

Focus on Film

Relax...
Palm Beach County, Florida Has It Covered.



In This Issue

FTC Launches New Website

Local Press Kid Earns His Place in National Spotlight

L.A. Filmmaker to Return

Incentive Money Available

Location Spotlight: Jonathan Dickinson State Park and Loxahatchee River

Education Corner: Back by Popular Demand: The Jove Improv at the 2009 Student Showcase



FTC LAUNCHES INNOVATIVE NEW WEBSITE

February 2009



New FTC Homepage

PBFILM.COM, the official Palm Beach County Film & Television Commission website has a new and exciting look! This interactive website is more user-friendly and compatible on a PC or a MAC.

Permits can now easily be filled out online and if you are not sure where you want to shoot, feel free to browse through our expansive, first ever on-line locations library. When you are ready to look at a location in person, with one click of a mouse, you are transported to the "request-a-scout" page, where an FTC representative will be happy to coordinate a scout at your convenience. You can also submit a location to our database and even find a job through the interactive job opportunity section that will help connect job seekers with employers. The State of Florida's production guide, a thorough listing of production resources, is also on the site.

The website was completed by **Consult PR**. **President of Consult PR Paul Ramkissoon** said, "After an engaging process, the new website is a technological achievement that everyone can be proud of, and its certainly one of our signature projects. It is a site that the Film Commission Board, its constituents and its staff will find easy to use and state-of-the-art." For more information please visit pbfilm.com or call 561.233.1000.



Previous Homepage

FILMMAKER AIMS TO MAKE THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE THROUGH CINEMA



Born in Haiti, **Mora Junior Etienne** is a filmmaker with a mission! He is a full-time PBCC student as well as full-time filmmaker. His company **Unis-Vers Cinema Productions, Inc.** based in **West Palm Beach** has a goal of making films that are uplifting while urging people to make good choices in life. Etienne said, "My goal is to become an international filmmaker and contribute to making the world a better place." He has produced several films, a few of them in the West Palm Beach area, including **Profonds Regrets** which starred international actress **Fabienne Colas**. Another film, **Choc Terrible**, featured **Tetchena Bellange** (*The Day After Tomorrow*). His latest film, **Le Prix a Payer** (*The Price to Pay*) utilized the West Palm Beach Police Department for a few scenes and will be finished this month.

Etienne is hoping to hold a screening of *Le Prix a Payer* and is looking for sponsors and a distributor. For more info please call 561.503.0035 or email movieproject@yahoo.com.

LOCAL PRESS KID EARNS HIS PLACE IN THE NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT



Damon Weaver and Oprah Winfrey

Damon Weaver, the 5th grade star student from **Pahokee** who attends Kathryn E. Cunningham/Canal Point Elementary School, scored an interview with **Joe Biden** during the presidential campaign and has been unstoppable ever since! Weaver along with his Mom went to the inauguration in Washington DC and interviewed celebrities including **Oprah Winfrey**, **Spike Lee** and **Colin Powell**. Weaver was also interviewed on **CNN's Larry King Live**, where he fielded questions about his career plans and his hopes to score an interview with **President Obama**. He also been interviewed by **ABC TV**, **BET**, **MSNBC** and **Fox News**.

Pahokee Mayor Wayne Whitaker said, "We are proud of Damon and all he has accomplished at such a young age. His aspirations have yet again put Pahokee on the map at a national level." For more information please call 561.233.1000.

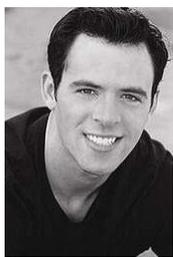


Palm Beach County Film & Television Commission
1555 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd., Suite 900
West Palm Beach, FL 33401
pbfilm.com | 561.233.1000

This newsletter is published
in collaboration with:



L.A. FILMMAKER TO RETURN TO PBC



David Donnelly

Dr. Feelgood is the new feature length film from Los Angeles based filmmaker **David Donnelly**. The dark thriller is set to shoot in **West Palm Beach** this summer. **Dr. Feelgood** marks the second time Donnelly will have made a film in Palm Beach County. Donnelly's first locally shot film, **Florida Girl** was selected to be screened at **2007 Voices of Local Film** during the **Palm Beach International Film Festival**.

