

From: [Film1](#)
To:
CC:
Subject: News & Events - Governor's Office of Film & Entertainment
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Attachments:



News & Events

NEWS:

STUDENT SHOWCASE OF FILMS ONLINE VOTING FOR SPECIAL \$2,000 AUDIENCE AWARD NOW AVAILABLE!

The Palm Beach County Film & Television Commission (FTC) is pleased to announce that the 2009 Student Showcase of Film's (SSOF) Audience Award competition is now open to the public. Please go to pbfilm.com and follow the link for the SSOF, where nominees will be available for viewing and voting. A special Audience Award will be presented at the SSOF Award ceremony, where the winner will receive \$2,000. The top 9 eligible films, as voted on by the SSOF judges from around the country are now available online for voting. These films are as follows: A Knock at the Door (Palm Beach Community College), Alternate (Palm Beach Film School), Aluminum Man (University of West Florida), Bill Lund: River Keeper of the Loxahatchee (Jupiter High School), Figmentation (A.W. Dreyfoos School of the Arts), Flowers (Suncoast Community High School), Scavengers (G-Star School of the Arts), The Last Laugh (Design and Architecture Senior High School) and Wednesday (A.W. Dreyfoos School of the Arts).

The Student Showcase of Films (SSOF) is the largest statewide competition for Florida student filmmakers. The juried competition recognizes outstanding high school and college students by presenting over \$25,000 in cash awards, prizes and scholarships in five film categories: Feature/Shorts and Documentaries, Animation, PSA/Commercial, Music Video, and Audience Award. The competition also includes awarding a \$5,000 Burt Reynolds scholarship to two Palm Beach County high school seniors, a screenwriting competition and a \$1,000 poster competition open to middle and high schools.

The professionally produced live Student Showcase of Films awards ceremony, a much anticipated signature event of the Palm Beach International Film Festival (PBIFF), will showcase the finest student works. Entries are judged by industry professionals from around the US. The awards ceremony will be held on April 28, 2009 in Palm Beach County, FL, at Palm Beach Community College's Lake Worth Campus, Duncan Theatre. Winning student films will be screened in their entirety at the students' own premier during the Palm Beach International Film Festival.

Academy Award Winner Gives Seminar at G-Star!

Bobby Moresco recently visited the G-Star School of the Arts to give a seminar on writing, directing and producing motion pictures to the students. He also brought with him two attorneys from one of the largest entertainment law firms in Hollywood, Leob & Leob, to discuss the business of filmmaking and entertainment law. Mr. Moresco spoke before 230 students in a three-hour seminar. He announced that he does not give speeches, he only answers questions. The student's questions finally had to be cut off at the end of the three hours. Mr. Moresco and the attorneys were amazed at the level of questions asked by the students.

"I have given this same question-and-answer seminar at Harvard, Yale, USC, and UCLA and have never had more intelligent and insightful questions asked of me from any university student body," remarked Mr. Moresco after the seminar. "These are the brightest and the most well-trained students I've seen anywhere." Mr. Moresco indicated that he would like to shoot a film at G-Star Studios. "This is an amazing school. I haven't seen anything like it. I want to come back with two films and shoot here."

Mr. Moresco won the Academy Award for Co-Writing the Academy Award winning film Crash, which he also Co-Produced. In addition, he Co-Wrote and Co-Produced the previous year's Oscar winner, Million Dollar Baby. He is the Executive Consultant on new professional/student cooperative film to be produced this summer at G-Star funded by the new G-Star Career & Education Scholarship Program where G-Star graduate students in college return to the school to produce a professional feature-length film. The film is entitled, Destiny and the Bulldozers. A second Oscar winner, Dean Lyon, is joining Mr. Moresco on the Destiny film as Special Effects Supervisor. Mr. Lyon won the Academy Award as Visual Special Effects Supervisor on all three Lord of the Rings movies. He also applied his craft to Independence Day, Armageddon and Air Force One. Mr. Lyon attended Mr. Moresco's seminar also.

G-Star is the largest Film, TV Production and Acting high school in the nation; and the only high school in the world with a motion picture studio on campus. G-Star is building the largest motion picture sound stage in South Florida that will open in December of this year.

