

From: [Film1](#)
To:
CC:
Subject: News & Events - Governor's Office of Film & Entertainment
Date: Friday, April 10, 2009 4:58:33 PM
Attachments:



News & Events

NEWS:

Legislative Update

The House Full Appropriations Council on Education & Economic Development Tuesday afternoon passed CEED1, the General Appropriations Bill, which includes \$15,000,000 for the Film and Entertainment Incentive budget item and \$453,296 for OFE operating expenses.

The Senate Policy and Steering Committee on Ways and Means Tuesday evening passed SB 7072, Appropriations Bill, which includes \$5,000,000 for the Film and Entertainment Incentive budget item and \$753,296 for OFE operating expenses.

For those of you who have been following the Senate Select Committee on Florida's Economy: The Senate Appropriations Bill mentioned above includes a Late Filed Amendment (995017) by Sen. Gaetz that "provides \$25 million for a Performance-Based Tax Refund Pool contingent on receipt of an equal amount of increased tax collections in FY 2009-10." Sen. Gaetz introduced this amendment as arising from the work of the Senate Select Committee on Florida's Economy. It is not clear by the language what industries can participate or any other details, so I will be following it closely. There will be a presentation related to this proposed program at the next meeting of the Senate Select Committee on Florida's Economy scheduled for next Wednesday, April 14th at 1:00pm - 2:45pm.

No additional news on any of the film tax credit bills.

Craig Soldingier, president of FLORIDA CAST & CREW ASSOCIATION, DIES AT 62

Craig Allen Soldingier, 62, of Orlando, died Tuesday, April 7, 2009. He passed peacefully at his home surrounded by family and friends, after a two year battle with cancer. Craig is a veteran of the U.S. Army, where he served as a Ceremonial Announcer for the White House in the "The Old Guard".

He spent his career in radio broadcasting, music promoting, and mostly in the film and television industry as a writer, producer and director. He served many years as the State President of the Florida Motion Picture & Television Association and is the current President of the Florida Cast & Crew Association.

Craig is survived by his beloved daughter, Laurie Saunders, his son-in-law, Scott Saunders and his three grandchildren, Ellie, Emmy and Dylan Saunders of Orlando. He is also survived by his mother, Florence Soldingier, of Orlando, his sister, Eve Soldingier of Silver Spring, MD, and his sister, Jan Campbell and brother-in-law, Alex Campbell of Rockville, MD. A memorial service will be held Friday, April 10, 2009 at 10AM at Woodlawn Memorial Funeral Home, 400 Woodlawn Cemetery Rd, Gotha, FL.

It has been asked that in lieu of flowers, to please consider making a donation in Craig's memory to the [MD Anderson Cancer Center of Orlando](#) or to [Cornerstone Hospice](#).

Craig Soldingier, past president of Fla. Motion Picture Television Association, Full Sail instructor, owner of his own production outfit and a player in the Orlando film scene for decades, has died.

To learn more about Craig's legacy, you can visit his website at <http://www.craigsoldingier.com/about.htm>.

TAKE TWO: TALLAHASSEE FILM FESTIVAL RETURNS APRIL 15- 19

Tallahassee, Fla. - The Tallahassee Film Festival (TFF), presented by Florida Commerce Credit Union returns this year April 15-19, 2009 celebrating emerging and professional talent in the film and related arts industries. The goal of TFF is to position Tallahassee as a vibrant arts and film community encouraging local and regional residents to learn more about the film industry.

Throughout the five-day festival, Florida State University (FSU), Florida A&M University (FAMU), Tallahassee Community College (TCC), Challenger Learning Center IMAX and All Saints Cinema will screen more than 75 new and exciting films from across the country and even internationally.

The festival kicks off Wednesday, April 15 at 7:00 p.m. at the FSU Student Life Cinema with the opening night screening of *In a Dream*, an award-winning documentary feature film from the Torchlight Film Series, chronicling the work and tumultuous life of Philadelphia mosaic artist Isaiah Zagar. The Torchlight Program, directed by industry veteran Paul Cohen, is an academic program at FSU designed to enhance the education of film students by providing instruction in current and emerging business practices of the motion picture industry.

Also screening opening night at the FSU Student Life Cinema is the indie hit *Breaking Upwards* with actress Olivia Thirlby of *Juno* at 9:45 p.m. The filmmakers of *Breaking Upwards* are expected to be in attendance and participate in a question and answer session following the feature. The opening night party will be held at Mint Lounge [215 West College Avenue] for sponsors, filmmakers, industry executives and invited guests.

More than 140 film submissions were received from around the world during the call for entries. On Friday, April 17, the festival presents a free, family-friendly outdoor screening of *Grease* downtown at Kleman Plaza 8:00 p.m. Parking will be available at Kleman Plaza parking garage. No alcohol or coolers permitted at the event.

