

NEWS AND EVENTS, JANUARY 14, 2011

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF FILM & ENTERTAINMENT CLOSED MONDAY, JANUARY 17TH

(Tallahassee, Fla.) – The Governor's Office of Film and Entertainment will be closed Monday, January 17th in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Regular office hours will resume Tuesday, January 18th.

NEWS

TODAY SHOW TO MAKE VISIT TO G-STAR SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

(Palm Springs, Fl) G-STAR School of the Arts for Motion Pictures and Broadcasting, the largest film, TV/digital media production and acting high school in the nation, and only high school in the world with an on-campus motion picture studio, will receive a visit from **NBC's TODAY SHOW on January 26 & 27 for a profile segment on the school's unique program.**

G-Star's academic and artistic accomplishments would warrant the attention of any major news organization with statistics including a 99% graduation rate with 97% of its graduates going on to college; an "A" school rating; and having been named "The Number One High School for Film in the World" by the Raindance Film Festival (Europe's largest independent film festival in London, UK) in 2010. What caught the eye of 18-year National Correspondent veteran for the Today Show, Jamie Gangel, was that the G-Star School of the Arts is the only high school in the world that owns a commercial motion picture studio where G-Star's students intern on the sets of multi-million dollar feature films while receiving real-world, hands-on experience with film industry professionals. Ms. Gangel, winner of the Edward R. Murrow and Associated Press Awards who has interviewed every living President from Gerald Ford to Bill Clinton, Secretary of State Hilary Rodham Clinton and many luminaries from Robert Downy, Jr. to Yo Yo Ma, approached the Producer of the NBC News Network, Sylvie Haller, with the story.

"I received a call from Ms. Haller," says Greg Hauptner, G-Star Founder and CEO. "She personally set up the Today Show segment sharing that she found G-Star's story 'amazing'. To say I was flattered is an understatement. All our students and staff are extremely excited to have the Today Show visit our campus to do a story on us."

Over 50 feature films, plus commercials (i.e.; Nike, Abercrombie & Fitch), music videos (Radiohead, Kriyss Grant) and student films have been produced at the G-Star Studios. With over 110,000 square feet under roof, it is the largest motion picture studio in Florida. G-Star Studios recently opened the largest sound stage in Florida which is the most technologically advanced sound stage in the world. G-Star financed and produced its own feature film starring Barry Bostwick (the Mayor in Spin City), Ron Palillo (Horshak on Welcome Back Kotter) and G-Star alums Michelle Pariseau and Shay Roman, which enjoyed its world premiere at the Raindance Film Festival.

The school is located at 2030 South Congress Avenue in Palm Springs, Florida. For more information, visit www.gstarschool.org or call (561) 386-6275.

FILM SLAM AT THE ENZIAN

(Maitland, Fl) The first Enzian Film Slam of 2011 is finally upon us and this is also the first Slam with its new host Tim Anderson. Tim is taking over for long time host John Theisen. The Film Slam is usually the second Sunday of each month excluding December.

The format stays the same. Short films are screened and voted upon by the audience and the winner is the film that has the most points. The winner each month is screened in December at the Brouhaha Film & Video Showcase, which also takes place at the Enzian Theater. There is no entry fee to submit. All shorts must be from Florida.

More details can be found at <http://www.enzian.org/film/filmslam/>.

Tickets to each event are only \$5. Screenings begin at 1:00pm on Sunday, January 9th at Enzian Theater located at 1300 South Orlando Avenue in Maitland.

13TH ANNUAL SARASOTA FILM FESTIVAL NOW ACCEPTING ENTRIES!

(Sarasota, FL) The Sarasota Film Festival, which takes place April 7-17th on Florida's pristine southern Gulf Coast, is now accepting entries for its 2011 edition! The Sarasota Film Festival is the largest festival by attendance in the southeastern United States, and always features a broad and diverse selection of new cinema, including narratives, documentaries and short films, from the US and around the globe. The festival has a number of competitive sections, including documentary and international narrative competitions, as well as an Independent Visions Competition specifically for low budget films by emerging American directors.