For more information, contact Greg Hauptner at 561-386-6275.

UF'S DOCUMENTARY INSTITUTE ON THE CHOPPING BLOCK

The Dean of our the University of Florida's College of Journalism and Communication, Dr. John Wright, has recommended to Provost Joe Glover and President Machen that the highly acclaimed Documentary Institute be terminated and its four faculty, including 2 tenured professors be laid off.

Despite pleas from numerous faculty, all who support and uphold the value of the institute, that Wright first remove unfilled faculty positions, the dean opted to first eliminate the Documentary Institute faculty. Wright also made it known that even if there were no cuts, he planned to "sunset" the program.

In a time when print media is losing strength and television news is shifting towards entertainment, documentary films are filling a void for honest and well-researched journalism. Students and faculty members are asking for support to save this valuable and unique institute by signing their online petition at www.thepetitionsite.com/1/save-the-doc-institute. So far, more than 400 persons have signed the petition to save the Documentary Institute.

Orlando Hispanic Film Festival announces 2009 dates and strategic partnerships

The third Orlando Hispanic Film Festival (OHFF) will expand from a three day to a five day format, September 16 – 20, 2009. This year we will be kicking off Orlando's Hispanic Heritage Month in a big way, said Executive Director James Schoepflin. The past two years the OHFF has brought some of the world's finest independent Latino films and filmmakers to Central Florida during Hispanic Heritage Month. Senior Festival Director Ana Curras explains, It only makes sense to grow the number of films and make our event more exciting for the Orlando community, the OHFF's audience and participants.

This year the OHFF will partner with the Miami based Florida Media Market (FMM). This will bring the OHFF to the next level, says Schoepflin. The Florida Media Market will run side by side with the OHFF on location during September 16-20, 2009. The FMM will present juried films, of which the best will receive awards. FMM is in it's 4th year with a proven track record of attracting many top executives in film distribution and financing. It is an honor and a privilege to partner up with such a recognized organization as The Orlando Hispanic Film Festival. Our joint venture will reach more filmmakers in Florida, which is our target audience, for continuous mentoring and to be able to develop their projects locally and globally by partnering with executives, distributors and financiers†from around the world. These are some of the key attendees that will be at the Festival this year, getting pitches and letting us know what they are looking for, commented Maritza Guimet, President of FMM.

This new partnership maximizes use of resources and provides additional value to filmmakers' time and effort. This also marks Orlando as an ideal destination by providing a key regional event in a single location where filmmakers from around the world can expand their industry participation and exposure. The new format will allow filmmakers to enter their films into the OHFF competitive environment, submit their projects into FMM's circuit as well as attend educational seminars, social events and network opportunities where attendees can interact with peers and decision makers.

OHFF is also excited to introduce into its program starting in 2009, the Mexican Film Festival, which premiered last year, created by the Consulate of Mexico and Casa de Mexico. The Mexican Film Festival will present a free screening to kick off the 2009 OHFF with an opening night red carpet independent film event, which will take place appropriately on Mexican Independence Day with key filmmakers in attendance. Seating is limited. The Mexican Consulate will program one screen all day Thursday September 17, 2009 in which all films presented will also be free. Casa de Mexico will program one screen Friday September 18, 2009 in which most of the proceeds will benefit Casa de Mexico. James Schoepflin says, "In order to continue to bring the Hispanic community closer together it is important that we work collectively by teaming up for much needed first class educational and entertaining events like the Orlando Hispanic Film Festival and Florida Media Market. It is our hope to make this event a staple Orlando signature event".

The OHFF will be accepting independent film submissions starting April 15, 2009. Film submissions will be viewed by educational and entertainment professionals that will choose the best of the best to screen and award. To submit a film, please visit www.ohfilmfestival.com. For further questions regarding the 2009 OHFF & FMM please contact us at info@ohfilmfestival.com and info@floridamediemarket.com.

AMELIA ISLAND FILM FESTIVAL call for entries

The Amelia Island Film Festival will hold its 2nd Annual "Festival for Filmmakers" February 25th- 28th, 2010. Plan to join us here next February in Historic Fernandina Beach Florida to help create a new tradition!

