

**From:** [Film1](#)  
**To:**  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** News and Events April 4  
**Date:** Friday, April 04, 2008 6:28:38 PM  
**Attachments:** [Picture \(Metafile\)](#)

---

## **NEWS AND EVENTS, April 4, 2008**

### **TIME TO TELL YOUR STORY!**

As you know, we have made progress in educating our policy makers on the role Florida's film, TV, and digital media industry sector plays as part of both the short and long term solution to Florida's economic strength and competitiveness. That was confirmed last year with the passage of the Don Davis Entertainment Economic Development Act that funded our production incentive program.

Sharing talking points has tremendous strategic value however we are in a different environment now - competing with other industries and priorities for diminished state revenues. Now it is time to share the human story and put a real face on our industry. The face of our industry is the face of the hard working Floridian, the struggling Florida homeowner, working parents trying to ensure a safe and secure future for their children.

The face of our industry is the face of the future - the people with the skills and talents so critical to a creative and innovative economy. Many of the innovations in other industries are supported and driven by film and entertainment technologies created by our workforce. We must keep our workforce in Florida to not only attract more film and entertainment production but to build our state's overall competitiveness through world class talent.

As workers and professionals in this industry you must tell your representatives, in your own words, and in your own voice, about how increased production has allowed you and others to stay in Florida. Explain how our primary tool - the \$25 million production incentive - has helped bring production and jobs back to the state. We know that the bottom line is that our workforce must follow the jobs.

By continuing to offer strong incentives for our industry, Florida makes it possible for working families to continue calling Florida their home and be part of Florida's economic recovery. We want film, TV and digital media productions to stimulate *Florida's* economy - not Louisiana's or New Mexico's economy.

Contact your representatives and senators at their district offices as well as their Capitol offices. Access legislative information and calendars at the Online Sunshine website located at: [www.leg.state.fl.us](http://www.leg.state.fl.us).

### **Recount with Laura Dern as Katherine Harris debuts May 25**

Six months after shooting in Tallahassee and Jacksonville, HBO Films announced this week that Recount, a movie recapping the 2000 presidential election controversy in Florida will debut on May 25. The film debuts at 9 a.m., May 25 on HBO. It is set to play another 12 times through May on HBO and HBO2.

### **Current TV is partnering with SILVERDOCS Film Festival TO ENCOURAGE YOUNG INDEPENDENT FILMMAKERS**

WASHINGTON, D.C., March 31 - The SILVERDOCS programming committee - in conjunction with Current TV's Creative Executive team - will be curating five films into a theatrical screening at SILVERDOCS, taking

place during this year's SILVERDOCS Film Festival (June 16-23, 2008, Washington DC).  
To upload your video or get more information, visit the web site: [www.current.com/silverdocs](http://www.current.com/silverdocs)

### **[sun-sentinel turned into movie set](#)**

FT LAUDERDALE, Fla, March 24 - On Monday, the newsroom at South Florida's Sun-Sentinel was invaded by more than 100 crew members and about 80 extras from the production *Marley and Me*, starring Owen Wilson.

*Marley and Me* is based upon the 2005 best-selling memoir by former Sun-Sentinel journalist, John Grogan, who brought an unruly Labrador Retriever into his home in the early 90's.

Filming in the newsroom continued through Thursday while journalists continued to work. *Marley and Me* is set to release Christmas Day. See the full article at <http://www.sunsentinel.com/news/local/broward/sfillimarley25sbmar25,0,4318896.story>.

### **[Stars of Bollywood double as tourist lures](#)**

An Indian musical comedy, on location in South Florida, promises to be a 'postcard to the audience.' Some of the biggest names in Indian cinema are camping out in a South Florida hotel for six weeks to shoot *Dostana*, a musical comedy set in Miami. See full article at <http://www.miamiherald.com/news/broward/story/482442.html>.

### **[FSU Film School graduate's production to be shown at special screening event in NYC on April 30](#)**

The College of Motion Picture, Television and Recording Arts will host a very special screening of *Fields of Fuel*, winner of the 2008 Sundance Film Festival Audience Award in the documentary competition. Written and directed by Film School graduate Josh Tickell, who will be in attendance.

