

NEWS AND EVENTS, MAY 28, 2010

NEWS

GOVERNOR CRIST SIGNS SB 1752, ESTABLISHES 5-YEAR \$242 MILLION TRANSFERRABLE TAX CREDIT PROGRAM

In addition to signing the state budget, Governor Crist today also signed Senate Bill 1752, a comprehensive Florida's Jobs Bill, providing strategic investments in a number of priority areas which will trigger job growth, business development and ensure long-term economic expansion for Floridians. The Governor plans to hold a ceremonial bill signing for Florida's Jobs Bill in the near future.

SB 1752 creates a five-year, \$242 million transferable tax credit incentive program for Florida's Film and Entertainment industry. Information about the new incentive program is currently available online at <http://www.filminflora.com/ifi/incentives.asp>.

"The Florida Jobs Bill will improve the long-term quality of life for every Floridian by providing high-wage jobs and helping diversify our economy," said Governor Crist. "Through a variety of economic development incentive tools, this legislation will help meet the needs of Florida's businesses and help ensure a prosperous future for our state."

ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY FINANCIAL INCENTIVE PROGRAM TELECONFERENCE OVERVIEW

The Governor's Office of Film and Entertainment will conduct an introductory briefing, via teleconference, related to the key points of the new program. The purpose of the call is to provide an overview of the program, point out differences from the previous program, provide information about the application process, and respond to pre-submitted questions.

We anticipate high caller volume, so if you plan to participate we recommend that you review these materials prior to the call and submit questions by COB Tuesday June 1st via email to: Film.Incentive@MyFlorida.com. We will respond to as many as we can during the teleconference and, as always, will be available for individual follow up and assistance.

Incentive Teleconference Call Information

Date: 6/2/10

Time: 1:00pm EST - 2:30pm EST

Call in number: 1-888-808-6959

Conference code: 4104765

FLEX FESTIVAL CALL FOR ENTRIES

FLEX, the Florida Experimental Film/Video Festival, is now accepting submissions for its fourth biennial competitive festival taking place February 18-20, 2011 in Gainesville, FL. The exclusive focus of the festival is on experimental short media, but we encourage artists to challenge us to rethink what experimental means. Work may draw on documentary, animation, avant garde, underground, or other traditions—or no traditions at all. Films made for commercial or industrial purposes are not eligible, and the maximum running time is 30 minutes.

Cash and in-kind prizes will be awarded in each of 4 categories (film/video, small/large). Previous jurors have included Craig Baldwin, Naomi Uman, Mike Plante, Abina Manning, Andrea Grover and Tony Gault. In addition, the festival has hosted numerous filmmakers including Jim Trainor, Leighton Pierce, Deborah Stratman, Bill Brown, Jim Finn, Robert Todd, Scott Stark, Jacqueline Goss, Helga Fanderl, Michael Gitlin, and Johan Grimonprez.

The entry form and guidelines are available at www.flexfest.org. The regular entry deadline is September 1st, but we encourage early submission. The entry fee for submissions postmarked by September 1st is \$10. Late submissions will be accepted up until October 1st with a \$20 entry fee. There is no entry fee for festival alumni or for international entries.

For more information, visit www.flexfest.org.

VIDEO CONTEST

It Pays To Show Ways to Recycle - Got a minute? Got some ideas on how to recycle plastic bags? That's all it takes, and it could be worth up to \$1,500 in a video-making contest going on now through September 5th. Anyone in Florida 13 years and older can go to a www.abagslife.com and create a 60-second video showing ways to reuse and recycle the free plastic bags like you find in a grocery store.

There's a prize for First, Second and Third place in two categories — Reuse and Recycle. Make it fun and creative and then have your friends vote on it. Check out the videos that are up there now and see the competition. And get out your video camera or flip camera and show us your work. By design, these up to 60 second videos can be as primitive or advanced as the contestant wants them to be. We're looking for fun, entertaining and even when necessary, educational entries.

For more information, visit www.abagslife.com.

FORT LAUDERDALE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL PRESENTS THEIR 1ST ANNUAL ITALIA FESTA CELEBRATING NEARLY 60 YEARS OF ITALIAN CINEMA JUNE 3 - 7, 2010

(Fort Lauderdale, FL) May 25, 2010 -- Fort Lauderdale International Film Festival (FLIFF) will present their first Annual Italia Festa, a 5-day mini-festival celebrating nearly 60 years of Italian Cinema. The event, which takes place June 3 - 7 at Cinema Paradiso, will feature food, wine, espresso and award winning films including Oscar winners for Best Foreign Film - IL POSTINO (1994) and MEDITERRANEO (1991) and the popular classic starring the late Audrey Hepburn, ROMAN HOLIDAY.