We are also pleased to announce to the film community its Film Submission Process for our 2nd Annual Festival.

The AIFF is now accepting Feature (longer than 40 minutes), Short (1 minute and shorter than 40 minutes, Animation,

Documentary, Narrative Fiction, Other Than English, Northeast Florida & Southeast Georgia Special Interest, Action, Adventure, Comedy, Drama, Educational, Horror, Musical, Romantic Comedy, Satire Social Issue, Sci-Fi films. Do you have an Amelia Island's Home Video? We would love to see it. Submit yours today! Visit our website to download the Application Form.

The Amelia Island Film Festival is fast becoming one of Northeast Florida's most impressive film industry events. Our sponsors not only help underwrite the costs but provide valuable marketing exposure and are a crucial financial backbone for the Festival. We are happy to announce the following businesses partnering with us to present our "Filmmakers Meet and Greet:" Florida House Inn, Hampton Inn, Intercoastal Wine Company, Pablo's Mexican Restaurant Grill, The Palace Saloon.

TAMPA DIGITAL STUDIOS PRODUCES, DIRECTS FIRST LIVE SURGERY BROADCASTS FOR PALMS OF PASADENA HOSPITAL

TAMPA, FL // April 8, 2009 // Tampa Digital Studios, a visual communications company, today announced that it has recently produced and directed two live surgery broadcasts for Palms of Pasadena Hospital in St. Petersburg, FL.

Each of the live event productions were transmitted on consecutive nights to selected large hotel conference rooms. The productions, a first for Palms of Pasadena, targeted prospective patients interested in the Lap-Band procedure. The abundant audience was drawn to the free event by an ad offering a firsthand look at the Lap-Band, which reduces the size of the stomach pouch.

"The broadcasts were a wonderful success," said Dr. Ernest Rehnke, medical director of the Bariatric Care Program at Palms of Pasadena Hospital. "There was a strong turnout of viewers for these first two events. We will continue to educate the public on this life-changing, minimally invasive procedure."

Palms of Pasadena Hospital's Bariatric Program is a designated Center of Excellence. The designation is awarded after criteria for volume and clinical outcomes have been evaluated. "We are extremely proud of this designation," Dr. Rehnke said. "It is important because it allows patients to know that we have a program with a demonstrated track record of excellence."

Three robotic cameras, plus a feed from the medical camera inside the patient, captured the action of the two surgeries. The production was fed March 10, 2009, to the St. Petersburg Marriott, and March 11, 2009, to the Tampa Grand Hyatt, where Lap-Band candidates watched the proceedings on a large projector screen, respectively, 15 miles and 19 miles away from inside the hospital operating room.

Additionally, the surgeons' pre- and post-surgery remarks, as well as live commentary during the operation, were broadcast, along with a planned Q&A with audience members after the procedure was complete. Some questions from the audience were sent via mobile text to doctors inside the operating room during the surgery. An edited version of the live broadcast video will be archived at the Palms of Pasadena website.

The Tampa Digital production crew included Ryan Kindle, who served as the producer and director; Mike Compton, the technical director; Jhon Rueda, engineer and production assistant; and Douglas Carcamo, production assistant. Jeff McKown, general manager at Tampa Digital, was also on hand to ensure the production was flawless.

"We are pleased to have produced and directed these first live surgery broadcasts for Palms of Pasadena Hospital," McKown said. "Living in our reality-on-the-web world, there is a strong push locally and nationally by doctors and hospital administrators to use live video broadcasts, instead of traditional printed marketing collateral, as a way to educate the public. We anticipate this video application to grow for us during the remainder of this year and into next year."

For more information, contact Michael A. Piotrowski with Tampa Digital Studios at 813.241.2012 or michael.piotrowski@tampadigital.com.

CRYSTAL REEL AWARDS CALL FOR ENTRIES

Attention all Florida Film Makers! Yes, it's that time of year again, time for the Crystal Reel Awards. This, our twentieth year of the award shows presented by the Florida Motion Picture and Television Association, takes place again at the Red Rose Inn in Plant City on Saturday, September 12, 2009. This proves to be a very special event. This honor is open to all films made in Florida between the dates of January 1, 2008 and March 15, 2009. So, filmmakers, get your projects together and enter soon. The awards are gratifying, the dinner scrumptious, the show fantastic and the evening gowns gorgeous. Don't miss out on this fabulous event. The brochure with all the information you need to submit your project can be found on the website at www.fmpta.org. For further questions, call Carole at 321-632-7488.

