

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



News & Events

NEWS:

WEDU president to head Florida PBS, NPR group

Richard Lobo, president of Tampa-based WEDU, Channel 3, is the new chairman of the nonprofit group that represents Florida's 13 PBS stations and 13 National Public Radio stations. Lobo will serve a two-year term on the Florida Public Broadcasting Service Inc. He was elected at the group's meeting Friday in St. Petersburg. Also elected to the organization's board of directors was JoAnn Urofsky, general manager of WUSF, Channel 16, in Tampa. Lobo was also a member of the Florida Film and Entertainment Advisory Council. His term recently ended.

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/32172153from/ET>

former ffeac member, PRODUCER THEodore (Ted) Swanson PASSES

Ted Swanson, whose television and film career spanned more than four decades passed away in his sleep Thursday, July 23rd from congestive heart failure.

Ted began his career as a Page at KNXT (KCBS) and rose through the ranks to become of Head of Production for local programming. He left the station to pursue his passion, entertainment. As an AD, he worked on such classics as 'Hellfighters', 'Omega Man' and 'Coogan's Bluff'. His Production Manager film credits include 'Rocky', 'Witness' and 'Caddyshack'. Notable television credits include Emmy award winners 'The Waltons', 'The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman' and 'King'. In later years, Ted produced a host of feature and television films such as 'The Tale of Sweeney Todd', 'My Father the Hero' and 'Separate but Equal'. In sum, Ted's career encompassed live broadcast news, three television series and more than sixty films.

Ted Swanson is survived by his wife, Jan, daughters Holly and Heather, son Brad, seven grandchildren and brother, Sterling Swanson.

FILM FLORIDA ELECTS 2009-2010 OFFICERS

JACKSONVILLE, FL (July 2009) - Film Florida recently announced its 2009-2010 executive board of directors. The new slate features some of the state's top leaders in film and production.

The not-for-profit group - whose purpose is to represent Florida's film and entertainment industries and promote the creation of jobs in the industry - elected its new leadership at its recent annual meeting in Miami Beach.

The 2009-2010 officers are:

President	Graham Winick, Film & Entertainment Production Manager Miami Beach Film and Print Office
1 st Vice President	Jennifer Pennypacker- Director, Project Development Metro Orlando Film & Entertainment Commission
2 nd Vice President	Richard Seres, President Film Florida Publishing Company
Secretary	John Pokorny, President ProductionHub
Treasurer	Jennifer Parramore, Film Commissioner St. Petersburg/Clearwater Film Commission
Member-at-Large	John Hillsman, Regional Director

IATSE Local 600

Past President Ed Stamm, General Manager
ARRI CSC

Film Florida is a not-for-profit corporation that provides a leadership role in Florida's film and entertainment industries by representing a coalition of interests, including private industry, local film commissions, industry associations and labor organizations. Its purpose is to offer to 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. For more information, please visit www.filmflorida.org.

"Titanic" Camera Crane In Florida!

Fluid Images, a production company founded in 1990, has expanded into Florida. Rick Johnson started with a camera support business, but in 1992 he designed and invented the Akela Crane which was the world's tallest camera crane. After gaining experience on regional productions and day-long shoots on features, the company got a huge break on the film Titanic. Initially, the arrangement was to use one crane for a few weeks. By the time they wrapped, the crew and two cranes had been on the set for six months, creating some of cinema's most memorable scenes. Since that time, the Akela and the even larger Strada cranes have been used on hundreds of feature films, sporting events, concerts and television productions. The demo reel for Fluid Images / Strada Cranes includes: Titanic, Seabiscuit, Spiderman, The Patriot, Harry Potter, The Perfect Storm, Kingdom of Heaven, Transformers, Beijing Olympics, X Games, The Rolling Stones, Nascar, and a number of high end television ads and industrial films.