Donnelly said, "We are coming back to PBC, because we had such a wonderful response from the community during *Florida Girl*. I've also developed a team down here that I am excited to work with again." *Dr. Feelgood* already has interest from different distribution outlets according to producers, and the film will also make the rounds on the festival circuit. For info call 323.472.4530.

ADVENTURES OF A CAMERAMAN



Tim Fitz

The **Loggerhead Marinelife Center** in **Juno Beach** welcomes **Tim Fitz, President of Tim Fitz Productions** for their February Lecture Series, **Adventures Filming Wildlife**. Tom Fitz is an award-winning documentary cameraman who received an Emmy® for his work on "The Blue Planet" series. His presentation will feature footage taken during shoots from his entire portfolio, including a few out-takes filmed during those moments when his subjects would neither say, "Cheese!" nor smile for the camera. The lecture is scheduled for Thursday, February 12, 2009 at 6:30pm. The price is \$5 for Loggerhead Marinelife Center members, \$8 for non-members and free for students with a valid student ID.

The Loggerhead Marinelife Center is a nonprofit organization committed to the conservation of marine life through public education, research, and rehabilitation with a focus on threatened and endangered sea turtles. For more information visit marinelife.org and to RSVP please call 561.627.8280 ext. 101.

The Loggerhead Marinelife Center is a nonprofit organization committed to the conservation of marine life through public education, research, and rehabilitation with a focus on threatened and endangered sea turtles. For more information visit marinelife.org and to RSVP please call 561.627.8280 ext. 101.

GM NEWSMAN RETURNS TO HIS ROOTS

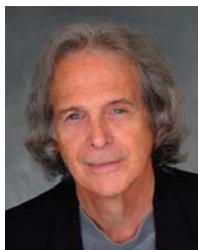


Donn Colee

Donn Colee, who for 20 years served in a number of positions at **WPEC TV** has opened **Donn Colee Consulting LLC**. The new firm will specialize in media and public relations, marketing and Interactive strategies and implementation for local businesses, agencies and organizations. It is a return to his media and marketing roots as he was engaged in that business for 17 years before joining WPEC.

WPEC is the CBS affiliate serving the West Palm Beach-Ft. Pierce-Boca Raton market. Colee was station manager for four years. For more information please contact Donn Colee at 561.602.5815 or donncolee@gmail.com.

SCREENWRITER TO PASS ON TRICKS OF THE TRADE



Alan Darnay

Accomplished screenplay writer and industry insider **Alyn Darnay** has come to South Florida to teach a professional scriptwriting workshop and clinic. Darnay worked in production and scriptwriting at MGM and 20th Century Fox in Los Angeles and spent several years writing, producing and directing while working under Academy Award winner Albert Zugsmith.

This intensive seminar is designed to help screenwriters enhance their ability to develop and execute a superior marketable script. The class will be taught on four consecutive Wednesday nights, February 4, 11, 18 and 25th from 6:30pm-9:30pm at the **Delray Oaks West Club House** in **Delray Beach**. Class size is limited. The cost of the workshop is \$150 and \$99.00 for students with a valid ID. For more info or to register please call Joan at 954.609.6435 or email joangringer@gmail.com.

GOLF EVENT SCORES NATIONAL TV



The Old Course at Broken Sound Club

The third annual **Allianz Championship**, the first in the PGA Champions Tour's early season swing of Florida tournaments, will again hit the links at **The Old Course at Broken Sound Club** in **Boca Raton** from **February 9-15, 2009**. The event will be televised live each day on the **Golf Channel**. With an increased purse of \$1.7 million, a line-up of golf legends and the addition of community-based pre-tournament events, organizers expect this year's event to attract more than 75,000 returning golf enthusiasts and first-time tournament goers to Boca Raton.

The week-long **Allianz Championship** schedule of events will include the annual Boca Raton Community Hospital Golf Classic, a Junior Pro-Am & Pro Skills Challenge, and two Championship Pro-Am events, followed by the three-round 54-hole championship. For more information please call 561.233.1000.