"Cracker" selected for screening at Delray Beach Film Festival

Cracker - the last cowboys of Florida" has been chosen as an official selection in the Delray Beach Film Festival. The screening will take place at 7pm on Sunday, May 24th at the Crest Theater (51 North Clinton Avenue, Delray Beach, FL).

Call 877-733-3032 for tickets and information.

"Cracker" has been an official selection in a number of festivals including the Jacksonville International, Tupelo, was a finalist in the Palm Beach International and won "Best Florida Film" in Orlando at the Central Florida Film Festival.

Director Victor Milt will be there with me to take questions at the end of the screening.

FLORIDA ARTICLES OF INTEREST:

Lack of theaters fails to faze film festival

Florida Times-Union © Apr 11, 2009

A surf film festival that left the Beaches last year because there were no movie theaters is back. But there are still no theaters. So the films will be shown in a restaurant.

Tallahassee Film Festival begins with a 'Dream'

Tallahassee.com © Apr 12, 2009

The documentary, which kicks off the five-day Tallahassee Film Festival on Wednesday night, was directed by the artist's youngest son, Jeremiah Zagar, who keeps the camera running even while his eccentric family grapples with mental illness, drug addiction and adultery.

WUSF Public Broadcasting honored by AP for broadcast journalism

Temple Terrace University Beacon © Apr 13, 2009

TAMPA – WUSF Public Broadcasting received four awards in radio broadcast journalism at the 2009 Florida Associated Press Broadcasting (FAPB) Awards. The winners of the statewide competition were announced.

Fun Out of the Sun: A Look at the 2009 Florida Film Festival

Cinematical © Apr 13, 2009

The 18th annual Florida Film Festival ended a week ago last night, and do you want to know why our coverage of the fest is going up just now? Because I'm selfish and wanted to catch up with as many of the forty or so features as possible, even after the awards had been announced and ...

HSN, Kelly Ripa to team up for reality TV series

Florida Trend © Apr 14, 2009

HSN has signed up for an entrepreneurial reality TV series called *Mom, Inc.* that's set to air on TLC next winter. The series will feature moms who dream up products, get them manufactured, then get them sold on the TV shopping channel.

Orlando Hispanic Film Festival announces 2009 dates and strategic partnerships

PRLog.Org © Apr 14, 2009

The third Orlando Hispanic Film Festival (OHFF) will expand from a three day to a five day format, September 16 – 20, 2009. "This year we will be kicking off Orlando's Hispanic Heritage Month in a big way", said Executive Director James Schoepflin.

Palm Beach County Mayors Invited to Commemorate County's First Ever Digital Public Square at YourPBC.org

PR Newswire © Apr 14, 2009

YourPBC.org harnesses new media and technology to keep area residents and visitors informed about community news, coverage of issues, concerns, and events exclusive to Palm Beach County neighborhoods," Lilly added.

'Local' plays a major role in annual film festival

Florida Times-Union © Apr 15, 2009

At least five feature films have connections to Northeast Florida. In addition, the short-film programs this year will emphasize the work of local students and filmmakers from Jacksonville and throughout Florida.

Legislators seek to showcase Fla. on film

Bradenton Herald © Apr 15, 2009

"My goal is to not just offer tax incentives to make one film, but to attract the entire industry for full-time film-making," the senator said. "This is one of the few industries we can promise to provide a fully educated work force."

Academy Award Winner Dustin Lance Black To Speak At Florida University

AHN © Apr 15, 2009

Dustin Lance Black, the Academy Award-winning screenwriter behind the movie "Milk" will speak at Florida International University's Biscayne Bay Campus on Thursday (April 16). The event will kick off at 7 p.m. and is free for students, faculty and staff.