When Fluid Images recently placed an Akela crane in Orlando, they chose producer John Drackett to represent their company. Originally from New Orleans, John has lived and worked in Florida for twenty years. Drackett says, "There are only a few of these cranes in the world. This will be a huge asset for production in Florida and the whole southeast. I am pleased to work for such an outstanding and innovative company." The Akela crane can be built to a length of 45, 72 or 85 feet. Usually a camera is mounted on the end of the crane and operated by remote control. However, Fluid Images has a new invention called "Hook and Release" that allows for shots that seem almost impossible. The Fluid Images website has a short video clip called "Hook and Release Explained." In the clip, the camera floats over the roof of a house, then in one seamless shot, the camera moves along a balcony and through the inside of the house. This is accomplished by "flying" a Steadicam operator at the end of the crane arm, safely suspended in a harness designed by the developer of harness systems for Cirque du Soleil. Once the operator touches the ground, he can be released, allowing for incredible, continuous shots from mid-air to terra firma. The operator can be hooked and flown more than once in a single shot.

Fluid Images has created powerful television ads for LancAir Performance Aircraft, Les Schwab Tires, Oregon State University and world class golf courses and resorts such as 3-Creek Ranch Golf Club in Jackson Hole Wyoming. The company works with ad agencies, but they can also create a project from initial concept, all the way through post production.

For more information, please contact John Drackett by e-mail at John@fluid-images.com or cell (407) 492-5198. Get information online at www.fluid-images.com / www.stradacranes.com.

2nd Amelia Island Film Festival Call for Submissions

Films from around the world are welcome at the Amelia Island Film Festival. However, all films that are produced in whole or in part in the great state of Florida are considered Florida films and are eligible for special recognition and award. For consideration as a Florida film, you must indicate whether your film was shot or edited in Florida, and if so, what location and/ or facility.

More than one entry may be submitted. Each entry must be accompanied by a separate entry form and entry fee.

Entry Fees and Deadlines

Aug.14, 2009 - Earlybird Deadline - Feature Fee 30.00, Short Fee 15.00, FLGA Fee 15.00, AIV Fee 10.00

Sep.25, 2009 - Regular Deadline - Feature Fee 35.00, Short Fee 20.00, FLGA Fee 20.00, AIV Fee 15.00

Nov. 30, 2009 - Late Deadline - Feature Fee 50.00, Short Fee 25.00, FLGA Fee 25.00, AIV Fee 20.00

For more information visit the Amelia Island Film Festival website: <http://www.ameliaislandfilmfestival.org>.

FLORIDA ARTICLES OF INTEREST:

[Nascent film company sees Florida as an ideal setting](#)

Sarasota Herald-Tribune © July 26, 2009

Floridian and former world kickboxing champion Don "The Dragon" Wilson has joined three area businessmen to form Florida Films, a company that wants to bring film productions to the Sunshine State and specifically to Southwest Florida

[UCF Filmmakers Succeed With Low-Budget Techniques in Bad Economy](#)

University of Central Florida © July 27, 2009

With a focus on low-budget, independent filmmaking, the Master of Fine Arts program at UCF became the first accredited film program in the country to require its students to create full-length films and raise at least \$50,000 in production costs to complete their degrees.

[Film grad breaking into movie business](#)

Central Florida Future © July 29, 2009

Former UCF film major Lee Cipolla first realized what he wanted to do with his life in high school — he wanted to work in film. Cipolla went from studying film at UCF, to working on the set of Marley & Me carrying coffee, to releasing two of his own films with Lionsgate Home Entertainment.

[Florida logs a \\$50 mil digital studio](#)

Variety © July 30, 2009

Wyndcrest Holdings, the investment firm that owns vfx studio Digital Domain, is preparing to launch a \$50 million digital production studio in Florida. Contrary to published reports, DD is not formally connected to the venture. The management of Venice-based Digital Domain will decide to what degree it wants to be involved with the new studio, if at all.

[Hollywood Studio Picks City](#)

Florida Trend © July 30, 2009

Wyndcrest Holdings has announced its plans to build a digital production studio in Port St. Lucie, Florida, primarily focused on the creation of original content and digital imagery for animation feature films, visual effects-driven live action films and video games.