From April 16-18, the public is invited to attend free filmmaking educational seminars and workshops at the Residence Inn by Marriott on Gaines Street. Industry executives will make presentations on topics including film financing, scriptwriting, directing and low-budget filmmaking. Educational presentations will also be made at area middle and high schools to teach students about filmmaking.

Mingle with filmmakers at the TFF Awards Ceremony on Saturday, April 18 at Tallahassee Community College Turner Auditorium. The event is free and open to the public. Winners of the 48 Hour Film Contest will be announced, along with the jury and audience award-winning films. Aloura Charles, graduate of the FSU Film School, will also be awarded the 2009 Emerging Filmmaker Award.

The five-day event will culminate on Sunday, April 19 with the new "Best of Fest" screening for another round of viewing the award-winning films. The full programming schedule is available online at www.TallahasseeFilmFestival.com.

The All Festival Pass is available for purchase at Florida Commerce Credit Union branches for \$20. Individual screening tickets will be sold at the door. To learn more about the Tallahassee Film Festival, please visit www.tallahasseeilmfestival.com.

EXTREME MAKEOVER: HOME EDITION TALLAHASSEE SET TO AIR NATIONWIDE ON SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 2009

What: The national TV broadcast of the Extreme Makeover: Home Edition episode profiling the story of the Kadzis family of Leon County and the building of their new "extreme" home by MyddeltonParker Builders of Tallahassee, with help from nearly 3,000 area volunteers and businesses.

When: Sunday, April 12, 2009 8:00pm - 10:00pm (EST) on ABC (local WTXL, ABC 27HD).

Details: In keeping with the show's call to honor everyday heroes across America, *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* traveled to Leon County, Florida on February 20, 2009 to tell the Kadzis Family, which

includes a father with cancer and five physically challenged children adopted from China, that their hurricane-damaged home will be rebuilt and modified in seven days to meet their special needs.

John Parker and Jake Myddelton of Tallahassee-based MyddeltonParker Builders enlisted their staff, suppliers, subcontractors and thousands of ordinary citizens from the Tallahassee/Leon County area to volunteer their time and materials. Together with host Ty Pennington and his *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* crew, they demoed the existing house and replace it with a new "extreme" home built in seven days.

"Jake and I are excited to be a part of this 'extreme' build. In holding true to the show, we can't tell you about all of the amazing features of the new home built for the Kadzis family. You will have to watch the episode to see what Ty, his crew, and our amazing volunteers were able to do for this deserving family. But make no mistake - our community stepped up to the challenge and proved we have what it takes to make a family's dream come true," said John Parker, co-owner of MyddeltonParker Builders.

"This isn't a 'Hollywood-movie-set' home. This is the Kadzis family's home and we built it to last a lifetime. Everyone working on the home understood that George Kadzis had a wish for his family and that was for a safe, reliable and home for his wife and children in case something happened to him. John and I, and all of the volunteers were saddened by the passing of George a short time after we completed the home. We were all privileged to fulfill one of his last wishes to provide this home for the family," said Jake Myddelton, co-owner of MyddeltonParker Builders.

Sharing the Kadzis Family's story with the world:

The Tallahassee / Leon County spirit will be front and center as the amazing story of the Kadzis family is told to a national TV audience. Extraordinary compassion led George Kadzis, a prison dentist, and Barbara Kadzis, a lifelong teacher who herself was adopted, to open their hearts and home to special-needs children adopted from orphanages in China. The Kadzis family faces major challenges in their cramped, hurricane-damaged home. It is especially difficult to navigate for daughter Melody, whom was born blind. The other adopted brothers and sisters also have significant physical challenges. Julia is deaf, Martin's right arm and hand are deformed, and Phoenix and Celeste are now having their cleft palates repaired. Aileen lost her birth father to cancer and her birth mother fled after his death.

Because Barbara and George Kadzis couldn't speak fluent Chinese, and several of their adopted children could barely communicate in any fashion, the family turned to the universal language of music as an instrument to heal, communicate and transform. Chris, Barbara and George's biological son, and Martin play the guitar and piano; Aileen plays the flute; Melody plays the zither, and Julia dances like she's listening to every note, despite her inability to hear.

The day before Ty, the design team, and the builders arrived at the Kadzis family's home, George fell ill and was rushed to the hospital. The *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* producers worked with the family to keep them close to Tallahassee so they could visit George during the week of the build. The week following the "move that bus" taping, George passed away following a long battle with a brain cancer. Barbara and the children are moved into their new home and working through this time in their lives.

"We thank the Leon County / Tallahassee community for their support during the process of building a safe and secure home for the Kadzis family. Our team asks that you keep Barbara and the children in your thoughts and prayers as they move into the next phase of their lives. We ask you to give them the privacy they need and deserve during this time," said John Parker and Jake Myddelton, Co-Owners of MyddeltonParker Builders.

Viewers will witness not only the amazing construction of the new home for the Kadzis family, they will learn about a resilient family that will overcome any obstacle that is put before them to come out stronger and closer.