Florida Filmmaker Kevin Layne Premieres William Shatner Documentary at Nashville Film Festival

Business Wire (press release) © Apr 15, 2009

The Nashville Film Festival, April 16-23, 2009, will host the world premier of WILLIAM SHATNER'S GONZO BALLET, a documentary co-directed and produced by Kevin Layne, of Forti/Layne Entertainment, <http://www.fortilayne.com>, in association with

The Independent Film Company and Big Screen Entertainment Group.

[Filmmaker appears at UF, tells of atrocities in the Congo](#)

Gainesville Sun © Apr 16, 2009

Jackson, who directed and produced the documentary "The Greatest Silence: Rape in the Congo," talked of how women quietly suffer in the depths of the Congo. Jackson's documentary focuses on what she says is the systematic rape of women and girls in the Democratic Republic of Congo, a nation that has been plagued by war for the past decade.

[What to see at the Miami Latin Gay Film Festival](#)

Sun-Sentinel.com © Apr 16, 2009

Beginning tonight and running through Sunday, the Miami Latin Gay Film Festival offers a preview of its annual summer event at various locations in Miami-Dade County and Fort Lauderdale. Is your Fort Lauderdale restaurant clean? - Click Here.. The festival kicks off with *Quemar las Naves* (Burn the Bridges), a Mexican drama about an impoverished brother and sister who live with their dying mother.

ARTICLES ABOUT THE COMPETITION:

[Film stripped](#)

Baltimore Sun © Apr 11, 2009

Maryland has entered the fray nearly unarmed, with a mere \$2 million in grant money and no tax incentives at all. Until the state is willing to pack something more than a pea-shooter of a program, the days of having major motion pictures or HBO TV series like *The Wire* filmed here may be coming to a close.

[Utah Film Commission Ready to Boost Utah's Film Industry](#)

Main Street Business Journal © Apr 13, 2009

The MPIF will now be able to offer an incentive of up to 20% of the money spent in the State in the form of a cash rebate or refundable tax credit up to \$500,000 for smaller films and as a tax credit when the incentive exceeds \$500,000 for major productions.

[TV sitcom for tweens to be shot in Michigan](#)

Detroit Free Press © Apr 13, 2009

Titled "The Wannabes," it's described as a tween sitcom filled with singing and dancing. Its set to star members of a real-life teen group called Savvy. Shooting is supposed to start in June. Jeff Spilman of S3EG said today that he expects to have a virtually 100% Michigan crew.

[State paves way for Hollywood](#)

Montgomery Advertiser (AL) © Apr 13, 2009

When Gov. Bob Riley signed a bill that offers incentives to the film industry, he set the stage for Alabama to play a more major role in the industry. Behind the scenes, state officials are working quickly to put regulations in place so the state can roll out the welcome mat for film and television production companies.

[Film with Affleck, Alba, Hudson to return to Oklahoma](#)

Ada Evening News © Apr 13, 2009

Jill Simpson, the director of the Oklahoma Film and Music Office, said Thursday that principal photography for the film "The Killer Inside Me" will start in New Mexico before moving to Oklahoma. Scenes will be shot on location in Guthrie, Oklahoma City, Tulsa, Enid and Cordell.

[Allen Park to announce film and television studio](#)

Detroit Free Press (MI) © Apr 13, 2009

City of Allen Park officials will announce a major movie studio deal Tuesday that will create a \$146-million, full-service movie, television and new media production studio. City of Allen Park officials will announce a major movie studio deal Tuesday that will create a \$146-million, full-service movie, television and new media production studio.

[What should be done about the plunging film production numbers?](#)

Los Angeles Times © Apr 14, 2009

There's no question that those states' financial incentives have helped them attract producers who weren't wedded to other locales; the issue for California officials is whether they'd gain more than they lose by offering more competitive subsidies.

[Dukes's film incentives up for Senate consideration](#)

Community Impact Newspaper (TX) © Apr 15, 2009

The Senate is scheduled to consider legislation by state Rep. Dawnna Dukes, D-Austin, that would increase incentives for Texas television and film makers. The bill also increases grants and grant opportunities for producers of commercials, documentaries and video games.

