

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



## NEWS:

### Famous Actor joins G-Star School of the Arts teaching staff

How do you go from class clown to class teacher? Ask Ron Palillo. The former *Welcome Back, Kotter* star, who played the goofy Arnold Horshack on the hit ABC sitcom, has joined the staff of G-Star School of the Arts as a ninth grade acting teacher.

Don't laugh. This isn't the 60-year-old Palillo's first time in front of students. In fact, he's a seasoned educator who has lectured at high schools and colleges around the country. He also started the popular class, Acting for Film and Television at the University of Connecticut, his alma mater.

"I am so excited to be back in the classroom, especially teaching aspiring actors and actresses at such a young age," Palillo said in a statement. "G-Star and their students are just exceptional."

Palillo has appeared in more than 150 TV shows, including *Ellen*, *Murder, She Wrote* and *One Life to Live*. He has also starred on stage in such productions as *Amadeus*, *Guys and Dolls* and *Camelot*.

Greg Hauptner, G-Star founder and CEO, said Palillo asked to join the charter school after working with the students on the film *Dog Gone Tale: Destiny's Stand*.

"I almost fell out of my chair," Hauptner said. "I said, 'Oh my God, yes! I'd take you in a heartbeat.'"

Palillo will teach entry-level acting his first year, Hauptner said. The following year, he's scheduled to run the school's adult education program.

The veteran actor, who couldn't be reached for comment, is no stranger to Palm Beach County, having served as artistic director for the Cuillo Center for the Arts where he directed and acted in *A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline* and *The Phantom of the Opera*.

But he'll always be remembered as the funny looking kid with the curly 'fro and in the green jacket who kept raising his hand in class and shouting, "Ooooh! Ooooh! Ooooh! Pick me Mr. Kotter!"

Now G-Star has.

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### GASPARILLA INT'L FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES 2010 DATES

*Brand new CineBistro Hyde Park Theatre will host the 2010 Festival.*

The Gasparilla International Film Festival (GIFF), one of Florida's largest independent film festivals, is proud to announce dates for its 2010 Festival. The four-day event, now in its fourth year, will be held Thursday, March 18 through Sunday, March 21, 2010.

The Festival, which will include nearly 100 films from around the world, will pack a new venue with the opening of CineBistro Theatre in Hyde Park. The brand new theatre will combine fine dining with GIFF's film chats to bring the festival to a whole new level of comfort and enjoyment. With the new setting of hip and happening Hyde Park, the parties will be better than ever! The Festival will continue to hold screenings and education panels at key supporting partners, the Tampa Theatre, Channelside Cinema, University of Tampa and Studio @ 620 in St. Petersburg.

"We depend upon corporate sponsorship, individual members, and our volunteers to operate the Festival," said Festival president Chad Moore. "Times are tough for us, like most non-profits. But CineBistro stepped up and made us an incredible offer, ensuring an exciting 2010 festival. We're hoping a few more supporters come forward so that we can make 2010 the best film festival yet."

Jeremy Welman, Chief Operating Officer of Cobb Theatres/Cinebistro said, "We are so excited to be involved in a meaningful way with such an amazing cultural event. We look forward to a very long relationship with the residents of Hyde Park and the entire Tampa St. Pete market."

The Gasparilla Film Festival maintains strong relationships with some of the world's premiere film organizations, including the American Film Institute's 20/20 Program and the San Francisco-based Global Film Initiative. More than 25 filmmakers from around the world attended GIFF 2009- as well as actors Armand Assante, Terry Moore, Anne Jeffreys, and many others.

The Gasparilla International Film Festival is operated by the 501 c (3) non-profit Tampa Film Institute, whose mission is to provide

year-long support for film screening, production, and education. To that end, the Institute hosts monthly events in the Tampa Bay area to fulfill these important objectives, including 'Children's Day in Hyde Park', 'The Global Lens Film Series', and many other events.

For more information, please visit [gasparillafilmfestival.com](http://gasparillafilmfestival.com).

About the Gasparilla International Film Festival: The Gasparilla Film Festival, Tampa Bay 's largest independent filmfestival, is operated by the Tampa Film Institute, a full-time 501 (c) 3 organization dedicated to advancing film education and community involvement in film in the Tampa Bay area. The 2009 Festival, completed this past March, more than quadrupled attendance year-over-year, and attracted nearly 10,000 attendees during its 10 days.