ARTICLES ABOUT THE COMPETITION:

[25 films, TV series to get CA incentives](#)

Variety © July 27, 2009

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger has announced the first 25 film and television productions to qualify for California's production incentive, less than a month after the state started accepting applications for the funds. The list has several recognizable feature projects including "Beverly Hills Chihuahua 2," DreamWorks' "Dinner for Schmucks," CBS Films' "Faster," Paramount's "Naked Gun 4," Screen Gems' "Priest" and Sony's "The Social Network."

[Finance and Entertainment Executives to Convene at Film Finance Forum in New York](#)

Market Wire (press release) © July 28, 2009

Winston | Baker is proud to present Film Finance Forum East, to be held in New York City on September 16 - 17, 2009. Through this forum, participants will have the opportunity to gain insight from acclaimed speakers on the investment opportunities and strategies within this ever-changing market.

[Lawmakers Look to Review Tax Credit for Michigan Filmmakers](#)

9&10 News © July 28, 2009

A tax credit has put Michigan on the filmmaking map for the past year, but now the question: how much longer can the state afford the offer? There's no question about it, the incentive has brought dozens of productions to the state. Those filmmakers have pumped a lot of money into Michigan communities.

[JSU Leaders Prepare for State Film Incentives, Which Start Oct. 1](#)

California Chronicle © July 29, 2009

Thanks to the passage of the Alabama Entertainment Industry Incentive Act -- and a \$500,000 appropriation to Jacksonville State University -- northeast Alabama is poised to be the set where plot lines unfold and a cash-strapped economy reaps the benefits.

[Lights! Camera! Made in Michigan heads film projects and offers hope \(second in a series\)](#)

Examiner.com © July 30, 2009

Although Droz says that 35 states have film incentives, Michigan is highly competitive, thanks to the tax incentive. Whatever we lose in immediate tax benefit, we more than make up for in volume; for example, he mentioned the \$125 million spent in 2008 projects, compared to \$2 million the previous, pre-incentive year.

GENERAL ARTICLES OF INTEREST:

[Katzenberg: 3D TV Coming to Your Home by Next Year](#)

TheWrap © July 24, 2009

Dreamworks Animation CEO Jeffrey Katzenberg thinks 3D TVs will appear in households by early 2010 and will be usable without 3D glasses "in a handful of years." Katzenberg spoke on Friday at the Fortune Brainstorm Tech confab, where Ashton Kutcher also took the stage. The actor, who is the star embodiment of Twitter, spoke about the emergence of digital media and the consumer as a content creator.

[Hackford named president of DGA](#)

Variety © July 25, 2009

Taylor Hackford has been named to a two-year term as president of the Directors Guild of America, succeeding Michael Apter. The DGA's 135 delegates selected Hackford, who's been 3rd VP of the guild since 2005, on Saturday at DGA headquarters in Hollywood. DGA National VP Steven Soderbergh, who'd been mentioned along with Hackford as a possible successor to Apter, nominated Hackford for the presidency.

[Wells, Davis launch WGAW campaigns](#)

Variety © July 27, 2009

Elias Davis and John Wells, who last month declared their intentions to take over from Patric Verrone as president, have put their campaigns into high gear, respectively adopting platforms of aggression and moderation. Both are looking to the future, with the contract that will expire in 2011, but they have differing views on whether the past should be repeated.

Emmys shift means long night gets longer

Variety © July 30, 2009

Following the announcement that Emmy Award attendees may now need to be seated at L.A.'s Nokia Theater an hour earlier than usual for the pre-recorded portion of the show, the red carpet regime -- camera crews, photographers, stars, publicists, hairstylists, etc. -- must now prepare for a long night to get even longer.

Game developers jump on mobile market

Straight.com (Canada) © July 30, 2009

While Vancouver's video-game sector has contracted during the recession, one part of the local development scene has been bucking the trend. The increasing appetite for games that can be played on devices such as Apple's iPhone has made this a bright spot in the sagging economy.

