning filmmaker George Butler is best known for his 1977 film "Pumping Iron," which documented the bodybuilding efforts of five-time Mr. Olympia Arnold Schwarzenegger and his young rival, Lou Ferrigno. Butler's film subjects are diverse, ranging from the Antarctic to Mars. His most recent project is "The Good Fight," a documentary on Florida State football coach Bobby Bowden and the tumultuous 2006 season. As part of this weekend's Gasparilla Film Festival, Butler will be in Tampa on Friday for a screening of the unfinished film at Channelside 9 Cinemas at 8 p.m. In a phone interview this week with the Tribune, Butler discussed the Bowden project:

FLOATING-DOCK BUILDER GOES HOLLYWOOD

[Daytona Beach News-Journal, FL © Feb 27, 2008](#)

DELAND -- The speeding boat goes airborne, then lands on a floating dock that tips on impact. The fishing boat slides sideways into the water and sinks. That's a stunt dreamed up for "Baitshop," a movie recently filmed in Central Florida, and the dock was built by a floating-dock maker here.

MIAMI FESTIVAL'S GLOBAL STATURE GROWS

[Variety, CA © Feb 27, 2008](#)

Now, in its 25th year, the festival has grown into a significant event with ties not only to Miami but also Hollywood, Latin America and the international film sphere.

FILMING IN MIAMI

[Miami Today, FL © Feb 27, 2008](#)

These film permits were issued last week by the Miami-Dade County Mayor's Office of Film & Entertainment, (305) 375-3288; the Miami Mayor's Office of Film, Arts & Entertainment, (305) 860-3823; and the Miami Beach Office of Arts, Culture and Entertainment-Film and Print Division, (305) 673-7070.

ARTICLES ABOUT THE COMPETITION:

NEW FILM INCENTIVES SHOOT FOR GETTING MORE MOVIES MADE IN SC

[News Channel 7, SC © Feb 26, 2008](#)

So House Speaker Bobby Harrell plans to introduce a bill Wednesday that could be called "State Film Incentives 2, The Sequel". The bill would restore the original incentives to a 20 percent rebate, but expand the rebate to 30 percent for in-state residents hired to work on films. It would also create an apprenticeship program to get local residents valuable experience in the film industry.

CITY PREMIERES EXTRA INCENTIVE FOR FILMS

[Examiner.com © Feb 29, 2008](#)

By lifting a cap in The City's film rebate program, San Francisco could create more than 100 jobs in its ailing industry and sink an additional \$24 million into the economy by next year, a city report says.

JOHNNY DEPP MOVIE TO BE SHOT IN WISCONSIN, MILWAUKEE

[Bizjournals.com, NC © Feb 26, 2008](#)

Attracted by tax incentives that went into effect Jan. 1, Universal Pictures has committed to shooting portions of its upcoming Johnny Depp film "Public Enemies" in Wisconsin, Gov. Jim Doyle said Tuesday.

LA PRODUCTION COMES TO TOWN TO SHOOT 2-HOUR CABLE-TV FILM

[Arizona Republic, AZ © Feb 27, 2008](#)

This week, Phoenix will double for downtown LA in S.I.S., a two-hour cable-TV movie. For the next three days the film crew will shoot scenes near Central Avenue and Jefferson Street. It's the latest example of Arizona's aggressive campaign to entice production companies to shoot in the Grand Canyon State.

CONNECTICUT COMMISSION ON CULTURE & TOURISM NAMES GEORGE NORFLEET FILM DIVISION DIRECTOR

[Norwalk Plus Magazine © Feb 28, 2008](#)

George Norfleet has been appointed director of the Commission on Culture & Tourism's (CCT) film division. Since October 2007, Norfleet has served as a senior program manager administering the state's film tax credit program. Mark Dixon and Ellen Woolf round out the newly developed film division as senior program associates.

GROUP CHALLENGES FILM-PRODUCTION TAX CREDITS

[TheDay, CT © Feb 27, 2008](#)

Hartford - A prominent children's advocacy group ripped the House speaker's pet tax program Tuesday, arguing state lawmakers are "star-struck" in their race to provide ever-greater incentives for film and TV production in Connecticut.