FMPTA-JFC Members Working On Feature Film

Many members of our chapter are spending this April filming "False Pretense" along with the Film/Television Students from Institutional Member, Florida Community College @ Jacksonville.

Check out the story by Jacksonville.com's Amanda Warford about the production at

http://jacksonville.com/interact/blog/amanda_warford/2009-03-31/working_for_knowledge.

FLORIDA FILM FESTIVAL'S 2009 AWARDS RECEPTION HONORS AMERICAN INDEPENDENT AND INTERNATIONAL TITLES

Orlando, FL - (April 7, 2009) - Following 10 days, 162 films, and tens of thousands of moviegoers, the 18th Annual Florida Film Festival, sponsored by Full Sail University, came to a close this weekend with a highly anticipated awards reception recognizing the best in American Independent and International Film.

"This year's award-winners reflect the incredible talent and diversity of indie filmmaking from around the world," said Matthew Curtis, Programming Director. "We have been very fortunate to see filmmakers willing to take risks and audiences who have embraced the unexpected."

The jury and audience award-winners of the 2009 Florida Film Festival in the American Independent Feature Film, Documentary, and Short Film categories, along with the International Audience Awards. Winners can be viewed at <http://www.floridafilmfestival.com/>.

For more information, or to request high-resolution images, please contact Jordana Meade at jmeade@enzian.org, or by calling (407) 644-5625 x327.

SUNSCREEN FILM FESTIVAL CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

First off, if you've already volunteered - THANK YOU!! If you have not received confirmation of us having received your volunteer application, please let me know right away.

This year's Sunscreen Film Festival is going to be better than ever and we need your help! If you volunteered for us last year, we hope you'll come back. If you haven't volunteered for us before, please go to our website and sign up. We guarantee you will have a great time with us! We are a truly independent film festival and we can use all kinds of help - especially from independent spirits such as yourself!

I could use some ladies on Wednesday night from 6:30 PM - 10 PM.

I also need volunteers Friday, Saturday and Sunday morning for the early slot - 9:00 - noon.

Also, we could use some transport help to pick up our special guests at the airport and take them back. Please let me know if you are willing to do some driving!

Go to our website (www.sunscreenfilmfestival.com) to sign up today!

I need some manly men to help on Wednesday 4/29 and Sunday 5/3 for set up and tear down.

Time slots are:

April 29th: 2 PM - 5 PM: Set-up at Baywalk, 8:30 PM - 9:30 PM: Move to Museum, 11 PM - 12 Midnight: Move back to Baywalk

Sunday, May 3rd: 8:30 PM - 11:00 PM: Tear down

For Wednesday, April 29, I could use someone with a large van or pick up to transport some things to the theatre and then the museum.

If you work one slot, you will receive a Day Pass for that day to see the films showing. If you work more than one slot, you will receive an All Films Pass for the entire festival. And if you work 4 or more slots - you'll be a VIP and we'll treat you like one!!!

When you sign up, please tell us what slot(s) you can help for.

Thank you in advance for your help!

Best,
Joanie, Volunteer Coordinator for '09

THE 11TH ANNUAL SARASOTA FILM FESTIVAL Announces Competition and Audience Awards

The 11th Sarasota Film Festival presented its awards at the Filmmaker Tribute event held at the Sarasota Opera House on Saturday evening, April 4. Actor Stanley Tucci served as the Master of Ceremonies for the evening and introduced the presentations. SFF Board President, Mark P. Famiglio, made introductory remarks before Tucci introduced the competition winners.

The Sarasota Film Festival, in partnership with the companies Film Movement and First Run Features, presented our very first feature film competitions that carry distribution prizes. The eight films in the Best Documentary Competition competed for a US Distribution deal with First Run Features, the acclaimed North American distributor of daring independent, foreign and non-fiction films. The Best Narrative Feature winner will receive an offer for US Distribution from Film Movement, the full-service North American distributor of critically acclaimed and award-winning independent and foreign films.

The 2009 Sarasota Film Festival Best Narrative Feature Award, Presented by Film Movement and BAMcinematek was presented by Film Movement's Rebeca Conget and Richard Schiff to - "*The Maid*" directed by Sebastián Silva.

The winning film receives a DVD/VOD/Educational/Television and "first look" theatrical offer from Film Movement. In addition, the film will be screened in New York at BAMcinematek, presented by the Sarasota Film Festival and Film Movement. The Jury for the 2009 Sarasota Film Festival Best Narrative Feature Award, presented by Film Movement and BAMcinematek includes: Rebeca Conget, Film Movement; Adley Gartenstein, Film Movement; and Mike Maggiore, Film Forum.

The 2009 Sarasota Film Festival Best Documentary Feature Award, Presented by First Run Features, was presented by First Run Features' Marc Mauceri and Steve Buscemi to - "*Winnebago Man*" directed by Ben Steinbauer.