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## FLORIDA ARTICLES OF INTEREST:

### Futuristic mixer targets film, TV and media pros

Bradenton Herald © Aug 16, 2009

Film, television and media production professionals are slated to gather Monday for a mixer with a futuristic theme. Focusing on sci-fi and fantasy, the event will feature speakers discussing a new Star Trek series, how 3D is changing the world of media and how fantasy novels and art are crossing over into film and new media production.

### 'Kourtney and Khloe' brings auds to E!

Variety © Aug 17, 2009

Sunday's premiere of Kardashian-family vehicle "Kourtney and Khloe Take Miami" was the most-watched series debut on E! in seven years, setting a network record among women 18-34.

### Get cinematic without going broke at FSU film palace

Tallahassee.com © Aug 21, 2009

The SLC is a good deal no matter if you're a student or a townie. It's free for FSU students, \$3 for members of the Tallahassee Film Society and \$5 for the rest of the world. The annual Middle Eastern Film Festival in early October is free.

## ARTICLES ABOUT THE COMPETITION:

### Terminator fails to stop exodus from Hollywood

TheIndependent © Aug 16, 2009

There is a disaster developing in California, and Arnold Schwarzenegger is doing his best to stop it. But this one may well be beyond even the powers of the old superhero for, unless something changes very soon, we are heading for the end of Hollywood as we know it.

### Bad for Michigan? Lawmaker wants to eliminate Michigan film incentive

WZZM © Aug 17, 2009

Tuesday morning, several production workers will rally in Lansing to show legislators that they believe the incentives are worth continuing. The rally is in response to one legislator from Metro Detroit, who said he plans to introduce a set of bills that would eliminate or phase out some of the incentives.

### Kentucky approves film incentives Business First of Louisville

Bizjournals.com © Aug 18, 2009

The Kentucky Tourism Development Finance Authority Tuesday approved \$800,000 in tax credits for a Disney Films subsidiary planning a movie about the legendary racehorse Secretariat. The credits were the first granted under legislation approved earlier this year during a special session of the Kentucky General Assembly.

### On movies, Tennessee goes for smaller role

The Tennessean © Aug 19, 2009

Rather than chase Hollywood's A-list, the Tennessee Film, Entertainment & Music Commission has focused on lower-budget projects that it thinks will result in more jobs and a stronger industry. "I would like to have an industry that is sustainable," said Perry Gibson, the commission's executive director.

### Alabama Governor announces first movie project to receive state incentives

NBC13.com © Aug 19, 2009

An independent movie about a talented young singer is the first project to qualify for financial incentives from the Alabama Film Office, Governor Bob Riley announced Wednesday. He signed legislation in March that allows Alabama to grant incentives comparable to those that other states use to attract film productions.

### Ohio tax credit incentive on the books

Bizjournals.com © Aug 20, 2009

The credit provides for a refundable credit against the corporation franchise or income tax for motion pictures produced in Ohio. The term "motion picture" is broadly defined and includes a long list of entertainment content such videos, digital media, commercials and video games in addition to feature-length films.

## GENERAL ARTICLES OF INTEREST:

### It's 'Lights, Camera, Fashion.' at Bloomingdale's This Fall

PR Newswire (press release) © Aug 17, 2009

This fall, Bloomingdale's celebrates the art and style of film. Customers will see blockbuster new films, discover indie darlings, remember classic films, see fashions inspired by great characters, and even cast themselves in scenes from their favorite flicks.

### Video game shares take a hit as PlayStation price cut rumors mount

By Bureau News © Aug 17, 2009

The shares dropped just a few days after market researcher NPD Group reported a sharp drop in video game retail sales for the month of July. Much of this was due to slow console sales, as consumers are waiting to buy gaming systems because they are anticipating price cuts.

### SAG reaches deal with AMPTP

Variety © Aug 18, 2009

The Screen Actors Guild has reached agreement with the Alliance of Motion Picture & Television Producers on a pair of two-year contracts covering voice actors working in TV animation and basic animation.

### Redbox sues WB over release window

Variety © Aug 19, 2009

Universal and 20th Century Fox Home Entertainment are imposing similar delays on Redbox and other DVD rental kiosk operators. Redbox also is suing Fox. The three studios represented a combined 40% of the DVD rental market, according to Rentrak.

### Game on for SAG?

Variety © Aug 20, 2009

The Screen Actors Guild may be nearing a tentative deal on its videogames contract, eight months after the current pact expired. SAG had no comment Thursday about the agreement and has never disclosed publicly that the contract had expired or that negotiations were taking place.

