



Focus on Film



Relax...

Palm Beach County, Florida Has It Covered.



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BLACK ENTERTAINMENT TELEVISION BRINGS BACK THE 'BLING'

March 2009



For the third year in a row, **Black Entertainment Television (BET) Networks** will return to **Singer Island Beach in Riviera Beach** for their annual spring break production, **Spring Bling!** Thousands of people will stay in hotels and enjoy the sparkling waters and warm hospitality during a weekend of hot performances by world-renowned hip-hop and R&B artists. This year's production will take place on **Saturday, March 28** and **Sunday, March 29** and will air on BET in April. Hundreds of tickets will be given away on local radio stations.

For the second year in a row, the **Palm Beach County Tourist Development Council** will provide a grant in the amount of \$75,000 to the City of Riviera Beach to assist with covering costs of the event. **Riviera Beach's Interim City Manager Gloria Shuttlesworth** said, "The City looks forward to working with *BET Spring Bling* for the third year. They are truly a professional team and the production is beyond measure. We sincerely appreciate the Tourist Development Council in providing the funding mechanism for this endeavor." **BET's VP of Production Eugene Caldwell** said, "The City's support of *Spring Bling* has truly helped us make it a successful and safe event every year." For more information please call 561.233.1000 or visit bet.com.



Spring Bling 2008 in Riviera Beach

MAJOR FASHION HOUSE SHOOTS IN PBC



Little Bear Inc. Logo

Little Bear Inc., selected Palm Beach County as the background for a photo shoot and commercial for **Ralph Lauren**. This is a return visit for Little Bear, the company that also shot the **Abercrombie & Fitch Back to School 2008 Ad Campaign**. Models struck a pose at locations including

the **Rybovich Spencer Marina in West Palm Beach**, the intercoastal waterway and a private polo field in **Wellington**. **Production Manager Henrietta Schwarz** said, "The Palm Beach area has once again shown how gracious it is to hosting jobs brought in by Little Bear."

The crew was accommodated at the **Four Seasons on Palm Beach** and the **Hampton Inn in West Palm Beach**. Special thanks to the Palm Beach County Convention and Visitor's Bureau, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, the Coast Guard and the City of West Palm Beach for their assistance.

PBC COMPANY WINS OSCAR GOLD



Eric Barba, Steve Preeg, Burt Dalton, and Craig Barron. Photo by Jason Merritt/Getty Images

The team at **Digital Domain (DD)** received the highest honor in the industry by winning the **Academy Award for Visual Effects** for their work in **The Curious Case of Benjamin Button**. DD is a legendary visual effects house in Hollywood, which was bought in 2006 by **Jupiter based Wyndcrest Holdings**. In "Button," visual effects played a key role in the storytelling, enabling **Brad Pitt** to appear as an aged little man for 52 minutes of the film and over 325 shots. The character was created using a combination of new tools and techniques, some developed for the project at DD.

DD Co-Chair, John C. Textor said, "We are honored by this award that recognizes the pioneering technical expertise and artistry that went into creating a believable computer-generated human character." For more info visit digitaldomain.com.



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NEW WEBSITE SIMPLIFIES PERMITTING



In Palm Beach County, **One-Stop Permitting** provides beautiful, unique locations without the worry of location fees. The permitting process runs entirely through the Palm Beach County Film & Television Commission (FTC), which permits these locations for free! PBFILM.COM, the official FTC website, which just went through a complete upgrade, now has a new and improved on-line permitting section that makes getting a permit a breeze.

Permits are issued for public property (i.e. parks, beaches, streets, sidewalks, public buildings) within 33 film-friendly municipalities and taxing districts in Palm Beach County. To request a permit please visit PBFILM.COM and click on permits.

PALM BEACH COUNTY
FILM & TELEVISION COMMISSION



GOLF EVENTS SCORE BIG COVERAGE



PGA National Resort & Spa

Palm Beach County is home to world renowned golf events that have always attracted extensive media coverage. This year is no exception. Last month, the **Allianz Championship** was televised for 7 days on the **Golf Channel**, and this month **The Honda Classic** is being televised on both **NBC** and the **Golf Channel** for a total of 12 hours. The Classic is once again being hosted by the **PGA National Resort & Spa** in **Palm Beach Gardens** from **March 2-8, 2009**. Crisp high-definition coverage is being broadcast during both network telecasts.

The **Palm Beach County Sports Commission** also played



an important role in the tournament by assisting with the coordination of the PGA's visit. For more information please visit hondaclassic.com.



FORMER STATE ATTORNEY HAS NEW MISSION



Barry Krischer

Former PBC State Attorney **Barry Krischer** is a new Advisory Board Member on the PBC Film & Television Commission Board of Directors. Mr. Krischer is interested in learning more about using creative mediums such as film and TV to reach out to children and educate them about issues such as domestic violence.

Mr. Krischer is currently an instructor at the Palm Beach Community College Police Academy. Among his many accomplishments, he has received the pro bono award from the Legal Aid Society of PBC for service to the juvenile justice system.

FESTIVAL CELEBRATES BLACK HERITAGE



CONTINUING ARTS EDUCATION AT THE KRAVIS CENTER

ArtSmart, an arts program at the **Kravis Center for the Performing Arts** in **West Palm Beach** is celebrating their fourth season of the **African-American Film Festival**. The program this year takes place on March, 12, 19th and 26th and includes three films, ***I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings***, ***Go Tell It on the Mountain*** and ***Zora is My Name!*** Festival Founder/Producer **James Drayton** said, "The purpose of this festival is to entertain and to educate the public about the existence of African-American cinema. We hope to raise the profile of African-American films in this country and encourage young people to become filmmakers and to understand the broad nature of the film industry."