The winning film receives a DVD/VOD/Educational/Television and "first look" theatrical offer from First Run Features, and a screening in the Fall 2009 "Stranger Than Fiction" line-up, held at the IFC Center in Manhattan. Jury members for the SFF documentary competition include: Florence Almozini, BAMcinematek; Karina Longworth, Spout.com; Marc Mauceri, First Run Features.

The 2009 Sarasota Film Festival Audience Awards were also presented at the event. The audience awards were presented by Cinetic Rights Management's Matt Dentler and SFF Programmer Holly Herrick.

2009 Audience Award For Best Narrative Feature - "*That Evening Sun*" directed by Scott Teems.

2009 Audience Award For Best Documentary Feature - "*Over The Hills And Far Away*" directed by Michel O. Scott.

2009 Audience Award For Best In World Cinema - "*Nurse. Fighter. Boy*" directed by Charles Officer.

The 2009 Sarasota Film Festival Audience Award for Best Short Film will receive a standard Cinetic Rights Management offer for VOD from CRM. - "*Second Guessing Grandma*" directed by Bob Giraldo.

"We're incredibly proud of this year's program and believe that the juries have made wonderful choices," stated Director of Programming Tom Hall. "We are also greatly honored to see these films make their way into the marketplace as a result of their participation in the Sarasota Film Festival. We thank all the filmmakers for bringing their amazing work to our festival."

In addition to these above current partnerships with Film Movement, First Run Features and Cinetic Rights Media, the Sarasota Film Festival is partnering with Indiepix as the Official DVD and Download Partner of the 2009 Sarasota Film Festival. The Sarasota Film Festival website has launched an online DVD store hosted by Indiepix. DVDs of Official Selections from past Sarasota Film Festivals will be available for purchase on the site at <http://www.sarasotafilmfestival.com/2009/>, as well as films recommended by the festival.

FLORIDA ARTICLES OF INTEREST:

[New Fast & Furious movie has local tie](#)

Tampa Bay's 10 © Apr 04, 2009

Tampa, Florida-- Hip Hop artist Acafool has been recording music for years. But three weeks ago, a message he received by Instant Message was one of the bigger thrills of his career. A producer with the latest "Fast & Furious" movie sequel confirmed a song the Tampa based artist had written months earlier, had been selected for use in the movie.

[2009 MIAMI LATIN GAY FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES LINEUP](#)

Film Threat © Apr 04, 2009

The Miami Latin Gay Film Festival has unveiled the line-up of the best Latin Gay and Lesbian films from around the world that will be featured during the 4 day sneak preview event from April 16 to 19, 2009.

[Sarasota: Adventures in Beach Cinema](#)

Indie Wire © Apr 05, 2009

The 2009 Sarasota Film Festival has come to an end, and it was a rousing success by all accounts. There were changes, in line with the shaken economy, but overall it was business as usual.

[Jon Voight packs them in for Fla. Film Fest finale](#)

Frankly My Dear © Apr 05, 2009

Oscar winning actor Jon Voight, the closing night guest of this year's Florida Film Festival, signed autographs, chatted with fans, took questions from an audience and watched, "for the first time, in many, many years" the film that launched him, the 1969 classic John Schlesinger drama *Midnight Cowboy*, co-starring Dustin Hoffman.

[Alum debuts at film fest](#)

Central Florida Future © Apr 05, 2009

Daneau, now a 26-year-old UCF alumnus, used events from his own childhood to influence his first independent film, *The Attic Door*, which made its world premiere at the Florida Film Festival on Saturday, April 4, in Winter Park.

[Tallahassee Film Festival One Week Away](#)

WCTV © Apr 06, 2009

The Tallahassee Film Festival kicks off in one week! The five-day event begins on April 15th and will screen more than 75 new films from around the world.

[Estrella TV signs Miami affiliate](#)

Radio Business Report © Apr 06, 2009

Sunbeam Television's WSVN-TV (Fox) Miami will be the partner for the new Spanish network. The addition of the huge South Florida market takes the tally for Estrella TV to 48% of US Hispanic households.

[MOVIES: Florida Film Festival award winners](#)

Metromix © Apr 07, 2009

What a fantastic 10 days for the Florida Film Festival from start to finish. More than 160 films, amazing guests, great food, it seems every year Enzian takes it one notch higher.

[2009 SoFIE Interactive Awards Finalists Announced - Winners To Be Recognized At Awards Gala May 1](#)

NewsWire Today (press release) (FL) © Apr 09, 2009

The South Florida Interactive Marketing Association (SFIMA), has announced the finalists for its third South Florida Interactive Excellence (SoFIE) Awards, which encourage creative, innovative and measurable digital marketing programs and reward the South Florida digital community for their hard work.

[Film festival is ready to blow the lid off this place](#)

Tallahassee.com © Apr 10, 2009

The festival, which is celebrating its second year, kicks off at 7 p.m. Wednesday in FSU's Student Life Cinema with an opening night screening of the documentary "In A Dream" (about an eccentric artist in Philadelphia), "Next Floor" (an arty short film that took Cannes Film Festival by storm) and the anti-romantic comedy "Breaking Upwards."