## **STATEWIDE EVENTS:**

### **GIFF's Annual Benefit Party and Art Auction on September 11 at The Ritz!**

The parties never stop at GIFF! Join the fun and help support the 2010 festival at GIFF's Annual Benefit Party and Art Auction. Some of Tampa's best and brightest artists will showcase their latest film-related works at The Ritz in Ybor for a silent auction. Many other great prizes, including a 5-night trip to Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, will be auctioned and raffled off to support the 2010 festival.

WHEN: September 11, 2009, 7 to 11 PM

WHERE: The Ritz in Ybor, 1503 East 7th Avenue

Only \$10 for admission (\$15 cash/\$18 credit at the door) with free finger food and live music by Tampa guitarist Dan Feinman. The Ritz (<http://www.ritzabor.com/>) will have a full, cash bar with top-shelf liquors and an impressive wine and beer selection. Don't miss this one! Penny for penny there's not a better party in town!

Buy your tickets online now at: <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/77144>.

### About the Gasparilla International Film Festival

The Gasparilla International Film Festival, one of Florida's largest independent film festivals, is operated by the Tampa Film Institute, a full-time 501 (c) 3 organization dedicated to advancing film education and community involvement in film in the Tampa Bay area. The 2009 Festival, completed this past March, more than tripled attendance year-over-year, and attracted over 10,000 moviegoers during its 9 days. To become a member, please visit [www.GasparillaFilmFestival.com](http://www.GasparillaFilmFestival.com). We rely heavily upon the support of our sponsors and members and we cannot thank each of them enough! Please check out the full list of sponsors on our website and support them like they support us!

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### **Film Florida hosts Legislative Launch & Reception 9/01, St. Petersburg**

On Tuesday, September 1, 2009, from 4:00 to 6:00 pm, Film Florida will host a "Legislative Launch" event at The Renaissance Vinoy Resort, 501 5th Ave. NE, St. Petersburg, FL 33701. The event will include a panel of industry professionals and economic experts who will engage in a dialogue about the Florida film, TV and digital media tax incentive program as it currently exists and how it may be best structured in the future for the greatest benefit of all Florida citizens. The event will be open to the public and moderated. Legislators in attendance will participate in a Q&A session with both the panel and the public who may submit questions to the moderator in writing at the event.

Join us afterwards from 6:00pm-7:30pm for a reception sponsored by the St Petersburg/Clearwater Film Commission, the Tampa Bay Film Commission and Film Florida. Admission is free and includes hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar.

Please RSVP at <http://www.visittampabay.com/meetings>.

We believe you have a vested interest in this important cause and invite you to join us in the legislative process. The Florida production community needs your support.

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### **Crystal Reel Awards 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala**

Ladies get your fancy evening gowns ready and gentlemen dust off those tuxedos. And, get ready to walk the red carpet. It's time for the 20<sup>th</sup> Crystal Reel Award (CRA) Gala; a must for everyone interested in filmmaking. The CRA, an event sponsored by the Florida Motion Picture and Television Association (FMPTA), takes place at the gorgeous Red Carpet Inn & Suites located in Plant City on September 12, 2009.

Hurry to get your dinner reservations made by September 8, 2009. Go to [www.fmpta.org](http://www.fmpta.org) and look for the CRA link, page seven to print your reservations and meal selection. Get those checks in the mail and be ready for an extravagant night of excitement.

The CRA is FMPTA's own version of awards for Florida made films, be it the independent filmmaker or Hollywood producers making their films here in our lovely state.

For tickets or more information regarding this fabulous event, please contact the CRA Intake Coordinator, Sue Dontell at 321-632-3707.

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### **The Method: Acting Class**

Come visit our class for free, located in Ybor City (Tampa). Free pizza will be handed out to the students. Come and see what you think!! Classes are every Monday and Thursday from 7pm-9pm.

The Method: Acting Classes Beginning August 3rd, continuing Monday and Thursday Evenings from 7-9pm. Join Preston Walden, actor, screenwriter and producer for open enrollment classes that will feature:

- Learning and Practicing Techniques
- Agency Casting Contacts
- Showcases & Performances
- Weekly Audition
- Production Updates
- Special Rates for Resumes, Headshots & Reels

Purchase your classes now. As low as \$12.50 per class! All students will be in several short films that will be sent to films festivals! Class Options include: Single (1 Class) \$25.00, 2 Weeks (4 Classes) \$75.00, and 1 Month (8+ Classes) \$100.00. Monthly classes are billed at a rate of \$50 every 2 weeks. Call 813-802-4401 or e-mail at [actingmethod@yahoo.com](mailto:actingmethod@yahoo.com) for more information.

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**Please Note:** If you have a press release or an educational event, you can post it on our website [www.filminflorida.com](http://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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