Some of the festival's award winners in 2010 included *The Oath*, *Gasland*, *Tiny Furniture*, *Winter's Bone*, *A Brand New Life* and *Cold Weather*.

Press and industry guests in recent years have included representatives from IFC Films, Sony Pictures Classics, Film Movement, First Run Features, Fortissimo Films, BAMcinematek, Film Desk, GQ Magazine, Vanity Fair, USA Today, Indiewire, Variety, Filmmaker Magazine, The Huffington Post, Hammer To Nail and others.

Submissions for 2011 are now being accepted through January 15th via Withoutabox.

For more information, visit www.sarasotafilmfestival.com

INDIE FILM FINANCING AND PRODUCTION CONFERENCE

(Miami, FL) Following a successful series of conferences in L.A. and NYC, the Indie Film Financing and Production Conference is coming to Miami. Dates for the conference are Thursday, Feb. 17 and Friday, Feb. 18. There will be guest speakers and an Exhibit Area where Film Industry Product & Service Companies will introduce their latest products and services to Florida's Indie Filmmakers

Keith Coposky, CEO of IFFPC, reports that New York and Los Angeles filmmakers are seeing awesome results in getting their films financed and distributed as well as progress in their film projects following the educational conference. Florida conference liaison Faith Archambeau is excited about the possibilities of the conference for Florida Indie Filmmakers. "I'm very excited to be on board with Keith in this awesome event that will help (us all) to take it to the next level in 2011," she said.

Coposky will give a workshop on "How to Package a Film For Financing." He has had 20 years experience in video, audio, film production and special effect and has been Executive Producer on numerous projects with budgets that range up to \$50 million. He will also be one of the speakers on the speakers' panel.

Among the speakers at the conference will be: Tom Garrett, an MFA Producer and a professor at the University of Tampa's film school. He is also heavily involved in the Sarasota Film Festival, the Sunscreen Film Festival and the Gasparilla Film Festival. He will speak on "Indie Film Producing and Co-Producing in the Global Market".

One of Florida's top casting directors, Lori W. Wyman, C.S.A., who currently casts *The Glades* and *Burn Notice*, will discuss "Working with a Casting Director on a Budget Feature."

A large number of other top industry professionals are also scheduled to appear as guest panel speakers and select workshops will be available to all V.I.P. attendees.

General admission to all the guest speaker panels, Private Red Carpet event and access to the Exhibit Area costs \$55, early bird, after 1-22-2011, \$75 regular admission. Students & FMPTA members are \$35 with proof of student and membership status. The VIP "All Access" pass which includes a one on one pitch session with an investors, workshops and VIP After Party is \$95, early bird, after 1-22-2011, \$150 regular price. Cost to be an Exhibitor is \$200, early bird, after 1-22-2011, \$275 regular price.

At time of press, venue is slated to be in Miami with exact venue to be announced by 1-10-11. For full details, speaker's bios and conference registration go to www.IFFPC.com

FLORIDA ARTICLES OF INTEREST:

MUST KNOW FLORIDIAN

Meet Pamela Tuscany, Vice President/General Manager of the Universal Studios Florida Production Group. Her 2010 credits include 165 episodes of "Family Feud" airing nationally, a week's taping of "Ellen," the in-house production management for the opening of the Wizarding World of Harry Potter, commercials, the Powerball broadcast and sundry other productions at the eight soundstages she oversees.

SOUTH FLORIDA POT SMUGGLING DOCUMENTARY TO PREMIERE AT SXSW

Broward New Times (blog) © Jan 14, 2011

From director Billy Corben and the minds that brought you Cocaine Cowboys and The U, comes Square Grouper, a new documentary about the heyday of South Florida pot smuggling. The movie has been described as: "a colorful portrait of Miami's pot smuggling scene of the 1970s, populated with redneck pirates, a ganja-smoking church, and the longest serving marijuana prisoner in American history."