[Melbourne in running to host 'Wolverine' premiere](#)

Florida Today © Apr 10, 2009

Melbourne was fourth in the running as of Wednesday, according to CNBC.com. Voting continues through April 17. The winning town will be announced April 20, and the premiere, in all its glory, will

happen in the winning town April 27.

ARTICLES ABOUT THE COMPETITION:

[Arkansas governor signs film-incentive bill](#)

Forbes © Apr 03, 2009

The bill, by Rep. Rick Saunders of Hot Springs, calls for a 15 percent rebate on all production expenditures in Arkansas. To qualify for this new incentive, a production company must spend at least \$50,000 within six months in connection with one project.

[Film-makers desert Hollywood](#)

BBC News © Apr 04, 2009

"It has a massive economic impact on, not only greater Los Angeles, but the whole state of California," he adds. The loss of film production to states offering generous financial incentives to the studios has cost California billions of dollars and tens of thousands of jobs.

[Analysis: Georgia becoming a rival to NC for film industry](#)

StarNewsOnline.com © Apr 05, 2009

"There is a direct correlation between the states that offer good incentives and the jobs that are available," Hook said. "I know of seven productions in Georgia and there hasn't been that amount of work here in quite a while and it is strictly because of the incentives."

[Iceland increases film location refunds](#)

WebWire © Apr 06, 2009

Long known for its diverse and unspoiled natural beauty, Iceland has recently upped its incentive refunds for film production costs. Long known for its diverse and unspoiled natural beauty, Iceland has recently upped its incentive refunds for film production costs.

[New York City Losing Film Deals](#)

myfoxny.com © Apr 07, 2009

The first season of FOX's hit show, 'Fringe,' came to life at Silver Cup Studios in Queens. The sci-fi drama employees nearly 200 people. Everything from camera operators to Craft service providers worked in Queens, but now the show is packing up and moving to Canada.

[Seattle hoping for big break on screen](#)

KOMO News © Apr 08, 2009

Gov. Chris Gregoire is considering a bill that could pay production companies and film crews cold, hard cash for setting up shop in the state. Dee said if the governor signs a new bill, production companies could get back up to 30 percent of what they spend in our state.

[Producers say NY tax credit extension is good news, if a temporary fix](#)

Screendaily.com © Apr 07, 2009

Most predict that the \$350m will be a very temporary stopgap, likely to run out before the end of the year. Still, experts agree this measure is better than no incentive at all.

[Curtains drawn on state's film incentive package](#)

Tri City Times (MI) © Apr 08, 2009

The tax break approved last year allows filmmakers to fund up to 42 percent of their production costs via our tax dollars.

[Oakland County adds film to emerging sectors, announces deals](#)

Crain's Detroit Business © Apr 08, 2009

The county projects that Commerce Township-based Samer K Production Inc. could invest up to \$3 million and up to 150 local jobs on various movie projects.

[Scoring Michigan's New Film Industry](#)

Metromode Media © Apr 08, 2009

In the first nine months of the state's incentive program, 35 films were initiated and \$125 million was spent in state, according to the Michigan Film Office. *Gran Torino* was the most notable feature film.

[Georgia wins Miley Cyrus film](#)

MSN Money © Apr 09, 2009

"I signed the 2008 Entertainment Industry Investment Act in support of our efforts to recruit film, music and digital entertainment projects to Georgia," Gov. Sonny Perdue said in a statement. "These industries are thriving and growing, boosting the state's economy and employing thousands of Georgians."

[Film production competition heats up in Eastern Europe](#)

Variety © Apr 09, 2009

Producers took advantage of the beneficial exchange rate, experienced English-speaking crews and excellent facilities, gravitating to such countries over pricier locations in the U.S. and the U.K. But now, competition for shoots is fierce, with incentive plans in many U.S. states, not to mention bottom-line-loving deals in New Zealand and Australia, and Western European countries offering more attractive packages for producers.

[Film industry tells mayor, legislators to strengthen incentives](#)

Shreveport Times © Apr 10, 2009

With no movies currently being shot in Shreveport, industry workers are deeply concerned that northwest Louisiana no longer competes with states like Georgia and Michigan offering more enticing incentives.

GENERAL ARTICLES OF INTEREST:

[The MPTF's Long Road to Failure](#)

TheWrap © Apr 01, 2009

For almost three months, the Motion Picture and Television Fund has argued that its hotly-contested decision to close both its hospital and long-term care facility was the result of a "perfect storm" -- a collapse in the stock market, cutbacks in medical benefits and the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression.

[The new economy gives film festivals the opportunity to become content providers](#)

Examiner.com © Apr 05, 2009

In short, festivals have a measure of room to explore the possibilities, such as promoting their own content, or partnering with other networks, old or new, to achieve similar results without the pains of starting from scratch.

