

NEWS AND EVENTS, FEBRUARY 4, 2011

NEWS:

MIAMI INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION

(Miami, Fla.) Early bird registration for the Miami International Film Festival ends tonight, February 4th at midnight EST. The Miami International Film Festival (MIFF) is a world-class platform for film and filmmakers promoting Miami as an educational and international film destination. The Festival presents the best of emerging and established film to the local and international community within an educational framework.

Industry Guests confirmed to date include Ben Cotner - Executive Director of Acquisitions and Co-Productions, Paramount Pictures, Carlos Carreras - Agent, Paradigm Talent Agency, Peter Van Steenburg – Director of Acquisitions, Magnolia Pictures, Stuart Manashil – Agent, CAA, Millie Luna - Head of Acquisition and Business Development, Venevision International Films, and Ed Arentz - Managing Director, Music Box Films.

Registration rates will increase tomorrow, so register NOW to secure the Early Bird rates! For more information and to register, please visit www.miamifilmfestival.com

CELINE DION AT G-STAR STUDIOS AND SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

(Palm Springs, Fla.) Mega-recording star, Celine Dion, completed two weeks of rehearsal and behind-the-scenes filming at G-Star Studios, Friday, in preparation for her new Caesars Palace Las Vegas show. Miss Dion needed a world-class rehearsal and film production studio and found it at G-Star. “The facility is wonderful,” declared Miss Dion. “I am very impressed with the sound stage, and the production house (i.e., *green room, makeup/dressing room, etc.*) is beautiful. It was great!” G-Star’s newly opened state-of-the-art sound stage includes many features beyond those offered by any other sound stage across the globe.

“Miss Dion’s prerequisites to protect her incredible voice were met by utilizing our smoke evacuation system (used for filming large-scale fire scenes) to cool the stage with fresh air instead of using the A/C system,” explains Greg Hauptner, Founder and CEO of the G-Star Studios and School of the Arts. The system has four giant, 7-foot high blowers on the roof and specially built remote control operated louvers in the walls.

“Miss Dion’s safety, security and confidentiality were paramount during her time with us,” continues Hauptner. “G-Star Studios is the largest motion picture studio in Florida and, while accommodating our clients’ needs, we carefully safeguard their privacy. Understandably, Miss Dion’s situation was unique and required absolute secrecy. It is only now, and with her permission, that we are informing the public that she was here and that she considered this a great experience.”

The G-Star School of the Arts, owner of G-Star Studios, is the largest Film, TV/Digital Media Production and Acting high school in the nation. G-Star was recognized as “The Number One High School for Film in the World” by the Raindance Film Festival (Europe’s largest film festival) in London in 2010. “Known as the safest school in the nation,” reports Hauptner, “it’s no surprise that safety and security are considered as constants here.”

CALL FOR ENTRIES 9TH ANNUAL YBOR FESTIVAL OF THE MOVING IMAGE

(Tampa, Fla.) - The HCC-Ybor Festival of the Moving Image (FOMI) invites all Florida filmmakers, both

students and professionals to send us your titles for possible screening at the festival in March, plus be eligible for merit awards that total \$2000 in cash awards.

The awards are provided by Hillsborough Community College-Ybor City Campus, Atlantic/Pacific Productions of Tampa, and the University of South Florida, Tampa campus. This year the awards are divided into three categories for Florida student filmmakers and one for Florida independent filmmakers.

Deadline: Postmarked by March 1, 2011

Notification: On or about March 7, 2011

Student Entry Fee: \$20.00 (one to four films per filmmaker)

Independent Filmmaker Entry Fee: \$30.00 (one to four films per filmmaker)

All genres and run times are eligible.

Format for entry: DVD Region 1 or 0 (16mm, Super 8 and 8mm projection available during festival)

All filmmakers entering the festival competition are invited to attend the festival's opening night, Wednesday, March 23, when the winners will be announced. This event is free and open to all filmmakers and the public. For more information please visit www.yborfilmfestival.com

FLORIDA ARTICLES OF INTEREST:

MOVIE DEBUTS TO CHEERS AS SKILES IS REMEMBERED

North Florida Herald © Feb 3, 2011

Ahlquist was among 238 people who attended the sold-out benefit screening for the film. The benefit was held to honor the late Wes Skiles, a famed cave diver and High Springs resident. The benefit supported one of his biggest passions: protecting Florida's natural spring waters. Proceeds from the screening went to two springs projects of the non-profit Florida's Eden, the Howard T. Odum Florida Springs Institute and the Blue Path Campaign.