Opening Night of Italia Festa, on June 3, will begin with an Italian dinner provided by Carrabbas followed by Lina Wertmuller's classic rambunctious comedy, CIAO PROFESSORE!. Then enjoy a the wonderful romp that won Best Comedy at FLIFF in 2001, TRE MOGLI.

Kicking-off a full day of films including , Saturday morning June 5 will be dedicated to young audiences with FAB! Films for Kids. Four short films take them on a site-seeing adventure through Rome, learn about Leonardo Da Vinci and Galileo, and experience a day with an Italian family in Sorrento. Following the films, in the tradition of the monthly Cinema A La Mode series, the kids meet with Cinema Paradiso's own Chef Michelle to make spaghetti & meatballs!

On Sunday, June 6 just prior to the day of films, Cafe Cinematheque will offer Café and Brioch brunch before the film THE CONSEQUENCES OF LOVE, which will be followed by a Q&A with foreign film expert, Shelly Isaacs. That evening film enjoy an Italian Buffet followed by the award-winning film, AGATA E LA TEMPESTA, a frothy, magical celebration of beauty and sexuality of the festa.

Monday closes the festival with Federico Fellini's 8 1/2, which received two Oscars at the 1993 Academy Awards; one for Best Foreign Film and the second for Best Costume Design. The film became the inspiration for the Broadway hit and film, NINE.

For more information about the festival, and/or to purchase tickets, visit www.FLIFF.com.

NEXT-GEN-EXPO TO BE HELD AT GSTAR STUDIOS

Held during the weekend of October 16-17 on the soundstages of GStar Studios in West Palm Beach, South Florida's largest motion picture studios, the Next-Gen-Expo is being recorded for Television and Motion Picture distribution with live music and plenty of opportunities for participants to contribute to the direction of human civilization.

Next-Gen Expo is a highly productive engine and pro-active three day, one-track conference and exposition of new ideas dedicated to innovation that benefits humanity. You will be immersed in the new conversation about entertainment, media, energy, technology, health and how these innovations will benefit you and your collective humanity, enabling both consumer and business to have long-term sustainable lives and careers and visions of your own.

Next-Gen Expo is brought to you by the award-winning GEMS Production Company which boldly repurposes the mega-industrial complex of media to showcase the remarkable ways that Next-Generation technologies are defining the future. Participants interact with people behind new companies, new products, and new technologies driving today's innovations.

Next-Gen Expo Facilitators, Keynotes, Speakers, Presenters, and Panel Members represent an international cooperative of individuals who are contributing members of a community with a collective conscience that operates in a concern for the common good. The scope is necessarily multidisciplinary to include all walks as we search the world over for thinkers who lay down their arms to embrace the knowledge of one place, one planet, one people, in one universe.

Enjoy the keynotes, panel discussions, round-tables and select product demonstrations. Breakout Sessions will convene and enable new partnerships. Meet people and create our future. All audience participation and interaction is being recorded for interactive broadcast. Participants are invited to contribute to all round table discussions and will be offered an open mic to present their ideas and comments on any related topic. This novel strategy is called an "unconference" which is growing in popularity as an alternative to the mundane exclusionary model of a typical congress. More will be published on this framework soon.

For more information about the Next-Gen Expo, visit <http://www.next-gen-expo.com/>.

G-STAR STUDIOS SOUNDSTAGE OPENING IN JUNE

The G-Star Studios, the largest motion picture studio in Florida, and the G-Star School of the Arts in Palm Springs proudly announce the opening of their new state-of-the-art motion picture sound stage in June. The sound stage is not only the largest in the State of Florida, it is the most technologically advanced sound stage in the world. The sound stage is equal in size to the sound stages in Los Angeles where Jurassic Park III, The Incredible Hulk movies and Bruce Almighty were made; and where Desperate Housewives and Two and a Half Men are produced today. With 35' to the grid, it has major league height to "fly" in.

It has a dynamic smoke evacuation system that will remove smoke from forest fire scenes in less than two minutes; and it has quick-release drains for up to 18" of water for rain & hurricanes scenes. The massive A/C units handling the 500,000 plus cubic feet of performance stage are custom made to shut on and off fifty times per day the moment the Director shouts "action" and "cut". The lighting, sound, A/C's,

plus super power in the grid and on the floor and a host of other electrical functions are all controlled by a specialized computer system. It also has 22' elephant doors for load-in for huge sets constructed in the Studio B scenic design shop next door and additional 12' load-in doors to allow easy maneuverability for set assembly.