[SAG explores back-channel moves](#)

Variety © Apr 05, 2009

But members of SAG's negotiating task force have been summoned to meet Tuesday for an update on recent informal talks with the companies -- a step indicating that recent back-channel talks have likely led to a compromise that's acceptable to both sides.

[SAG announces key dates for kudos](#)

Variety © Apr 06, 2009

The Screen Actors Guild will announce nominations for its 16th annual SAG Awards on Dec. 17.

[iTunes' New Pricing Structure Is a Band-Aid](#)

Wired News © Apr 07, 2009

On Tuesday, Apple made good on its January promise to remove DRM from every song in the iTunes store -- a long-awaited move that the labels only allowed in return for Apple letting them price songs at three different points: 69 cents, 99 cents and \$1.29.

['MY LIFE IN RUINS' TO CLOSE TRIBECA](#)

Variety © Apr 08, 2009

Fox Searchlight Pictures' "My Life in Ruins" will have a special presentation screening on May 2 to close the Tribeca Film Festival prior to its June 5 bow.

STATEWIDE EVENTS:

Former Hollywood Scriptwriter to speak to Tampa's FMPTA Chapter

Former Hollywood scriptwriter and TV producer Lisa Rosenthal will be the guest speaker at the April 15th 7:30 p.m. General Meeting of the Tampa Bay Area Chapter of the Florida Motion Picture and Television Association at the American Legion Post 5, 3810W. Kennedy Blvd, Tampa.

Ms Rosenthal has written for such television shows as "The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air," "Married.with Children", "Martin" and "Head of the Class", and she was a producer on such networks as HBO, NBC, CBS and Disney. She currently teaches screenwriting and sitcom writing at The University of Tampa and is a script consultant to writers throughout the country.

For further information, call Chapter President John Matheny at 813-685-4060.

Discovery Channel's new television show "pitchmen" kicks off with premiere party in tampa

Local Tampa residents Billy Mays and Anthony "Sully" Sullivan are on a national tour promoting their new Television Show called PITCHMEN launching on the Discovery Channel on Wednesday, April 15th. Billy and Anthony have recently completed national appearances on numerous shows including the Jay Leno Show, Rachel Ray, Good Morning America, and now they return home to Tampa Bay to kick off their new show with a Hollywood style red carpet premiere party on April 15th at 7pm at the Westin at the Tampa Bay Airport.

Billy Mays and Anthony "Sully" Sullivan, recently featured on *People* and *Fortune* magazines, are two names synonymous with products so indispensable that you can't live without them - and the revelation usually comes at 3am in the form of an infomercial. Mays and Sullivan have sold millions of cleaners, sweepers, kitchen gadgets and other miracle products to people all over the world. What is the story behind these pitchmen? And who are the inventors who come up with the imaginative products being sold? Go behind the curtain and peek into the world of the clever inventors and the equally clever men who sell their products in "Pitchmen," premiering Wednesday, April 15th at 10pm ET/PT on Discovery.

Find more info on the website at www.pitchmenpremiere.com. For photo and interview opportunities contact Kim Parrish by at 610-996-0961 or Kim@Mavenmanagementgroup.com.

GUY RICHARDS "BIPOLAR MAN" COMEDY TOUR

Portion of the proceeds will benefit Florida Film Production Coalition (FFPC).

GUY RICHARDS "BIPOLAR MAN" COMEDY TOUR
SATURDAY, APRIL 25 - LIVE TAPING

FMPTA-JFC Meeting Tuesday, April 14, 2009 @ 6:30pm at Jacksonville University

"FMPTA Short-Attention-Span Film Festival Brigade Extravaganza"

We will be showing the following films:

Richie Levin's film "Time" 11:00
Ron Ferster's film "Granma and the Fly" 9:26
Julianna Milton's film "SALLI" 5:13
Sharon Cobb's film "The Last Audit" 10:00
Space Coast chapter film "Revenge of a Battered Housewife" 11:00
Mad Cowford's film "Silent Movie... The Musical" winner of the 2008 Jacksonville 48 Hour Film Project 8:00
"Crazy About You" 20:00

Also you can hear Erin Kohler, Editor for Easy Edit Video and the Jacksonville 48 Hour Film Project, talk about common editing mistakes seen in films from the previous 48 Hour Film Projects.

As always, this meeting is free for FMPTA members, first time guests and students with ID. Returning guest's admission is \$10.00 at the door.

The meeting takes place in the Phillips Fine Arts Building on the campus of Jacksonville University.

Please be sure to check out the FMPTA-JFC website at www.fmptajax.org for full details about the meeting and us.

The Florida Theatre Presents: "UNWIGGED and UNPLUGGED"

This reunion goes up to Eleven, May 4th at 8pm at the Florida Theatre (128 East Forsyth Street, Jacksonville, Florida 32202)!