SARASOTA'S SANBORN STUDIOS ENLISTS VETERAN EXECUTIVES

Sarasota Herald-Tribune © Jan 14, 2011

Sanborn Studios, the recently created entertainment company with the mission of jump-starting television and film production in Southwest Florida, has added two entertainment industry heavyweights. Alan J. Bailey, in charge of financing at Paramount Studios during the creation of the movies such as "Forrest Gump" and "Up in the Air," will be Sanborn Studios' chief financial officer. Dan Forman, a New York network TV manager whose credits include launching Howard Stern on television, will be Sanborn's top programming executive.

CHARLIE'S ANGELS TO CONTINUE TELEVISION'S RETURN TO THE 1970S

Escapist Magazine © Jan 13, 2011

The network has greenlit the pilot for a new *Charlie's Angels* series, which will be updated and set in Miami. Writer-producers Miles Millar and Al Gough chose Florida because they wanted to lay off Los Angeles (the location of both the original series and the recent feature films), but keep the sun-and-surf angle of the original.

WALLS GO UP ON 'EXTREME' HOME BUILD

Florida Today Jan 10, 2011

Masons forged the concrete shell of Joe and Cindy Hurston's Fan Palm Avenue home Sunday as shuttles bused in several hundred volunteers and spectators. On Friday, the Hurstons had been ambushed by the popular television show's hosts and sent on a family vacation to San Diego without computers and phones during the build. For many, the show's arrival is the most exciting thing ever to happen in Canaveral Groves.

FILM FLORIDA NAMES BURT REYNOLDS AS A 2011 LEGEND AWARD RECIPIENT

TCPalm Jan 08, 2011

Film Florida has announced that Burt Reynolds has been named as one of the five winners to receive the coveted Film Florida Legends Award. In addition to Reynolds, Ray Fielding, Dee Miller, Victor Milt and Wes Skiles (posthumous) have also been unveiled as the 2011 Legend Award recipients. They will be honored at the Sixth Annual Legend Awards event this June in West Palm Beach.

ARTICLES ABOUT THE COMPETITION:

INCENTIVES CUT PROMPTS FILM INDUSTRY FEARS OF FALLOUT

New Mexico Business Weekly © Jan 14, 2011

Tony Mark was not in a good mood after a debate on the state's film incentives. The producer of numerous films, including "The Hurt Locker," said a \$25 million film project he is working on is no longer considering shooting in New Mexico. The reason? Gov. **Susana Martinez's** proposal to reduce the state's film rebate from 25 percent to 15 percent, which she said would save \$25 million and help alleviate the state's budget deficit.

FILMMAKER TELLS "EVERY DAY" STORY OF NORTHEAST QUEENS COUPLE

Patch © Jan 13, 2011

Filmmaker Richard Levine said he relocated the shoot for his feature debut, "Every Day," from Los Angeles to northeast Queens after being lured by city film tax incentives and Bayside's "warm, safe, family oriented" vibe. The movie was originally scheduled to be filmed in Los Angeles, where Levine currently lives. But the director, who formerly lived in Manhattan for many years, said he was drawn back to New York by city and state film tax incentives.

IMPROVED INCENTIVES MAY LURE PLANNED MOVIE ABOUT MLK TO MEMPHIS

WMC-TV © Jan 13, 2011

"The Blind Side" is one recent example of a movie set in Memphis but filmed elsewhere. Director Craig Brewer is remaking "Footloose" and also using Memphis as a backdrop. That film will be shot in Georgia. It's the same story for television shows "Memphis Beat" and "Hellcats." "It's been devastating," said Memphis & Shelby County Film Commission executive director Lynn Sitler.