CHIPOLA ANNOUNCES NEW CUTTING-EDGE PROGRAM

Jackson County Floridan © Feb 3, 2011

Chipola College announced a new program that officials said is on the "cutting edge of not only education, but technology." Rep. Marti Coley, R-Marianna, and college officials spoke at a press conference Wednesday announcing the Simulation Modeling Technician certificate program. Coley said the program, which will teach students how to create 3-D content, is one of the first of its kind in Florida. She said it will give students the opportunity to reach out to new jobs and added that the opportunities are "endless."

WHAT IS YOUR FLORIDA FANTASY? - TAMPA BAY MOVIE | EXAMINER.COM

Examiner.com © Feb 2, 2011

The 20th annual Florida Film Festival, sponsored by Full Sail University, announces a special community program asking online users to submit an original film title and personal photo that best captures the Florida film of their fantasies. Participants can submit online at www.FloridaFilmFestival.com. Residents and visitors can agree the state of Florida is a place of phenomenal beauty and profound peculiarity. The community is asked to contemplate their personal experiences with the Sunshine State and have their submissions reflect their deeply held and cherished vision of Florida.

TAMPA BAY JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

Tampabay.com © Feb 2, 2011

The 15th annual Tampa Bay Jewish Film Festival kicks off Feb. 9 at various locations around Tampa Bay, with an international lineup portraying Jewish culture and history. The festival continues through Feb. 21, with Friday intermissions for the Jewish Sabbath.

FILMING IN MIAMI

Miami Today © Feb 2, 2011

Filming in Miami is the only compilation of motion picture, television, still and commercial shoots in Greater Miami. Shoots are listed by licensing jurisdiction.

HELPING HANDS.

Florida Trend © Feb 1, 2011

The Webers turned to part of a state-funded program called GrowFL — run by the Florida Economic Gardening Institute at the University of Central Florida and modeled after a program pioneered in Littleton, Colo. The Florida program targets so-called “second stage” businesses with 10 to 50 workers, revenues of \$1 million to \$25 million and revenue and employment growth in three of their last five years. Such businesses, data show, have the most potential for creating lasting jobs, typically generating 75% to 80% of a state’s real job growth.

NATPE: NEW AREA TRANSFORMED PROGRAMMING EVENT

Television Week (blog) © Jan 30, 2011

A change of venue from the gaming tables of Sin City to the tropical breezes and Latin influence of Miami re-energized this year's NATPE market and conference, headquartered at the beachfront Fontainebleau Resort. More than 4,500 attendees and 700 buyers descended on the hotel for three days of deal making, networking, information gathering and partying--something that has been sorely missing from the conference in recent years of economic belt-tightening, but seems to be back with sponsored cocktail parties for attendees every evening and a smattering of exclusive dinners and events.

CLAY COUNTY IN TELEVISION SPOTLIGHT FOR 'EXTREME MAKEOVER: HOME EDITION'

Florida Times-Union © Jan 29, 2011

Forget the Beaches, downtown Jacksonville or historic St. Augustine — Middleburg is the place to be in Northeast Florida this weekend. The spotlight of Hollywood has come to the small Clay County town, thanks to the arrival of “Extreme Makeover: Home Edition.” The show has come to the area to build a new home for Middleburg High School volleyball coach Carrie Prewitt and Ashley, Taylor and Gina Brewer. Prewitt became the sisters’ legal guardian after their parents died.

ARTICLES ABOUT THE COMPETITION:

RENEW THE WASHINGTON STATE FILM INCENTIVE PROGRAM!

Seattlest © Feb 3, 2011

Washington Filmworks announced on Tuesday that a resolution (HR 1554) was introduced by State Representative Phyllis Kenney and the accompanying bill was presented by Senator Jeanne Kohl-Welles in the Senate (SB 5539). These bills seek not only to renew the existing Motion Picture Competitiveness Program until 2017 but also expand it to be more nationally competitive.