For the 25th anniversary of the classic rock mockumentary, 'This is Spinal Tap', comedians/actors/musicians/directors Christopher Guest, Michael McKean and Harry Shearer are reuniting for an "Unwiggled & Unplugged" tour, where they will perform selections from Spinal Tap, A Mighty Wind and more.

The musical comedy trio is planning an acoustic 30 city tour in celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the Rob Reiner-directed film. This will mark the first time that Guest, McKean and Shearer have ever performed unwiggled and unplugged.

The hilarious 1984 'This Is Spinal Tap' follows the exploits and history of heavy metal rockers David St. Hubbins, Derek Smalls and Nigel Tufnel as they tour the U.S. to promote their latest release, Smell the Glove. Since the film's successful premiere and subsequent cult status, Guest, McKean and Shearer have performed live and in character over the years at various venues.

Tickets available now. Contact our box office at 355-2787 or order through Ticketmaster.

Filmmaker Julie Davis with a Sneak Preview of her new film at next Miami Filmmaker Project Seminar on Saturday April 18

The Miami Filmmaker Project Seminar Series, in conjunction with Miami Light Project, continues with a sneak preview screening of the new feature film comedy Finding Bliss, by Miami Beach-native Julie

Davis, followed by a conversation with director and writer Davis.

Set in the world of the adult film industry, the film stars Denise Richards, Jamie Kennedy and Kristen Johnson, and made its world premiere earlier this year at the Slamdance Film Festival. Davis' first feature film, which she wrote, produced, directed and edited was the critically acclaimed, low budget comedy I Love You, Don't Touch Me, released in 1998 by MGM/Goldwyn Films. She went on to make her second feature Amy's Orgasm and directed the romantic comedy All Over the Guy featuring Adam Goldberg, Christina Ricci and Lisa Kudrow. The New York Times' Janet Maslin has aptly called Davis "the female Woody Allen." Julie Davis is a member of the Miami Filmmaker Project Advisory Board.

This FREE screening and discussion with writer-director Julie Davis takes place on Saturday afternoon, April 18 at 3.00 pm at the Miami Beach Cinematheque, 512 Española Way, Miami Beach (one block west of Washington Avenue, between 15th and 14th Streets). Please arrive early, limited seating. On-street metered parking available, as well as public garages on 16th Street between Washington and Collins just three blocks away.

Contact Miriam Goodspeed at 727-787-1464 or keespeed@aol.com for more info.

Jacksonville.com Video Contest

This year it is bigger and better than ever! Not only will the first place winner get \$500, but he or she will receive 2 Jacksonville Film Festival all-access passes!

It gets better! All five finalists this year will not only get their work screened at the film festival, but they will also receive 2 all-access passes to the Jacksonville Film Festival!

Tell your students. Tell your colleagues. Tell yourself!

Enter online at: http://www.jacksonville.com/entertainment/2009-03-27/story/win_500_film_festival_passes_in_jacksonvillecom_video_contest.

Good luck!

Tracy Collins, Digital Media Content Editor

2009 Jacksonville 48 Hour Film Project Mark Your Calendar Dates

This will be our third year of having the world's largest and most manic filmmaking competition here in Jacksonville. The 2009 edition of the Jacksonville 48 Hour Film Project promises to continue the success and growth we achieved in our first two years. Be on the lookout for more information and details but below are the dates so you can Mark Your Calendar!

Monday, April 13, 2009 Registration Opens at midnight (the midnight between Sunday and Monday)

NOTE: Early Bird Registration will be \$135.00 (cut-off date will be announced) and \$155.00 afterwards

Saturday, May 2, First Meet & Greet Party at River City Brewing Company from 2 to 4pm

Wednesday, May 13, Second Meet & Greet Party at River City Brewing Company starting at 7pm

Friday, June 5, Kick Off at the Jacksonville Landing from 6 to 7:30pm

Sunday, June 7, Drop Off at the Jacksonville Landing from 6:30 to 8pm

Tuesday, June 9, Screening Group A at the Florida Theatre begins at 7pm

Wednesday, June 10, Screening Group B at the Florida Theatre begins at 7pm

Wednesday, June 24, Best of and Award Presentation Screening at the Florida Theatre begins at 7pm.

NOTE: Tickets will be on sale for all screenings at the Florida Theatre Box Office and also on Ticketmaster. The tickets are still \$10.00 plus a 3.50 service charge at the box office and a little more on Ticketmaster for each screening. Additionally, this year we are offering a VIP Ticket Package - tickets to all three screening nights for only \$28.75 at the box office and slightly more at Ticketmaster.

The A.C.T.I.N.G. Coach; Cindy Hogan Presents: WEDNESDAY NIGHTS: SCENE STUDY

The class will take place with Cindy Hogan and Daniel R. Solomon (Writer/Director/Editor/DP).

Classes will be held from 6:30-9:30pm on Wednesdays. The 6-week session cost is \$240.00. New class starts April 22nd. The class size is limited to 12 due to the intensity of the class.