TAX CREDITS USED TO COVER MOVIE STARS' WAGES

Boston Globe © Jan 13, 2011

A quarter of the tax breaks given to movie companies under Massachusetts' film tax credit program have gone to help filmmakers cover the paychecks of millionaire Hollywood stars. An Associated Press review of a Department of Revenue report on the tax credit program found that \$82 million of the \$330 million in film spending eligible for credits in 2009 went to pay the salaries of nonresident actors earning more than \$1 million.

CULTURE MINISTER PROMOTES ALBERTA AS A PRIME FILMING LOCATION

Canada Views © Jan 12, 2011

Increasing television, film and digital media production in Alberta will be in focus when Culture and Community Spirit Minister Lindsay Blissett travels to Los Angeles, California, January 17 to 20. The Minister will meet with key U.S. film studios and independent producers highlighting Alberta as a premier filming location. "Alberta has a lot to offer," said Blissett. "Not only do we have stunning and diverse locations, as well as competitive production incentives; but our crews are some of the best and most experienced in the world. It's important we continue to keep Alberta top-of-mind with U.S. film and television makers."

WHY THE NEW DALLAS PROBABLY WON'T BE SHOT IN DALLAS

CultureMap © Jan 12, 2011

Having a TV series (or feature film for that matter) produced in your city has a whopping economic impact and competition to land a production is fierce. That's why so many states have created incentive

packages to draw those lucrative shows to their backyards. Texas has motion picture production incentives too; however, they were only passed by the legislature a few years ago.

NEW YORK FIGHTS TO REMAIN HOLLYWOOD BACKDROP

Voice of America Jan 08, 2011

From Bollywood to Hollywood, filmmakers have always needed New York City as a backdrop for every genre, musical, drama, action and thriller. Still, shooting in a big city is expensive and New York falls amongst some of the most expensive big cities of the world. That is why even films with a New York-based story, like "Finding Forrester," started shooting the bulk of their script in Canada with just a few New York exterior shots.

GENERAL ARTICLES OF INTEREST:

DGA AWARDS KICK OFF YEAR-LONG CELEBRATION OF GUILD'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

Hollywoodnews.com Jan 06, 2011

The Directors Guild of America today announced that the DGA will launch a year-long celebration of the DGA's 75th anniversary at the DGA Awards on January 29. DGA Award winners Kathryn Bigelow, James Cameron, Francis Ford Coppola, Clint Eastwood, John Rich, Martin Scorsese and Steven Spielberg, the evening's co-chairs, will join the program in special presentations to highlight game-changing moments in DGA history.

2011 WRITERS GUILD AWARDS NEW MEDIA NOMINEES ANNOUNCED

SHOOT Online (press release) © Jan 11, 2011

The Writers Guild of America, East (WGAE) and the Writers Guild of America, West (WGAW) have announced nominations for the WGA New Media Writing Awards. Winners will be honored at the 2011 Writers Guild Awards on Saturday, February 5, 2011, at simultaneous ceremonies in New York and Los Angeles.

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CINEMATOGRAPHERS ANNOUNCES NOMINATIONS

Hollywood Reporter © Jan 10, 2011

The five movies recognized with ASC noms differed slightly from the five films that secured nominations from the Directors Guild of America on Monday. The DGA did not include *True Grit* in its list but instead included *The Fighter*, which failed to earn an ASC nom.

YOU CONSIDER YOURSELF A MUSIC FAN, RIGHT? THEN BUY A CD

Tallahassee.com © Jan 14, 2011

Sales of physical units (CDs, mostly) fell 12.8 percent in 2010. That's four years in a row of significant sales drops for record labels. Digital sales, often a small saving grace for the industry, didn't make a great showing this year, either, going up only 1 percent. It almost makes the newspaper industry look recession-proof.

DGA NOMINATES FIVE FOR OUTSTANDING DOCUMENTARY

indiewire.com © Jan 12, 2011

The Directors Guild of America named five nominees for its choice for its "Outstanding Directorial Achievement in Documentaries for the year 2010," the organization's president Taylor Hackford unveiled today. "The best documentary filmmaking provides the audience with the rare opportunity of experiencing a life, a place, or a situation that might otherwise be too remote or too unknown to ever discover on our own," said Hackford.