DREAMWORKS SET TO FILM IN PITTSBURGH

[Bizjournals.com, NC © Feb 27, 2008](#)

While the film's budget was not revealed, Keezer expected it would be in the same range as the other films shooting in town, including Kevin Smith's "Zack and Miri Shoot a Porno," now in production, and the Juliann Moore-vehicle "Shelter," expected to begin shooting soon. Both have budgets ranging from \$18 million to \$25 million. Keezer credited Pennsylvania's \$75 million tax credit program as a major incentive helping to spur film production here.

MEXICO'S INDUSTRY BACK FROM THE BRINK

[Variety, CA © Feb 27, 2008](#)

Film production has been steadily increasing in Mexico. Between innovative documentaries and a wave of minimalist features, a distinctly

Mexican aesthetic is emerging amid the arthouse scene. At the same time, there is greater diversity of projects, from toons and commercial comedies to sci-fi and fantasy. But this year will mark a test of whether the market will be able to support Mexico's burgeoning film production, as more local films fight for fewer spaces amid the glut of global product.

SHOOT AND WE'LL COUGH UP

[The Australian, Australia](#) © Feb 26, 2008

Almost a year after the Australian Screen Production Incentive was announced, the film and television industry is still arguing whether the package is a business or a cultural initiative. Most crucially, what kind of film will be eligible for the most generous incentive in global filmmaking: a 40 per cent refundable tax offset?

BOLLYWOOD SAYS CUT

[Gold Coast News, Australia](#) © Feb 27, 2008

A MAJOR Bollywood film that was to be shot on the Gold Coast will now be filmed overseas because there is no State Government incentive scheme for the Indian film industry. Another movie, expected to be shot in October, is also in doubt and there are concerns Bollywood could turn its back on the city because the 'Gold Coast is too expensive'.

HOLYROOD TO SHOW HOLLYWOOD THE MONEY

[Scotsman, United Kingdom](#) © Feb 23, 2008

The Scottish Government is considering a range of financial incentives for film-makers to prise international blockbusters away from rival countries. An unfavourable UK tax regime has over the years meant Scotland has missed out on the full production of box-office hits such as Braveheart and The Water Horse even though they are Scottish-based stories.

TERMINATOR SALVATION: THE FUTURE BEGINS WILL SHOOT AT ALBUQUERQUE STUDIOS

[PR Web \(press release\), WA](#) © Feb 26, 2008

On "Terminator Salvation: The Future Begins" coming to Albuquerque Studios, COO Nick Smerigan said, "When building this facility, this is exactly the type of project we envisioned having and we look forward to working with Derek and Victor of The Halcyon Company and McG and the entire cast and crew." Added Jeremy Hariton, the studios' Sr. VP, "Working with this group in bringing this project to Albuquerque has been a great pleasure. This is an exciting time for Albuquerque Studios. To have the opportunity to host a production, cast and crew of this magnitude does not come along often and it speaks to the quality of the studio and the great film incentive programs put in place by the state of New Mexico."

SOUTH DAKOTA ONE OF MANY STATES TO SEEK FILMMAKERS

[Daily Republic, SD](#) © Feb 26, 2008

Lesa Jarding, of the South Dakota Film Office, said it's difficult to guess whether the incentives and the recent publicity generated by South Dakota scenes in "National Treasure: Book of Secrets" and "Into the Wild" will bring more filmmakers to the state.

JUSTICE LEAGUE OF... CANADA?

[IGN, CA](#) © Feb 25, 2008

According to the Sydney Morning Herald, director George Miller says the \$200 million movie could leave his home country if they don't get the 40-percent tax break that Warner Bros. had expected. The snag is that some officials want the rebate capped for films with budgets larger than \$30 million. The incentive is also limited to Australian producers, and while Miller is an Aussie, the paper reports rumors that some officials have deemed the production "not Australian enough."

ELLIS ENCOURAGES FILM INDUSTRY TO COME TO ALASKA

[Alaska's SuperStation, AK](#) © Feb 22, 2008

On Friday the Senate Finance Committee held a hearing to discuss Senate Bill 230, and further hearings are slated for the following week. These tax breaks could potentially contribute millions to local and state economies, as well as feature Alaska's alluring tidewater glaciers and majestic mountains.

GENERAL ARTICLE OF INTEREST:

DGA'S A.D. TRAINING PROGRAM MAKES SPOT HEADWAY

[Shoot Online](#) © Feb 29, 2008

Otis Fung and John Scott Wilson are hardly household industry names. Yet they are of precedent-setting significance to the spotmaking community as the first two trainees in the Directors Guild of America's (DGA) professional apprenticeship program geared towards training second assistant directors in commercial production.