The focus of this 6 week course will be character development. Daniel Solomon is an award-winning writer and director with more than fifteen screenplay, feature documentary, short film and stage projects to his credit. In 2003 he was named one of the top 250 directors in Miramax/HBO's Project Greenlight 2002-2003 for his short film STOPLIGHTS. More recently, in 2006 "Stoplights" garnered the grand prize at the inaugural "Next Generation Short Film Competition" in Orlando, FL, sponsored by Kodak, Panavision and Hollywood Rentals.

Also in 2007, Solomon made it to the final 200 directors out of 17,000 in Steven Spielberg's "On the Lot" filmmaking competition. Now Solomon is developing a TV series pilot, entitled "Dirt Track Dreams," which chronicles the competition between "up-and-coming" stock car drivers. In addition, Solomon is in development on another independent feature entitled Video Vandals. Solomon and his crew Psycho Film Binge won the "Best of City Award" for Jacksonville in the 2007 48 Hour Film Project with their film "Easter Bunny Super Hero." Currently Solomon is on the film festival circuit with "Oswald" a short historical fiction piece focused on the last hours between the Kennedy assassin and his wife and is working on his seventh feature script "Southern Justice."

Cindy Hogan is a full time working actor and coach. For the past twenty-five years, Cindy has studied and worked as an actor, director, and producer. The last fifteen of those years, she has drawn upon her own experiences to coach and teach both the business and craft of the industry. The Screen Actors Guild and AFTRA named her Member of the Year in 1996 and 1997 for her contribution to developing talent in the industry. While her own personal studies have included work in "The Method" and "Meisner", the direction of her own teaching is geared more toward the individual and their own best way of learning and working and not to any fixed method. Cindy's coaching has included working with networks such as NBC, ABC, and Nickelodeon as well as working with celebrities and developing talent alike. Her own credits include hundreds of commercials, industrials, and a series regular on 3 network shows as well as numerous feature films.

Classes held at Crown Productions (165 Industrial Loop S. Suite 5, Orange Park, FL 32073). Please call (714) 296-0911 or email actioncreated@aol.com to reserve your spot!

Pre-registration plus payment is REQUIRED two weeks prior to the start of each class to secure your spot in the class. Please mail checks and make them payable to Cindy Hogan, 4460 Hodges Blvd. #1211, Jacksonville, FL 32224.

"Nailing The Audition Workshop" with CATHY HENDERSON, CSA

The workshop will take place Saturday & Sunday, April 25th & 26th from 10:00am - 5:00pm each day at Crown Productions (165 Industrial Loop N. Orange Park, FL).

With 13 features to her credit since 2008, Cathy is always on the lookout for talented fresh faces. She is also one of the most energetic, related and appreciative working Casting Director's you will find in the industry with a real love for casting independent films, where discovering and hiring new talent is an absolute necessity and a joy.

Cathy currently added a few new features to her 2009 slate, all shooting in New Mexico, including: "Desdemona Goes Shopping to the Fountain of Youth (Price Hall producing), "Refuge" (written & directed by Mark Medoff), and "Caly's Edge."

Cathy has cast over 100 features, including films that gave Renee Zellweger, Michelle Pfeiffer, Robin Wright, David Duchovny, Jason Patric, Billy Bob Thornton and many others their first break. She has also been the independent CD on series such as "Charlie's Angels", "Hawaii Five-O", "Chips" and "MacGyver". This is an opportunity to spend valuable, quality time working with and learning from the best there is on what it takes. This really is an opportunity you can't afford to miss. Space is limited and will not last long.

Please keep in mind that this workshop is not a paid audition. The presence of a Casting Director is never a guarantee of employment. The cost is \$215 with a \$200 Early Bird Special. Please make checks out to "The Natural Act", and send to: Cindy Hogan, 4460 Hodges Blvd. #1211 Jacksonville, Florida 32224.

For reservations, call 714-296-0911 or e-mail actioncreated@aol.com.

Screening of 'Getting Home'

'Getting Home' (Luo Ye Gui Gen), a Chinese film by Yang Zhang, part of the prestigious 2009 Global Lens Film Series, will screen at [Studio @ 620](#) at 8:00pm, Friday, April 10th. Tickets are \$8 at the door, but members of the Gasparilla International Film Festival may attend free.

Synopsis:

Mandarin, with subtitles in English
China, 2007 (101 minutes)

In this soulful and humane comedy, Zhao, a middle-aged construction worker, struggles to fulfill a dying co-worker's last wish to be buried in China's Three Gorges region. Setting out with his colleague's body in tow, Zhao travels hundreds of miles across extraordinary countryside, encountering a number of colorful adventures and characters - and even discovering love in some unlikely quarters. Director Zhang Yang's humorous and moving tale of friendship offers a powerful, and sometimes slapstick, commentary on the value of community and human connectivity in modern China.

Visit the Gasparilla International Film Festival website by clicking [here](#).

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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