ORE. GOVERNOR'S BUDGET MAKING ROOM FOR HOLLYWOOD

KTVL © Feb 3, 2011

Oregon's governor hopes to turn our state into the Northwest's own Hollywood. He said putting Oregon on the big screen is key to bringing in big money. So he's boosting the tax credit for film and television production by 10 million a year. Movie creator Scott Blum said his movie, "Walk-In" is his dream, a dream come true thanks to Oregon's tax credit.

FILM TAX CREDIT ENSURES BRIGHT FUTURE

TheChronicleHerald.ca © Feb 3, 2011

The support and incentives offered by our government are essential to maintaining this vibrant and creative industry. For over 25 years, the film industry has brought international attention and acclaim to our province and allowed us to showcase our talent and beauty around the globe through both local and guest production. The industry is a cornerstone of the creative economy, hiring local writers, directors, actors, musicians, visual artists, animators, graphic designers, costume designers and more. It is also environmentally friendly, leaving a smaller carbon footprint than many traditional industries.

STATE SEN. JONES: 'I DON'T FAVOR ENDING THE MICHIGAN FILM CREDIT'

The American Independent © Feb 2, 2011

Michigan State Sen. Rick Jones (R-Grand Ledge) tells Michigan Messenger he does not “favor ending the Michigan Film Credit.” “I think we need to carefully look at it and see if it needs to be trimmed back. I await Governor Rick Snyder’s recommendation on Feb. 17,” Jones says. “We want to continue to encourage young film makers from MSU to stay in Michigan.”

CREDITS MAY ROLL FOR NM FILM SUBSIDY

UNM Daily Lobo © Feb 2, 2011

When it comes to New Mexico’s film industry, state legislators are tough critics. Gov. Susana Martinez said in her State of the State speech Jan. 18 that she supports reducing the state’s film subsidy from 25 to 15 percent. Film student Roman Arrellin said film industry tax returns have created jobs in Albuquerque. “The thing is, this tax incentive is what is drawing these film production companies to New Mexico,” he said. “If they take away those incentives, they are going to be less inclined to come film here. There are other cities that would offer that.”

VIDEO GAME TAX INCENTIVE BILL FACES CHALLENGES IN MASS.

MassHighTech.com © Feb 2, 2011

A bill has been filed with the Massachusetts Legislature that proposes a series of financial incentives to help boost the growth of the video game and digital media sectors in the Bay State. While many in the industry see it as a long-delayed proper response to similar incentives already in place in states such as Georgia and Louisiana, the bill’s own sponsor thinks recent events may make approval an uphill battle.

FILM COMMISSION EXPECTS MOVIEMAKERS TO ROLL CAMERAS

Colusa County Sun Herald © Feb 1, 2011

Filmmakers eventually left California to take advantage of huge tax incentives in neighboring states, such as Arizona, but are slowly returning after California legislators reinstated the tax incentives in 2009. Those incentives are included in Gov. Jerry Brown’s proposed budget, officials said. Working closely with the California Film Commission, the Oakland Film Commission and actress-producer Diane Baker (“Diary of Anne Frank,” “Silence of the Lambs” “Marnie,” “The Net”), Kennedy said bringing movies back to Colusa County would be a huge step toward improving the local economy.

MO. FILM PRODUCERS ALARMED BY RECOMMENDED CUTS

Victoria Advocate © Jan 29, 2011

Leaders of Missouri’s film production industry are warning that proposals to eliminate state incentives for movie productions might convince out-of-state filmmakers to go elsewhere, and may have already cost the state a \$30 million film project in the St. Louis area. The move comes as a Missouri-made film received an Oscar nomination for best picture for the second year in a row. On Tuesday, the Ozarks-based “Winter’s Bone,” was nominated for best picture, actress, supporting actor and adapted screenplay. “Up in the Air”, filmed partly in St. Louis, was nominated last year.

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ALASKA! TAX CREDIT COULD DRAW \$100M

Alaskajournal.com © Jan 28, 2011

Reality television struck gold in Alaska long ago, but a package of film tax credits passed in 2008 has the state ready to take its act to the big screen. Two Hollywood films — “Beyond” starring Jon Voigt and “Everybody Loves Whales” starring Drew Barrymore — wrapped in 2010. An independent film shot in Barrow — “On the Ice” — by local director Andrew MacLean competed at the prestigious Sundance Film Festival this January.