CASTING CALL:

SAG CASTING CALL - TERMINAL KILL

(Clearwater, FL) Terminal Kill is an original concept to be shot in the St. Petersburg, Clearwater, Tampa area in February of 2011. Terminal Kill is built on the conspiracy theory that the CIA and other Government agencies have recruited terminally ill people with nothing to lose to do their dirty work.

From the first scene of the first episode to the last scene of the final episode each of the assassinations will tie to together to weave a larger story. Terminal Kill delves into the mysterious world of assassinations, secret societies and government cover-ups. All viewed through the eyes of average Americans suffering with terminal illnesses. These "Terminals" are approached and selected to take part in this unnamed organization as assassins for the Government. They simply refer to their overseers as "The Board". The project will film under the SAG Ultra-Low Budget Agreement.

Casting on Saturday January 22, 2011

When:

10AM to 3PM on Saturday January 22nd

Where:

Omicom Studios
14275 Myerlake Circle
Clearwater, FL 33760

Character Breakdowns (SAG Ultra-Low Budget Agreement)

Richard Lafey (Terminal One) (60's) white male

Suffering from acute Leukemia, this former marine is eager to leave this world with one last mission, but it is all Dr. Rachael can do to hold this marine together before he can finish his last mission.

Jonathan Kaine (Terminal Three) (50's) white homosexual male

Suffering from an inoperable brain tumor, Jonathan Kaine - a former art teacher - has no one to call family, but is very devoted partner, Michael and the under privileged, inner-city children that study at his fledgling art academy. Jonathan takes on Griffin's offer, so his partner can continue to teach art to their inner-city kids.

Dexter Walker (Terminal Four) (25-29) black male

Suffering from sickle cell anemia, Dexter Walker - a promising preacher at his late father's church, Dexter reluctantly takes on Griffin's offer, so his father's church will not be lost to eminent domain by a greedy corporation.

Gianni Mirra (Terminal Five) (35-39) Italian male

Suffering from pancreatic cancer, caused by Gulf War syndrome, or exposure to nerve agents during the first Persian Gulf War, Gianni served in the U.S. Army as a truck driver, and leaves behind a younger sister who he desperately wants to see finish college to become a doctor.

Mrs. Volkov (Kendra's Mother) (60's) Russian Female

Struggling with the early stages of Alzheimer's, Mrs. Volkov wishes only to look after her daughter Kendra and grandson Ashley. But this has become more difficult as her disease has progressed and her daughter's illness has worsened. (Character speaks in Russian).

Ashley Volkov (Kendra's Son) (7-10) male

This young boy isn't aware how sick is mother is and the potential consequences of her illness and his grandmother's disease.

Alek Pajari (45-50) Russian male

This former KGB and Russian Army veteran is now secretly working for a shadowy Far East collective intent on establishing a new world order. Mean, smart and nasty, a trained killer and real pro. (Must be able to do Russian Accent)

Russian Thugs (35-50) Russian males

(Must be able to do Russian Accent) These former Soviets are now living in the U.S. They work cover jobs but are involved in back door dealings involving theft, corruption and murder.

Gretchen (60's) White female (Dark Hair)

This loving mother is concerned about her daughter Elizabeth's obsession with her husband's death.

Lynn (25-30) White female (Dark Hair)

Gretchen's Daughter and Elizabeth's sister. She shares her mother's concern for her sister.

Isabel Slater (40's) White female

Isabel is the Doctor in charge of the medical care of the Terminal agents. She and Mr. Griffin have a secret relationship that they keep hidden from the rest of the group.

For More Info:

Email: tony@tonyarmer.com

This original concept is Created by Dale Pople, Executive Produced by Jennifer Valenti, Produced by Tony Armer and Directed by J. Declan Flynn. Written by: Eric Bean and Sloane Golden.

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