[Spanish minister of culture looks to boost film funding](#)

Screendaily.com (Madrid) © Apr 15, 2009

Angeles Gonzalez-Sinde, the new Spanish minister for culture, is seeking to help local film companies secure loans through a deal with Aval Audiovisual SCR (Reciprocal Guarantee Society).

[Lights, camera, Alabama](#)

[Northport Gazette](#) © Apr 15, 2009

Under the statute, a qualified movie production company can receive a tax break equal to 25 percent of state-approved expenses, excluding payroll paid to Alabama residents, and a tax break equal to 35 percent of all payroll going to Alabama residents.

[Entertainment software industry pushes for film incentive program](#)

[WTN News \(WI\)](#) © Apr 15, 2009

The Game On! event is part of an effort to save the state's film incentive program by a coalition including Film Wisconsin, Arts Wisconsin and the Entertainment Software Association. But groups pushing for the program's continuation say the gaming industry, which benefits from the incentives, creates jobs with an average salary of \$85,000 and continued job creation around the state.

[Lights, camera, tax credits!](#)

[The Virginian-Pilot \(VA\)](#) © Apr 16, 2009

It isn't the biggest issue in the race, but all four men hoping to be the next governor would like to grab a little Hollywood glitter for Virginia, a rare moment of unanimity on a contentious campaign trail. Of the 30 states that offer tax credits and rebates to filmmakers, Virginia is a bit player. Last year the Virginia Film Office's incentive fund received just \$200,000 in state support, far less than the millions devoted by other states.

[The Italian Film Commission presents new tax credit in LA](#)

[Screendaily.com](#) © Apr 16, 2009

The Italian Film Commission is presenting the country's first film incentive at a meeting in Los Angeles today (April 16). The incentive will offer foreign productions a 25% reduction in costs, which will be capped at \$6.5m (Euros 5m) per film. The law has been structured so this is an upfront reduction in overall costs rather than a rebate.

[The Show Must Go On ... Here](#)

[Madison Magazine \(WI\)](#) © Apr 16, 2009

I don't think Doyle's proposal to provide grants for projects that create permanent jobs will lure similar productions when Illinois, Iowa and Michigan have incentive programs.

[NY Film Industry Seeks Security](#)

[The Epoch Times](#) © Apr 16, 2009

There is much speculation from within the film industry due to the speed with which last year's \$690 million tax credit was exhausted; it was supposed to last until 2013. Many consider the new credit to be insufficiently funded and a temporary fix.

GENERAL ARTICLES OF INTEREST:

[Hollywood on the Gulf?](#)

[USA Today \(AL\)](#) © Apr 14, 2009

...part of a plan to "roll out the welcome mat for film and television production companies." A qualified production company that spends \$150,000 or more for multiple projects within one year will be exempt from paying state sales, use and lodging taxes.

[SAG'S CIVIL WAR RAGES ON](#)

[Variety](#) © Apr 14, 2009

Even as the guild closes in on an agreement to end its long-running contract drama with the majors, Screen Actors Guild prexy Alan Rosenberg has taken the unusual step of blasting his political opponents via the official SAG Screen Actor magazine.

[The 50 best US television shows](#)

[Times Online](#) © Apr 15, 2009

The quality of entertainment arriving over the Atlantic is so good viewers are taking television seriously again. Every wave of imports slowly washes away the endless slurry of reality nonsense from our screens, and the idiot box takes us into a world of intelligent, complex drama.

[SAG ORGANIZING DIRECTOR EXITS](#)

[Variety](#) © Apr 15, 2009

SAG organizing director Todd Amorde has resigned in the first significant staff departure since David White took over as interim national exec director. Screen Actors Guild has not officially disclosed Amorde's resignation or who will head the organizing department...

[Emmys Wants Submissions For Interactive Digital Media Award](#)

[By Dana Kaminski](#) © Apr 15, 2009

The Academy Of Television Arts And Sciences Now Is Awarding Emmys For Interactive Media. And, they are looking for self-submission entries... For Interactive Digital Media Components to give Emmys to...Interested? Watch this video:

[Sony agrees to digital conversion fee](#)

[Variety](#) © Apr 16, 2009

Sony has finalized its deal to pay the country's three largest circuits --Regal, AMC Entertainment and Cinemark -- a "virtual" print fee in the effort to help the conversion to digital cinema. Sony's deal with the Digital Cinema Implementation Group, a consortium

repping Regal, AMC and Cinemark, means that Warner Bros. is the odd man out.