## **[STATEWIDE EVENTS:](#)**

### **[FLORIDA FILM FESTIVAL](#)**

ORLANDO, Fla, March 28 - April 6

Premieres of the best in cutting-edge current cinema; indulgent experiences in food and wine; a blissful mix of industry parties and special events; a star-packed attendee list -- this is the 17th annual Florida Film Festival, which continues for 10 days around Central Florida. For the full schedule, go to <http://www.floridafilmfestival.org/>

### **[Educational Programs AND MORE at the 2008 Women's International Film Festival](#)**

The Women's International Film & Arts Festival (WIFF) events bring together women from all over the world to explore, share and dialogue about issues concerning women through arts. The festival continues through April 6, and will include ten days of film viewings in Miami-Dade and Broward Counties as well as workshops, panel discussions conducted by industry professionals, and of course parties to celebrate women's history month and WIFF. For more information on the seminar as well as all the details of the WIFF, go to <http://www.wiffonline.org/index.php>

### **[3<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL DELRAY BEACH FILM FESTIVAL\\_ "COME EXPERIENCE INDEPENDENCE"](#)**

**[MAY 6-11, 2008](#)**

The third annual Delray Beach Film Festival returns this year from May 6-11, 2008, leaner and more exciting than ever, bringing high-quality independent short and feature-length films and documentaries, panels and workshops, concerts, screenwriter and filmmaker contests, actors, celebrities, and parties, to the picturesque village by the sea.

The opening night film will be Director Mark McLaughlin's documentary film *'Hollywood Singing and Dancing: A Musical Treasure'*, hosted by Academy Award-winning stage, screen and television icon, Shirley Jones. For more information on the festival, visit [www.dbff.us](http://www.dbff.us)

### **3<sup>rd</sup> annual Sicilian Film Festival 2008**

Presented by Emanuele Viscuso, the 2008 Sicilian Film Festival will be held April 8 - 13 at various locations in Miami and Miami Beach. Events include film screenings, awards, parties, lectures, live performances, and discussions. For more information, contact Emanuele Viscuso Communications at (305) 710-4593, or visit <http://www.sicilianfilmfestival.com>

### **10<sup>th</sup> Annual Sarasota Film Festival, April 4-13, 2008**

Among the 'names expected to be seen at the various festival events and parties are. Governor Charlie Crist, Paula Wagner, Rick Nicita, Charlize Theron, Liv Ullmann, Stanley Tucci, Ted Hope, William H. Macy, Jason Ritter, Steve Buscemi, Norman Lloyd, Michael Badalucco, Steven Schachter, Stuart Townsend, Michael Barker, Florian Henckel Von Donnersmarck, Michelle Rodriguez, Martin Henderson, Jeremy Renner, Nora Dunn, Jennifer Ehle, Mark Burton, Ian Ziering, Juha Wuolijoki, Bela Fleck, Elvis Mitchell, David Darcy, Joe Sirola. AND MANY MORE. For full details, go to <http://www.sarasotafilmfestival.com/2008/>

### **PALM BEACH INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL, APRIL 10-17, 2008 TO INCLUDE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS FOR FILMMAKERS**

In addition to screenings and parties, filmmakers attending this year's film festival will learn the ins and outs of producing and financing their first movie. For the full schedule, go to [www.pbifilmfest.org/2008/schedule](http://www.pbifilmfest.org/2008/schedule).

### **FILM FLORIDA 2008 ANNUAL MEETING June 9 - 11, Grand Bohemian Hotel, Orlando**

Join Film Florida for three full days of exciting events and meetings including the 1st annual Sara Fuller Khaki and White Casino Night; The 3rd annual Film Florida Legends Awards, Film Florida's Annual Meeting and the Florida Film & Entertainment Advisory Council Quarterly Meeting

Room reservations now being accepted at the Grand Bohemian Hotel. Call 888.472.6312 and ask for the "Film Florida" rate of \$149. Overnight parking \$20. Reservations must be made by May 26, 2008.