The G-Star Sound Stage is the only sound stage in the world constructed to be convertible into a theater for live performances, concerts, film festivals, black tie parties and movie premiers with a two-story atrium lobby and large rest rooms. It contains a separate power system for theater lighting and theater sound; whisper-quiet A/C; will seat up to 1,150 persons in an audience; and will allow satellite feeds. In addition, the sound stage has a Key West style production office bungalow with a green room for movie stars and their entourages with full bath, dressing room, kitchen, and two private outside patio areas.

For information contact Greg Hauptner, Founder/CEO at 561-386-6275, email at greghauptn@aol.com or go to the website at www.gstarstudios.com or www.gstarschool.org.

FLORIDA ARTICLES OF INTEREST:

CINEMANIA: 48 HOUR FILM PROJECT NEWS & INTERVIEW WITH MAC MCDONALD

Florida Times-Union © May 25, 2010

The 48 Hour Film Project competition returns to Jacksonville, June 18-20, 2010. On Friday at 7:00 p.m., filmmaking teams draw a genre out of a hat and are given a line of dialogue, a character and prop that must be included in the film. Then they are set loose on a mission: write, cast, produce, direct, edit, finish and deliver a 7-minute short film by 7:30 p.m. Sunday.

ARTICLES ABOUT THE COMPETITION:

TN INCENTIVES DON'T LURE FILM MAKERS

WBIR-TV © May 20, 2010

Tennessee offers up to 32% in transferable tax credits to film makers wanting to shoot a movie in the state. That percentage is comparable to some other states in the Southeast. However, according to the Association for the Future of Film and Television, Georgia and Louisiana will cover big costs like producers and talent. The group said Tennessee does not offer such incentives above the line cost.

STATE INCENTIVES BRINGING HOLLYWOOD TO N. TEXAS

CBS 11 © May 25, 2010

According to the Texas Film Commission in Austin, a new CBS show about rogue CIA agents battling bureaucracy entitled "Chaos" would join three other shows that have either begun shooting or are contracted to begin this summer. The trickle-down economic impact of the influx is affecting residents like Dennis Hayden, who is working as a grip for a show shot just 20 minutes from his home.

ARIZONA FILM PROJECTS IN DANGER IF TAX INCENTIVE EXPIRES

Arizona Republic © May 26, 2010

A film industry tax incentive that rewards companies for filming in Arizona expires on Dec. 31. Avondale fears that could kill a \$100 million television- and movie-studio project, called Avondale Live, and thousands of potential jobs. The lapsing of the tax incentive also could affect plans for Gateway Studios, a \$70 million production-studio complex in Mesa.

SC LAWMAKERS DEBATE FUTURE OF INCENTIVES TO BRING HOLLYWOOD TO THE STATE

NBC Augusta © May 26, 2010

Incentives to bring Hollywood to South Carolina are on the chopping block. Since the start of the Film Incentive program in 2006, taxpayers have spent \$32 million on cash rebates for films produced in the state. That includes money for shows like "Army Wives" which is taped in Charleston.

[N.C. HOUSE BILL WOULD LOOSEN CAP ON FILM INCENTIVES](#)

[StarNewsOnline.com](#) © May 27, 2010

That bill, however, put a \$7.5 million cap on the amount of money a film could receive on its qualifying expenses and a \$1 million cap on highly compensated individuals' salaries. New legislation, House Bill 1957, "An act to enhance the competitiveness of the credit for production companies" was introduced on May 25. If approved, it will lift the salary cap and greatly increase the production cap.

[PENNSYLVANIA GRANTS FILM MAKER SHYAMALAN \\$35 MILLION TAX BREAK](#)

[Big Government \(blog\)](#) © May 27, 2010

M. Night Shyamalan's latest film production, *The Last Airbender*, was recently awarded over \$35 million in film tax credits from Pennsylvania over two years. The award is the largest in the history of Pennsylvania's Film Tax Credit (FTC), breaking the record held by his previous project, *The Happening*, which received \$12 million in tax credits.