DIGITAL MEDIA:

INNOVATION: MICROSOFT WANTS YOU TO CREATE VIDEO GAMES FOR XBOX 360

[FOXBusiness](#) © Feb 22, 2008

Aiming to build the number of homegrown games available on Xbox 360, Redmond, Wash.-based Microsoft announced earlier this week it will soon start letting Xbox LIVE members play, rate and share games created by the community.

ELECTRONIC ARTS OFFERS \$1.9 BILLION FOR TAKE-TWO

[Scientific American](#) © Feb 24, 2008

U.S. video game giant Electronic Arts Inc on Sunday said it had made an unsolicited \$1.9 billion offer for "Grand Theft Auto" publisher Take-Two Interactive Software, escalating its battle with Activision for the title of biggest video game maker.

NETWORK OF TVS TALKS TO CELLPHONES AND TRADES CLIPS FOR ADVERTISING

New York Times, United States © Feb 24, 2008

A LITTLE-KNOWN private company, Akoo International, is setting up a network of digital screens that can send and receive messages from cellphones. The company aims to transform mobile devices into universal remote controls that can select on-demand content from big-screen TVs in airports, bars and restaurants.

EA LAYS OUT BLUEPRINT DIVISION

Variety, CA © Feb 25, 2008

The world's biggest videogame publisher is placing some small bets on new ideas. Though it's not yet talking officially about the project, Electronic Arts has started a division called Blueprint, focused on developing, at low cost, original intellectual property that can spread across multiple media.

'IRON MAN,' 'HULK,' 'ALIEN' GAMES POWER SEGA'S REINVENTION

Hollywood Reporter, United States © Feb 27, 2008

It's no mean feat powering up from being video game publisher No. 14 in 2004 to becoming the industry's sixth largest third-party publisher today. But Sega of America is tasting that success. Industry analysts credit its president and COO since 2005, Simon Jeffery, as the force behind the company's struggle to reinvent itself

GROWTH COOLS AT SOCIAL NETWORKS

Hollywood Reporter © Feb 24, 2008

The era of astronomical growth for social networking sites in the U.S. could be over as MySpace and Facebook have cooled off in recent months.

Statewide Events:

KODAK PRESENT'S - STOP BY, SHOOT FILM - AT MIAMI INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

For the third consecutive year, Kodak is presenting a hands-on opportunity to capture your own beautiful images on Super 16mm Film. Choose your composition, your own framing and shoot!

Kodak will provide you with a DVD of your filmed footage. Working with experienced instructors and local facilities you will get a taste of working with S16mm Film. Sign up for this free class at Film Festival's web site: http://mdc.edu/filmfest/miffshowtime2008/RS_kodak.htm

Date: Monday, March 3, 1:30 - 3:30 PM

Location: Miami Dade College, Wolfson Campus, Centre Gallery 1365
300 N.E. Second Ave. Miami FL

Date: Monday, March 3, 4:00 - 6:00 PM

Location: Miami Dade College, Wolfson Campus, Centre Gallery 1365
300 N.E. Second Ave. Miami FL

REMINDER - HERSCHELL GORDON LEWIS, DIRECTOR OF THE GROUNDBREAKING HORROR FILM BLOOD FEAST APPEARING LIVE AT THE GASPARILLA FILM FESTIVAL!

Tomorrow, March 1st - 8:00pm

Hold onto your theater seats and grab your Jujufruits...titan of terror Herschell Gordon Lewis will be making a rare special appearance along with producer David F. Friedman at the GASParilla Film Festival in honor of the 45th Anniversary of *Blood Feast* - the first-ever "splatter movie"!

Purchase advance tickets for *Blood Feast* online: www.gasparillafilmfestival.com

Hosted by: Steve Persall, St. Petersburg Times Film Critic

Saturday, March 1, 2008

8:00pm - Reception with H.G. Lewis and David F. Friedman

9:00pm - *Blood Feast*

10:20pm - Q&A with H.G. Lewis, David F. Friedman, and Steve Persall

Tickets: \$15.00 - includes all events outlined above.