Film Florida is a not-for-profit association that provides a leadership role in Florida's film and entertainment industries. The organization's mission is to offer businesses and individuals the benefits of a statewide trade association to promote the creation of jobs in the film and entertainment production industries and to promote economic development and tourism.

## **ARTICLES OF INTEREST:**

### **Films To Be Produced Exclusively for Xbox**

Thinking outside the Xbox, Microsoft is planning to make available to subscribers to its Xbox Live service short scripted shows from established Hollywood producers created exclusively for the Xbox 360 consoles. Since most of the consoles are connected to TV sets rather than to computers, the films would compete directly with currently available on-demand TV shows. Heading up the Xbox production company, Microsoft said, will be veteran Hollywood producer [Peter Safran](#). Safran told today's (Monday) *New York Times* that he plans to seek out top directors and writers for his projects but expects to eschew high-priced screenwriters and actors.

### [AFTRA sets date for negotiations](#)

The American Federation of Television & Radio Artists will launch negotiations with the majors for a new primetime contract on April 28 -- less than two weeks after the Screen Actors Guild starts bargaining, saying the window gives SAG "significant time" to work out a deal. See full article posted on Wednesday, April 2, 2008 at [www.variety.com](http://www.variety.com)

### [MOVEON.ORG PRESENTS OBAMA IN 30 SECONDS](#)

MoveOn.org has a message for all filmmakers, writers, directors, actors, editors, composers, graphic artists, and animators: Whether you're a total amateur or a total pro, now is the time to use your creativity to help Barack Obama win. We're launching an ad contest: "Obama in 30 Seconds." See the full article at [www.obamain30seconds.org](http://www.obamain30seconds.org)

### [FOREIGN FILMS AWAIT FRENCH REBATE PLAN](#)

France may soon introduce a rebate for U.S. shoots. Ficam, France's technicians association reached an agreement last week with its Ministries of Culture and Finance and members of parliament for a 20% tax rebate on foreign shoots' Gallic spend, says Thierry de Segonzac, Ficam president. <http://email.variety.com/cgi-bin7/DM/y/e4Je0DgLbu0UUW0Gi1h0Ek>

### [Rough Cut Labs for Narrative & Documentary Features](#)

Work with Mentors to complete your film before you submit to festivals. IFP Narrative & Documentary Rough Cut Labs support low-budget, independently produced films in the rough assembly stage that can benefit from the mentorship of experienced film professionals. The four-day program challenges filmmakers to realize the full potential of their footage and stories prior to industry exposure, providing a dynamic system of feedback and advice on technical, creative and post-production issues. The program is specifically geared towards assisting first-time feature filmmakers prior to their submissions to film festivals. <http://market.ifp.org/newyork/labs/>

---

***Stay tuned!***

*We will be making improvements in the content and distribution of the "News & Events" as well as our website over the next few weeks. Thank you for your patience during the transition.*

#### **PLEASE NOTE:**

If you have a press release, event or an educational function that you would like included in our News & Events, please contact our communications office via e-mail at [Film1@MyFlorida.com](mailto:Film1@MyFlorida.com).

The Governor's Office of Film & Entertainment reserves the right to edit or exclude any content not deemed appropriate.

If you wish to be removed from this newsletter please reply with "**Remove**" in the subject line.

**DISCLAIMER STATEMENT** - The opinions expressed in this document do not necessarily reflect the views of the Governor's Office of Film & Entertainment, nor do they make claim to represent the office of the Governor. The information contained herein is provided as a public service with the understanding that the Governor's Office of Film & Entertainment makes no warranties, either expressed or implied, concerning the accuracy, completeness, reliability, or suitability of the information. Nor does the Office of Film & Entertainment warrant that the use of this information is free of any claims of copyright infringement.

**Governor's Office of Film & Entertainment**

**The Capitol, Suite 2001**  
**Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001**  
**(877) FLA-FILM**