[GENERAL ARTICLES OF INTEREST:](#)

[BOARD OF SAG'S REGIONAL BRANCH ENDORSES SINGLE ACTORS' UNION](#)

[TheWrap.com](#) © May 24, 2010

The Screen Actors Guild's push to create a single union to cover SAG and AFTRA members has drawn a new endorsement from SAG's Regional Branch's board of directors. At a meeting over the weekend in Washington, the board voted to go along with the combination -- a move that both SAG and AFTRA officials support. SAG president Ken Howard, who attended the meeting, expressed appreciation for the vote.

[DISNEY'S MIRAMAX DEAL WITH WEINSTEINS COLLAPSES](#)

[TheWrap](#) © May 25, 2010

Talks apparently collapsed over issues related to the structure of Miramax's relationship with the Weinstein Company. Burkle and Fortress Investment Group and Colbeck Capital were seeking jointly to buy Miramax for the Weinsteins to manage, at an agreed-upon sale price of \$625 million.

[UNIVERSAL STRIKES 5-YEAR DEAL TO DISTRIBUTE MRC FILMS](#)

[TheWrap](#) © May 27, 2010

Universal has struck a five-year agreement with the independent film producer Media Rights Capital to distribute their films, the companies announced today. The agreement to release 20 films over the next five years expands a collaboration between the two companies, which partnered on such films as 'Bruno' and 'The Adjustment Bureau.' The distribution agreement will begin in 2011.

[STATEWIDE EVENTS:](#)

[JUNE 1ST FMPTA METRO ORLANDO ENTERNET AT ENZIAN](#)

Entertainment Networking is back by popular demand at the Eden Bar at Enzian on Tuesday, June 1st, from 5:29pm to 7:29pm. If you haven't had the opportunity to visit one of these events, it is our unique brand of networking for the industry that we call Entertainment Networking.

It allows for an informal meet and greet time for our guests and members to connect with potential job opportunities. We know that with the passing of SB1752, more work will be headed our way, and what better place to showcase your skills and talents?

So, bring lots of business cards and headshots/comp cards, as you'll have not only an opportunity to distribute them, but a few minutes of public speaking to sell yourself and/or your company. We've had members announce some pretty fantastic projects at EnterNet.

The address for Eden Bar at Enzian is 1300 South Orlando Avenue, Maitland, FL 32751. Enzian is located 1/2 mile north of Lee Road on 17/92 in Maitland. From I-4, take the Lee Road exit and head east toward Winter Park. At the termination of Lee Road, make a left (north) onto 17/92 (also known as South Orlando Ave). Go 1/2 mile, under the train track overpass, and at the second traffic light (at Magnolia), you'll see the Enzian sign on the northeast corner of the intersection. Turn right at the light, then left into Enzian's parking lot.

For more information, contact Thomas P. Mitchell, Sr. at thomaspmitchellsr@eaglemediafilms.com.

UNIVERSITY FILM & VIDEO ASSOCIATION AT USF

The Summer Film Fair will take place Saturday, June 12, 2010 at the Marshall Student Center Ballroom from 9am to 6pm. This is an event for young people, college students, and indie filmmakers interested in pursuing film as a career.

Ticket prices are \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door. Ticket price includes free breakfast and lunch as well as access to all workshops, lectures, and film screenings. More information can be found at www.MySpace.com/ufva_USF.

The agenda is currently as follows:

8 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. – Film Schools set up and Fair in the MSC

9 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. – Breakfast with “Motown” Maurice of the “Motown” Maurice Show. “Diary of a Young Television Entrepreneur”

9:45 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. – Workshop Sessions – I

- A. Screenwriting and film adaptations – MSC 2709
Facilitator- TBA
- B. Emerging Film Technologies – MSC 3711
Facilitator –Richard Walker, M.ED.

10:45 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. – Workshop Sessions II

- C. How to Make A Music Video – MSC 2709
Facilitator – Anesti Vega
- D. Making Culturally Diverse Films – MSC 3711
Facilitator – Rodrick Colbert

12 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. Lunch with Stephen Schlow, Chair, UCF Film department – “Film Entrepreneurship and the Film Artist”: Professor Stephen Schlow has been a writer/producer/director of documentaries and narrative films for nearly 40 years. His specialty is in Film Entrepreneurship.

1:30 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. USF and UT Film shorts

2:45p.m. to 3: 45 p.m. – Presentation of Guest of Honor – **Michael France**, Blockbuster Hollywood Screenwriter and Owner, St. Pete Beach Theatre. Event includes a musical performance by UFVA distinguished alumna, Ann P.