Internet ProviderS Shift To Metered Usage Billing

RedOrbit © Apr 16, 2009

But as more people turn to the Internet to watch TV and movies, they may begin bumping up against limits on metered rates that would result in costly over-use fees. Sites such as Netflix Watch Instantly, Hulu, YouTube, Amazon.com's Video on Demand are constantly increasing the number of movies and television programming available to consumers, providing plenty of incentives to go online to view such content.

Is The Video Game Sector Finally Slowing Down?

Tech Trader Daily © Apr 17, 2009

According to data released late Thursday, video game industry overall sales fell 17% in March from a year ago, with hardware down 18%, software off 17% and accessories off 15%. For all of Q1, overall industry sales were flat, with hardware up 1% year over year, software down 2%, and accessories down 3%.

STATEWIDE EVENTS:

The Documentary Institute Student Screening

Former Hollywood scriptwriter and TV producer Lisa Rosenthal will be the guest speaker at the April 15th The Documentary Institute will showcase the work of the 2009 graduating class on Friday, May 1 at the Reitz Union Auditorium at 5:30 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. The Tenth Annual Student Documentary Screening is sponsored in part by the Governor's Office of Film & Entertainment, which attracts and promotes film and video production in Florida.

For more information, contact Cindy Hill at chill@jou.ufl.edu or 352-392-0577.

Free Film Screening & Conversation with Julie Davis Saturday April 18th

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.

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). On-street metered parking available, as well as public garages on 16th Street between Washington and Collins just three blocks away.

Please RSVP as the list at the door will be filled on a first come first serve basis (so the earlier you respond, the better). The Conversation, presented in association with the Miami Light Project, will be followed by cocktails provided by Bacardi and hors d'ouvres by Vanus Epicurean Cuisine.

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.

For more information, visit <http://www.eincubator.org/>.

THE STUDENT SHOWCASE OF FILMS PRESENTS DOWNTOWN ART WORKS

Clematis Street will become an exhibition of student art on Wednesday, Apr. 22 for The Student Showcase of Films' Downtown Art Works to benefit Autism Speaks. The free event will screen films by finalists of the Student Showcase of Films (SSOF) on a large LED screen in Centennial Square. Between each screening, the filmmakers will hold special "director's chair" question-and-answer sessions.

An arts extravaganza, Downtown Art Works will feature more than just film. The event will be a collaboration of all arts, including live music by student rock bands, a student visual arts display and comedic and dance performances. Live band String Theory will also perform and debut its original song "Eyes Like Anime" in honor of the event. Florida film schools will be on site to discuss their programs, and the festivities will continue with live art and student performers down the street and specials at some of Clematis Street's many restaurants and retailers. The event is co-sponsored by the West Palm Beach Downtown Development Authority.

The schedule is as follows:

Wednesday, April 22, 2009

5 p.m.: Pre-show entertainment at Centennial Square and along Clematis Street

7 p.m.: SSOF film screenings

9 p.m.: Live music

Downtown Art Works is a pre-event for the Palm Beach International Film Festival's (PBIFF) Student Showcase of Films (SSOF) screening on Sunday, April 26 at 2PM at the Cobb Theater Downtown at the Gardens and the awards ceremony on Tuesday, April 28. The juried competition presents more than \$25,000 in cash awards, prizes and scholarships each year. This program is funded by the PBIFF, the Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners, the Palm Beach County Economic Development Office and the Palm Beach County Film & Television Commission.

For more information about Downtown Art Works, contact the West Palm Beach Downtown Development Authority at (561) 833-8873 or visit the [Downtown Art Works Facebook event page](#). To learn more about the Student Showcase of Films, please visit www.pbfilm.com.