CHANGES AT THE FTC



Amy Berry

Please join the Film Commission in saying goodbye to our **Administrative Assistant Amy Berry** who has become the **Catering Sales Manager** at the **Embassy Suites Palm Beach Gardens**.

The FTC welcomes a new intern **Rosa Arnone**. Rosa is a senior at **Lynn University** in **Boca Raton** and is working toward a degree in International Communications with a double concentration in film and drama. Through this internship Rosa hopes to experience the way a professional business environment works and learn about the local production community.



Rosa Arnone

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND: THE JOVE IMPROV AT THE 2009 STUDENT SHOWCASE



The Jove Improv at the 2008 Student Showcase of Films
Photo Courtesy: Dalhou Johnson

They sing, perform, act on stage and screen, and are experts in improv comedy. That's why "The Jove Improv" promises to make the 14th Annual Palm Beach International Film Festival Student Showcase of Films (SSOF) the most entertaining showcase to date! The Jove has been confirmed to host the SSOF for the third year in a row and the theme this year is set to be "Going Green." Frank Licari and Jesse Furman of The Jove are lining up the material to go with the theme. "It is one of the most important messages we can give to this future generation" said Licari. Over the years, Licari and Furman have become an essential part of the Showcase, and they are very committed to educational programs devoted to promoting the film and TV industry of Palm Beach County." Alex Marquez, writer and director of the show said, "Preliminary creative brainstorming sessions between the comedians and our production staff forecast the greatest SSOF to date."

The SSOF is the largest statewide competition for Florida student filmmakers. The juried competition recognizes outstanding high school and college students by presenting over \$25,000 in cash awards, prizes and scholarships in five film categories. The competition also includes awarding a \$5,000 Burt Reynolds scholarship to two Palm Beach County high school seniors, a screenwriting competition and a \$1,000 poster competition open to middle and high schools. Winners will be announced during the two hour live show set for the morning of **April 28, 2009** at **Palm Beach Community College's Duncan Theater**. For more info visit pbfilm.com or call 561.233.1000.



PREMIERE BENEFITS AREA SCHOOL



Dylan and Cole Sprouse

The new film, *The Kings of Appletown* starring teen idols **Dylan and Cole Sprouse** (Disney's *The Suite Life of Zack and Cody*) and **Victoria Justice** (*Zoey 101*) was given a royal welcome as hundreds of people poured into

CityPlace in **West Palm Beach** to watch the much anticipated world premiere. The screening was held at the **Muvico Parisian 20** with an after-party at the luxurious **Colony Hotel** on **Palm Beach**. **Mr. Mark Harris**, producer of Academy Award winning films *Crash* and *Gods and Monsters* was the special guest and attendees had the opportunity to bid on items such as a *Crash* DVD signed by Mark Harris and writer/producer **Bobby Moresco**, and a membership to the Palm Beach Yacht Club.

The screening was held to raise money for the **G-Star School of the Arts**, a local charter high school that uses a hands-on approach to educate students interested in the arts. For more info call 561.233.1000.



FILM FESTIVAL HOSTS OSCAR NIGHT Local Filmmaker Celebrates Distribution Deal

Palm Beach INTERNATIONAL Film Festival

Come join a Hollywood-style party at **Bogart's Bar & Grille** at the **Muvico Palace** in **Boca Raton**, as the **Palm Beach International Film Festival (PBIFF)** presents **Oscar Night America**. The event will take place on **Sunday, February 22, 2009** from **8:00pm-Midnight**. Among the night's festivities, guests will be treated to a live telecast of the **81st Annual Academy Awards®**, and will also be able to participate in a Red Carpet Raffle and Auction. Tickets are \$100 per person, and you can RSVP by calling 561.362.0003. The **14th Annual Palm Beach International Film Festival** will take place **April 23-27, 2009**.

Unconscious, a film that was featured at the 2006 PBIFF has just acquired distribution in the U.S. and Canada! **Capitol Pictures** and **Helios Productions** announced that **Polychrome, LLC**, a division of **Vivendi Universal**, will release the film. Following the picture's theatrical debut this spring, the film will roll out nationwide. The DVD will be released this summer. For more info call George Williams at 561.310.2420 or Brad Wigor at 323.468.8000.