Location: Channelside Theaters

615 Channelside Drive

Tampa, Florida

For more information:

www.gasparillafilmfestival.com

www.thefilmranch.com

TONIGHT - BLACK VINTAGE FILM SHOWCASE - FESTIVAL FINALE

Friday, February 29th

FAMU Journalism Building/Lecture Hall - Orr Drive, Tallahassee, FL

6:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Cost: \$25

Official closing event of Black History Month Festival

Features the opening of our Black Vintage Film Showcase with special guest host Rebecca Dirden Mattingly, former Florida Film Commissioner, and a reception of African-inspired foods prepared by the National Society of Minorities in Hospitality - FSU Chapter.

The Black Vintage Films to be shown are part of a new series of U. S. postage stamps to be introduced later this year. *Princess Tam Tam* (starring Josephine Baker) - 1935 and *Hallelujah* (directed by King Vidor) - 1929.

Also please join us this summer for our next series of Black Vintage Film Events.

For more information, call 850/877-0453 or 850/224-0152

SPIKE LEE TO PARTICIPATE IN UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA LECTURE SERIES

Spike Lee will be speaking as part of Black Emphasis Month "Celebrating Black History Doesn't End In February"

Spike Lee is known for tackling prickly issues of relevance to the African-American community in his films, which have been described as "controversy-courting" and "consciousness-tweaking." Lee's body of work has earned him a Las Vegas Film Critics Society "Lifetime Achievement Award" and an MTV Movie Awards "Silver Bucket of Excellence Award," among numerous other awards for individual productions.

The film-maker first entered the movie scene in 1986 with his shoe-string-budgeted, mostly black-and-white film "She's Gotta Have It." Lee has also made some of the most-talked about films of the last few decades, including the epic "Malcolm X," "Bamboozled," "25th Hour" and "She Hate Me." Lee's influence in the film industry as well as his own work has advanced the careers of such actors as Wesley Snipes, Samuel L. Jackson, Angela Bassett and Denzel Washington.

The director's most recent endeavor is the HBO documentary titled "When the Levees Broke: A Requiem in Four Acts," which he also produced. The film shows the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina and includes footage of the devastated New Orleans and first-hand accounts of its citizens who were directly affected by the hurricane.

March 4, 2008 - 7pm, Sun Dome Corral

Tickets: Free for USF Students with valid USF ID

\$3 - USF Faculty, Staff, and Alumni with valid USF ID

\$8 - Public

NFOCUS AND THE CITY OF LAKELAND PRESENT: "PICS ON THE PROMENADE"

NFocus and the City of Lakeland will play host to an exciting new outdoor movie event called *Pics on the Promenade*. The three month spring series started on Friday, February 8, 2008 with *Casablanca* and will continue Friday, March 14th with the screening of *West Side Story*.

The monthly movie series will take place at the Lake Mirror Amphitheater which is between Hollis Garden and the Lake Mirror Center. The event is FREE to the public and families are encouraged to attend. There will be snack vendors on site so bring dinner and a blanket and enjoy the lake setting with movies under the stars. All shows will start at dusk (around 6:30 p.m.) so be sure to arrive early to claim a spot in the grass.

Remaining dates:

West Side Story: Friday, March 14, 2008

Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid: Friday, April 11, 2008

KODAK PRESENTS - MEDIA SOLUTION WORKSHOP - DURING MEDIA SUMMIT: CARIBBEAN & THE AMERICAS

Kodak announces its Media Solution Workshop during Media Summit: Caribbean & The Americas taking place at the Chapman Center, Miami Dade College - Wolfson Campus.

Thursday, March 6 at 11:30 am

Kodak's one-hour session entitled "Now That The Film Is Shot, How Do I Safely Transport It?" will take place at the Chapman Center. It will be presented by Michael E. Smalter, Quality Manager for Entertainment Imaging Films.

Many questions were raised at the last Media Summit surrounding the issue of obtaining, working and traveling with raw and unprocessed Motion Picture Film. The session will address Kodak's recommended procedures for transportation and a panel following the demonstration will ask local distributors and motion picture laboratories as well as airlines for their advice and recommendations for working with film in this situation.