Miami Film School Screening of student films

The Miami Film School is presenting a public screening of student films on MONDAY, April 20, 2009 at 7:00 PM at the Cinema Paradiso, 503 SE 6th ST., Fort Lauderdale, FL. 33301 (954) 525-FILM. We strongly encourage you (and your family and friends) to attend and show support to these creative, emerging filmmakers. Admission is \$5.00. The following short films will be shown (not the final order):

Breaking the Record

Written, Directed, & Edited by Aaron Nurse

Starring: Aaron Nurse, Divante Cruz, Derrick Rodgers, Julian Perez, & Blake Bailey

Two friends, one record. How hard could it be?

Portrait of a Fading Henchman

Written, Directed, & Edited by Elgin Jumper

Starring: Alex Teixeira, Doug Smith, Colette Penniello, Russell Jones, Marquita Adrian, John McGlothlin, Marcos Formosa, James Rigual, & John Fell

These are some harsh times we're living in. "Portrait of a Fading Henchman" is a film noir about Michael Blue Heron, a run-down, middle-aged, Native American henchman, and part-time portrait painter.

Death Count

Written, Directed, & Edited by Tia Pedraza

Starring: Kelly Ann Charles & Nigel Vongas

A killer gives a woman 15 minutes to get out of her house alive. If she does, she lives, if not, she dies. Time Wounds

Written, Directed, & Edited by Renaldo Ulysse

Starring: Frank Rodriguez, John McGlothlin, & Miriam Kulick

A man overcomes his personal demons by traveling back in time to seek revenge.

This Life Before Me

Written, Directed, & Edited by Jeff Turner

Starring: Rob Holt, Bill Noakes, Jeff Turner, Diana Restrepo, & L.E. Wallace A man must learn how to keep his life from falling apart.

My Gambling Hand

Written, Directed, & Edited by Blake Blackstone

Starring: Drew Merschel, Frank Rodriguez, Diana Restrepo, Lenny Baez, Angel Soto, James Olsen, Aaron Nurse, Toby Veen, Sam Tommie, Johnathon Locasto, & Alberto Veloso

A man with a gambling problem finds out how bad his problem is after he turns to the mafia for money.

Phuckt

Written, Directed, & Edited by Johnathon Locasto

Starring: Peabo Powell, Doug Smith, Diana Restrepo, Josh McLean, & Johnathon Locasto

A film cast all die from a psycho vigilante.

The Pink Slip

Written, Directed, & Edited by Tony Espinosa

Starring: Jeff Jean, Diana Restrepo, & Steven A. Chambers

A former employee gets stuck in an elevator with the boss's daughter.

Friends Forever

Written, Directed, & Edited by Kerry Devine

Starring: Jason Galotti, Kira Stockwell, Daniel Pursell, & Sam Tommie A boy hears dead friends speak through a doll.

How We Met

Written, Directed, & Edited by Shalini Valentine

Starring: Justin Sims, Mark Price, Elizabeth Robison, & Terri Kirshfield Sara is persuaded by her roommate Amy to go on a blind date with Brian, who at the same time convinces his roommate Jason to go on the date instead.

Emblem of Love

Written, Directed, & Edited by Jonathan A. Ronda

Starring: Tom Anello, Diana Restrepo, Breeza Zeller, Alex Livinalli, Cameron Gagné & Troy Arabia Based on a True Story about an 11th grade student named Nathan

Thomas who falls for a girl in his class. His uncontrollable obsession for her turns into a nightmare as he falls victim to schizophrenia.

Fire Spirit

Written, Directed, & Edited by Sam Tommie

Starring: Sam Tommie, Veronica Krutouz, Jerica Sanders & Kerry Devine A news reporter wants to save his community, but what price is he willing to pay?

CASTING CALLS:

Spanish Speaking Actors Needed for an Interactive Prevention Film for the Tampa Bay Area. A screen test is required.

Please send a photo/resume to casting@wahimedia.com Roles must be filled by April 30. If selected, pay is \$50/hour. All film will be in Tallahassee, FL.

Available roles include: 2 single moms, and ex-gang member and a non-gang member, a restaurant owner, and an educator/teacher. All roles are in Spanish.

To see a sample production visit: www.explorevirginiagangstory.com <<http://www.explorevirginiagangstory.com/>>

Thanks!

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Gina Hallam

Talent Development and Director of Operations

Wahi Media

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www.wahimedia.com <<http://www.wahimedia.com>>

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.

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