4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. - Special Feature – A Hollywood Movie Premiere –To Be Announced!

To register and purchase tickets, visit <http://ufvausfSummerFair.eventbrite.com/>.

Current sponsors are Cutnedgebarbershop and 2ReelFX. Additional sponsorship opportunities as well as event tables are available. Please see the website for more information.

SPACE COAST FLORIDA MOTION PICTURE AND TELEVISION ASSOCIATION CHAPTER MEETING

The Space Coast Chapter of the Florida Motion Picture and Television Association (FMPTA) excitedly announces the June 14, 2010 chapter meeting at Café Unique located at: 607 Florida Avenue, Cocoa Village, FL presenting renowned entertainment lawyer, Larry Haber, as our guest speaker.

Admitted to the Florida Bar in 1982, Haber's law practices include the areas of entertainment, sports, business, real estate, corporate, finance, franchise, and intellectual property law. Some of Haber's former impressive clients include possessing the position of In House Attorney for Walt Disney World and Universal Studios. His current law practice location resides in Altamonte Springs. Entertainment law requires specialized skills unique to Haber and a small number other lawyers.

Plan to attend this lecture by Haber in the area of entertainment law, which is of paramount importance for those in the business of filmmaking. The June meeting begins with networking at 6:30 PM and the meeting commencing at 7:00 PM. Free to members, non-members \$10.00. Some food and drink items are available to order from the Café Unique menu.

For further information, contact Bill at: Bill@ACutAboveVideo.com. FMPTA is dedicated to the promotion of Film, Television, Recording, Print and Digital Media in Florida.

SUNSCREEN FILM SCHOOL SUMMER CAMP COMING SOON

When? July 5 - July 16: Camp hours are Monday through Friday from 9 am until 5 pm. The Camp Film Festival where campers show their films to parents and friends will be on Friday July 17 from 6:30 pm until 9.

Where? The camp will be held at Studio 620 in downtown St. Petersburg (620 1st Ave. South St. Petersburg, FL 33701).

How much? The two-week, 9-5 camp is \$500.00.

The Program

The camp focuses in the beginning, as all good movies must, on storytelling. Kids will learn to craft the events of stories into compelling sequences that build tension and suspense and plant vital questions in the viewers' minds. Then everyone will write a short script employing what they've learned.

The program head is Dave DeBorde, Film Professor from Southeastern University in Lakeland, and he is also the main teacher. He will be assisted by two college-age proctors who are experienced movie makers. In addition, guest speakers, like professional cinematographers will also contribute.

Kids ages 14-18. Some exceptions to age requirements will be made based on prior experience and interest level after an evaluation by the Sunscreen Film Festival staff. Please note: movie making is a collaborative effort in which each member of the production team relies on everyone else. Your child's camping decision should be grounded in a genuine desire to learn the movie-making art.

Four campers will be expected to volunteer laptops for editing the movies. If you have family equipment, like a camcorder, and want to learn to use it more effectively, you are encouraged to bring it. Otherwise, Sunscreen will provide the equipment.

Campers are required to provide their own meals and snacks. Studio 620 is in downtown St. Petersburg and lots of restaurants are within walking distance.

For more information, or to ask questions, call or email Harry Chittenden at 727-420-0566 or harry@sunscreenfilmfestival.com.

CASTING CALL:

ARTHUR SOLUTIONS LOOKING FOR FILMMAKERS FOR PROMOTIONAL VIDEOS

Author Solutions, the leading self-publishing company in the world, is looking for highly skilled creative filmmakers to write, direct and edit live action high def trailers based on our books as well as conduct video interviews with our authors. Filmmakers must be excellent storytellers and understand how to maximize very minimal budgets, especially with HD filming.

We will provide the *entire* budget for these projects, **\$2500** (not including music scoring) for trailers and **\$500** for interviews. If you believe you can accomplish these please go to www.authorsolutionsfilm.com and click on "Hollywood Trailers," or "Interviewers," to be part of our freelance filmmaker network.

You **will need** to provide samples of your work, please see the following two examples as to what we are looking for:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=03-ITeXXkuk>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t2Q8XcwT5KM>

Please apply at www.authorsolutionsfilm.com and direct all questions to nickapsheets@gmail.com.

PLEASE NOTE – If you have a press release, event or an educational function that you would like included in our News & Events, please contact our communications office via e-mail at Film1@MyFlorida.com. The Governor's Office of Film & Entertainment reserves the right to edit or exclude any content not deemed appropriate.

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

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