GENERAL ARTICLES OF INTEREST:

BUDGET CRUNCH! HOLLYWOOD TAX BREAKS UNDER SIEGE BY STATES

The Wrap © Feb 3, 2011

Worry that such vital incentives will be cut significantly -- or entirely -- have producers and studios worried about how they will finance domestic film and TV production, with several important tax-credit states seriously reconsidering their programs. "We're at a critical stage right now," Rob Carliner, who produced the Oscar-winning "Crazy Heart," which was filmed in New Mexico, told TheWrap. "The state of the incentives all over is changing radically, so we're all communicating with one another just to make sure we have the most accurate, up-to-date information."

CAN "KING'S SPEECH" KEEP ITS OSCAR MOJO?

Reuters © Feb 3, 2011

When the final envelope is opened at the 83rd Annual Academy Awards, will "The King's Speech's" coronation be inevitable? It's looking that way. In the wake of two winning weekends in which the Weinstein Co. release took top honors from the Producers Guild of America and the Directors Guild of America and then topped it with the Screen Actors Guild Award for best film ensemble, "The King's Speech" could say it has history on its side -- in more ways than one.

EVENTS:

TALLAHASSEE FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES DIGI-EXPLORER WORKSHOP FOR STUDENTS

(Tallahassee, Fla.) – Do your children have vivid imaginations? Are they interested in films or video production? If so, the Tallahassee Film Festival Digi-Explorers workshop may be right up their alley!

The TFF has partnered with Tallahassee Community College's Division of Technology and Professional Programs as well as the Florida State College of Motion Picture Arts to offer a new educational program for students during the 2011 festival. The one-day Digi-Explorers "Script to Screen" workshop is designed specifically for middle school students and will teach them the basics of production.

Students will learn about story structure, writing, direction, camera operation, sound and editing. They will also collaborate on one-minute digital video projects, and selected winners will receive awards and will be recognized on the TFF website.

The workshop will take place Saturday, March 19, from 9 am to 4 pm at TCC. The workshop costs \$25 per participant, including materials and lunch. There are also limited scholarship opportunities available.

Eligible students must be in middle school in Leon County or its surrounding areas. The application deadline is Friday, February 25, 2011. Advanced registration is required and participation is limited. Please register online by visiting <http://www.tallahasseefilmfestival.com>.

VIDEO GAMES LIVE - SATURDAY, MARCH 26 @ 7:30PM

(Miami, Fla.) The #1 touring game concert in the world mixes the power and emotion of a live orchestra and choir with the excitement and energy of a rock concert and the technology and interactivity of a video game. Video Games Live is coming to the Broward Center for the Performing Arts Saturday, March 26th at 7:30pm.

Created and produced by industry veteran and world famous video game composer Tommy Tallarico, the concert includes video clips from the most popular games from the beginning of video gaming to the present synchronized with state-of-the-art lighting and special on-stage interactive segments with the audience.

Video Games Live will open its doors early to present a festival celebrating the history and people of the video game world that includes a costume contest, meet and greets, Guitar Hero competition and more - free to all ticket holders.

Ticket prices are: \$49, \$39, \$29
Groups of 10 or more: \$44.10, \$35.10, \$26.10

For tickets and group discounts call 954-462-0222 or visit www.BrowardCenter.org

CASTING CALLS:

EXTRAS NEEDED

Central Florida Extras Casting is working with Two Streets Entertainment for the upcoming feature film, "The Untitled Renee Yohe Project." The movie is based on the story of Renee Yohe, the girl who inspired the global movement, To Write Love On Her Arms. Through a creative blend of artistic fantasy and music integration the film travels through the bliss and frenzy of Renee's imagination. With the unconditional love and support of her community, the powerful muse of music, and her persistence to discover truth, Renee finds hope and a purpose for her pain.

We are looking for volunteer extras that are 18 years or older. If interested please submit a headshot or snapshot via email and we will contact you as soon as we have exact dates.

Details

Production Company: Two Streets Entertainment
Principal Production Dates: February 7-March 14, 2011
Producer: Cameron Kim Dawson
Director: Nathan Frankowski
Casting Director: Amy Baker Severson
Casting Associate: Kia Riddick-Taylor
Extras Casting: Coordinator-Danae Stringfellow

Contact Information

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