STATEWIDE EVENTS:

Sarasota County Film and Entertainment Office Mixer - Beyond the Jetsons: Sci-Fi, Fantasy, Futuristic

You won't need a Tricorder next month to find our mixer at Lakewood Ranch Cinemas (10715 Rodeo Drive Lakewood Ranch, Florida 34202) on August 17th from 5:30 to 7:30 P.M. Put on your Vulcan ears and don't miss a word of what our speakers have to say about Star Trek as well as the rapidly expanding "universe" of 3-D and the paradigm shift that it is creating in media production of all kinds! No need to climb into a transporter beam, but you might want to take a ride on an amazing Segway.

You will have that chance at our mixer! We promise no trouble with Tribbles, but there will be door prizes, hors d'oeuvres and a great opportunity to mix and mingle.

Registration is \$10.00, \$12.00 at the door. Pre-registration ends August 14, 2009.

To register, visit www.filmsarasota.com.

ANNOUNCING THE ACTING CHOPS SCENE STUDY WORKSHOP

Here's your chance to see what you're made of as an actor. Are you a casting director's dream? Can you hold your own in a scene? Are you capable of creating realistic characters creatively, consistently, on demand, and in front of audiences? Do you know how to harness your technique in ways that play to your strengths?

In this scene study workshop you'll learn to push your performance level to places you never imagined you could go. Discover new ways of tapping into intense emotional realities and vibrant imaginary worlds at a completely different stage of performance.

Discover what is needed to create great performance. Don't just be a good actor; be a great one...find the instinct you need to bring believable characters to life. Some of that ability comes naturally; but the knowledge that powers this level of standout performance needs to be learned. Here's your chance to learn it, study it, and master it.

There are only 12 places available. This is to ensure that every actor in the workshop gets personalized attention, plenty of performance time, individual scene evaluation, critiques, and dynamic direction.

This is not a beginning acting class. It requires that you, as an actor, already have a number of tools in your acting repertoire. All actors applying for this class must have prior training and/or performance experience.

The Acting Chops Workshop meets Tuesday Nights throughout August. The cost is only \$185 for the four super charged sessions. All classes will be held at the Offices of Boca Talent, 829 S.E. 9th Street, Palm Plaza, Deerfield Beach, FL 33441.

Don't miss this wonderful opportunity, register today. E-mail Natalie at Boca Talent to register, natalie@bocamodels.com.

ABOUT YOUR DIRECTOR, ALYN DARNAY

As a multi-award winning Director/Writer/Actor/Author, Alyn Darnay's background spans Theatre, Films, Television, and Radio. He is recognized as an Actor's Director for his character-driven style and decidedly organic approach to directing which produces truthful, challenging and exciting performances. Alyn brings a Director's sensibility, a Performer's understanding, and a Writer's sensitivity to the Workshop. Here's your chance to work with one of the best. Take your acting to the next level, sign up now.

Scriptwriters Clinic

Conducted by acclaimed South Florida scriptwriting guru Alyn Darnay, the Scriptwriter's Clinic is a hands-on series of intense

sessions designed to help every scriptwriter work out the challenges of his/her particular script.

This advanced level course is aimed at assisting the emerging screenwriter to complete his or her feature film screenplay. The Clinic offers participants the invaluable opportunity to work closely with professional scriptwriting guru Alyn Darnay as they explore what works, what doesn't work, and how to strengthen, tighten, and clarify their work. Participation in the Clinic requires participants to spend time working on their own material within the group setting and at home. In these intensive one-to-one sessions, participants will be given professional coaching aimed at gaining new insight and benefits from the constructive guidance given on their individual feature film project.

All writers need professional feedback to make sure their script is rock solid. Objective, constructive feedback is always beneficial to give a writer his/her competitive edge! The Scriptwriter's Clinic is the perfect way to get that feedback.

Clinic Dates: Three Mondays 6:30-9:30 PM, August 3rd 17th 31st. Cost for the three sessions: \$125 • \$90 Students w/ID. \$25 deposit is required for registration – please send check to:

Chaos Films
PO Box 630115
Miami, FL 33163

Workshop will be held at SPACE 4004 in the Design District 4004 NW 2nd Av, Miami 33127.

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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**Governor's Office of Film & Entertainment
The Capitol, Suite 2001
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001
(877) FLA-FILM**