INCENTIVE MONEY AVAILABLE!



Susan Simms in L.A.

As production companies continually try to save money in this economy, the State of Florida has an incentive grant that still has money left! **Queue C** for independent Florida feature films or documentaries still has \$578,937 to give away to qualified productions. For more information call 877.FLA.FILM.

As Hollywood also weathers this bad economic storm, Florida's L.A. Liaison **Susan Simms** has found her own way to reduce her carbon footprint and save money...by riding around town on a scooter! Happy Trails Susan!

ATTN: DOCUMENTARY FILMMAKERS



The **International Documentary Challenge** will once again return to the Hot Docs Canadian International Documentary Festival in Toronto this year. The Doc Challenge is a timed filmmaking competition where filmmakers from around the globe have five days to make a short non-fiction film (4-7 minutes.)

All of the registered participants make their films during the same five days, **March 5-9, 2009**, and are required to ship the movie by the deadline. The top 12 films determined by a panel of judges will premiere during the festival from **April 30-May 10, 2009**, where the winners will be announced. For info visit docchallenge.org.

LOCATION SPOTLIGHT: JONATHAN DICKINSON STATE PARK & LOXAHATCHEE RIVER



Jonathan Dickinson State Park

Located in northern Palm Beach County, **Jonathan Dickinson State Park** offers a world of adventure for the outdoor enthusiast! From camping to canoeing, hiking and fishing, this versatile location provides many options for a variety of productions. The park teems with wildlife in 13 natural communities, including sand pine scrubs, pine flatwoods, mangroves



Canoeing on the Loxahatchee

and river swamps. Winding through the park is the **Loxahatchee River**, Florida's first federally designated Wild and Scenic River.

If you want to paddle your way up the Loxahatchee River, the park's Visitor Services offers canoe and kayak rentals. If you prefer to dive in, there is a beautiful sandy swimming beach on the shore of the river, with a new modern bathhouse with outdoor shower next to the picnic area and pavilions. Visitors can also throw a fishing line into the river, and catch both fresh and salt water fish, with the appropriate licenses. A newly rebuilt boat launch ramp is available on the river, which leads to the Intracoastal Waterway and the Atlantic Ocean. Visitors can also see part of history when they join a Park Ranger on a boat ride up the river to Trapper Nelson's and then a guided tour of the restored homestead. This homestead is where Trapper Nelson, also known as the "Wildman of Loxahatchee", came to live in the 1930's living off the land, and trapping and selling furs.

Production crews can camp at Jonathan Dickinson in one of their two campgrounds, with a total of 135 campsites. Pine Grove Campground is located in the eastern part of the park near the ranger station, while River Campground is four miles from the park entrance, and near the Loxahatchee River. Youth camp sites are available for up to 30 persons each and are equipped



Loxahatchee River

with fire circles and tables. A network of 9 to 12-mile hiking trails, part of the Florida Trail system lead, to primitive campsites. Projects that have filmed at Jonathan Dickinson State Park are a Clay Underwood Music Video and the Impossible Pictures TV series *Walking with Monsters* and *Prehistoric Park*. For more info call 561.233.1000.



Cabins at Jonathan Dickinson State Park

Editor: Jill Margolius Contributors: Alex Marquez, Christine Tieche | To be included in the newsletter, please call 561.233.1000.

Palm Beach County Film & Television Commission

1555 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd., Suite 900

West Palm Beach, Florida 33401

PRST STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
WEST PALM BEACH FL
PERMIT NO 1946

PBC Board of County Commissioners

Chair, John F. Koons

Vice Chair, Burt Aaronson

Karen T. Marcus

Shelley Vana

Jess R. Santamaria

Addie Greene



Palm Beach County Film & Television Commission

Film Commissioner, Chuck Elder

Director of Ops. and Programs, Michelle Hillery

Production Manager, Jill Margolius

Production Coordinator, TBD

Office Coordinator, Christine Tieche

Location Coordinator, TBD

Administrative Assistant, TBD

Education Consultant, Alex Marquez