Full conference agenda and speakers available at: <http://www.msummitca.com/ndp.php?p=7&l=0>

2008 SARASOTA FILM FESTIVAL - HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY

February 27th 2008, Sarasota - The Sarasota Film Festival kicks-off its 10th Anniversary with a sneak-peak at some of the highlights of this years films, honorees and special programs; Among them is the announcement of the three major competitions, Best Narrative Feature, Best Documentary Feature, and Independent Visions - each showcasing a selection of the finest films at the festival. Special programs include Face To Face: The Films of Liv Ullmann and Ingmar Bergman; and Israel@60: The Nation, The Diaspora and Beyond.

For our 10th Anniversary the festival is thrilled to have as its honorary chairs, Governor Charlie Crist, United Artists CEO Paula Wagner and Creative Artists Agency (CAA) Co-Chairman Rick Nicita. They all expected to attend the 10th Anniversary Ball, where this year's honorees will include: Charlize Theron (*Battle in Seattle, In the Valley of Elah, Monster*), *This Is That* co-founder, Ted Hope (*In The Bedroom, The Savages, Towelhead* - written and directed by Alan Ball) also honored this year will be writer, actor, director Stanley Tucci (*Blind Date, The Devil Wears Prada*).

The spectacular Van Wezel Performing Arts Center perfectly sets the stage for the thrilling opening weekend of the Sarasota Film Festival. Kicking-off the Festival on Friday April 4, 2008, is our Opening Night Film and Gala. This year's Opening Night film comes to us on the heels of its World Premiere at the Sundance Film Festival. We are proud to present Steven Schachter's film, *The Deal*, starring Meg Ryan, William H. Macy, Jason Ritter and LL Cool J, many of whom will be attending the festival. And as this year's Centerpiece Film, *Blind Date*, starring Stanley Tucci, who will be honored at the 10th Anniversary Ball, where he will be introduced by his friend and partner (and last year's World Cinema honoree), Steve Buscemi. Stanley will also participate in our Conversation Series at the Historic Asolo Theater. *Battle In Seattle*, starring Charlize Theron André Benjamin (aka André 3000 of Outkast), Woody Harrelson, Ray Liotta, Channing Tatum, Michelle Rodriguez and Martin Henderson, Produced by Redwood Palms Pictures, will be the Closing Night Film of the 2008 Sarasota Film Festival. Director Stuart Townsend and Charlize Theron will attend.

For more information contact the Sarasota Film Festival at 941-366-6200 or Toll Free 866-575-3456 or online at www.sarasotafilmfestival.com.

LAKELAND CHAPTER FMPTA MEETING & FAA STUDIO TOUR

The Florida Motion Picture and Television Association (FMPTA) is a not for profit Organization dedicated to the promotion of Film, Television, Recording, Print and Digital Media in Florida.

The Lakeland Chapter of FMPTA is now establishing and accepting membership applications. We are a mix of crafts: technical, non technical, Professional and students. If you are interested in taking part in the state film, television, audio recording or electronic media industries, this is the place for you!

Lakeland chapter meetings are the third Thursday of each month starting at 6:30 PM lasting, approximately two hours. Meeting activities include field trips, programs and socials.

Next Meeting: Thursday March 20th 2008

Location: FAA Production Studios
4425 Sun & Fun Drive
Lakeland, FL 33811

This event will include networking and a "Studio Tour" with demonstrations in such areas as audio, lighting, HD cameras, the new Tri-Caster, Satellite Transmission and many other production areas. Cheryl Hardy, Studio PA and National FAASTEam Representative of the Year for the United States, will deliver a short presentation during the tour.

Register to attend FMPTA and Studio tour at: http://faasafety.gov/SPANS/event_details.aspx?eid=18451

For more information go to: www.fmpta.org.

THE WORKING ACTOR'S STUDIO PRESENTS - AUDITIONING AND ACTING IN COMMERCIALS WEEKEND INTENSIVE

The Commercial Intensive is a two-day class on Saturday and Sunday, March 8 & 9. The cost for the weekend is \$150. The location is at The Working Actor's Studio near the Tampa airport, 6717 Benjamin Rd, Bldg. 3, Space #8.

The class is taught by Jack Amos. Jack has won 4 Crystal Reel Awards for his acting. Those successfully completing this class have reported an average 30% increase in their booking rate.

Email workingactors@aol.com or call 727 464 0530 if you would like to reserve a spot. The class is limited to 10. The class would benefit either beginners or intermediate actors.

Please Note: If you have a press release or an educational event, you can post it on our website www.filminflorida.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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