The series costs \$25 per person or \$10 per film. All films will be shown at the Kravis Center. For more info call 561.832.7469.

HOT TOPIC: FLORIDA FILM INCENTIVE



Governor's Office of Film and Entertainment

Governor Crist says, "It is important to remember the significant role film and entertainment plays in our state, directly employing more than 100,000 Floridians." Recently, members of the industry have been lobbying the state legislature to pass a bill to restore Florida's competitive edge. **Governor Crist** is recommending the Film Financial Incentive Program for the 2009/10 budget be restored to **\$10 million**, which will double the amount of the current incentive. **State Film Commissioner Lucia Fishburne** said, "Governor Crist's budget recommendation is indicative of his support of this industry sector generating \$29.2 billion in 2007."

States with higher incentives are more competitive in the marketplace and draw more productions. Less money for incentives means fewer in-state productions, which means Florida's entertainment industry will lose work or move to other states. In fiscal year 2007/08, the state allocated \$25 million for incentives that went to 53 productions and generated a nearly \$7 return for every \$1 of incentive funds rebated for Florida resident wages and Florida businesses. For more info visit filminflorida.com.

OSCAR NIGHT'S HOTTEST LOCAL PARTY



Guests walked the red carpet as they arrived at the **Palm Beach International Film Festival's (PBIFF) Oscar Night® America 2009**. The event, which was held at **Bogart's Bar & Grille at Muvico Palace in Boca Raton**, gave local film lovers a chance to experience a Hollywood-style party complete with a private viewing of the **81st Annual Academy Awards®** on the big screen.

PBIFF Chair Yvonne Boice said, "We had a record turnout for the event. The continued interest in the movies is encouraging as PBIFF enters its 14th year." The 14th Annual PBIFF will be held **April 23-27, 2009**. For more information visit pbiffilmfest.org.

RECORD STUDENT ENTRIES AS STUDENT SHOWCASE OF FILMS READIES 14TH EDITION



The countdown has begun to the **14th Annual Palm Beach International Film Festival Student Showcase of Films (SSOF)** which takes place on **Tuesday, April 28, 2009**. This year's event set a new record with 219 entries from educational institutions all over the State of Florida that were submitted under seven categories. From this great field of entries, 12 students will be chosen to receive awards from the juried competition in the categories of Feature/Shorts and Documentaries, Music Videos, Animation, Commercial/PSA's Screenwriting and Burt Reynolds's Scholarships at the live ceremony. An additional "Audience Award" will be handed out to the students with the most votes from an online competition. Entries selected to participate for the "Audience Award", will be available this month at pbfilm.com under Student Showcase of Films for viewing and voting. Over 700 students are expected to walk the red carpet and pack **Palm Beach Community College's Duncan Theater** the morning of April 28. For more information about the Student Showcase of Films please call 561.233.1000 or e-mail amarquez@pbfilm.com.



2008 Dreyfoos Student Winners

Debuting on the County's Education and Government Television station, **Channel 20**, is the new Palm Beach International Film Festival/Student Showcase of Films Review Show. The show begins airing on March 7 and will continue airing through the 2009 Festival. For info call 561.233.1000.

NEW FILM FEST HAS MEDIA BUZZING



The **First Annual Trik Flix Film Festival** will be launched at **Abacoa in Jupiter on Saturday, April 25, 2009!** Trik Flix Executive Director

Mary Johnson says, "The festival will be webcast live and have coverage on **ESPN, Fuel TV** and other national and local TV, print and web." Filmmakers, 25 and under, will have the opportunity to present their action sports videos on the big screen alongside top filmmakers in the action sports world. The day long festival will include pro skate and BMX sessions, filmmaking workshops with creative pros, and big screen premieres of young local filmmakers. Prizes include a \$10,000 scholarship, Apple products, bikes, surfboards and other gear. Admission is free of charge and festival organizers are expecting over 10,000 people to attend.

Trik Flix is also raising awareness and money for the Surfrider Foundation and the Center for Autism. To enter your film in the film competition or to learn more about this event, please visit Trikflix.com or call 561.568.1114 for more information.

CUE THE DOGS!



Destiny and the Bulldozers, is the new feature film to be shot at **The G-Star School of the Arts in West Palm Beach in June**. This family movie is billed as **Caddyshack** meets **The Alamo**. Academy Award winner **Bobby Moresco** (*Crash, Million Dollar Baby*) is Executive Consultant on the film; **Amanda Moresco** (*Crash, The Black Donnellys*) is writing the script; and **Joe Reilly** (*The Prince and the Pauper, Kings of Appletown*) is directing.

This film is also set to star a variety of local dogs and a casting call will be held on **March 28th from 11:00am-4:00pm** at G-Star. There is a \$5 entry fee. For more info please visit gstarschool.org.

STUDENTS EARN INDUSTRY CRED



Producers **Kenny Mikey** and **Riley Roam** are passionate about creating dynamic, entertaining video and television. Their production company, **Roam Around Productions**, is on

the lot of **G-Star Studios in West Palm Beach**, where Mikey and Roam utilize the students on various projects. Students and alumni have helped pre-edit and edit a series of shorts that will be appearing on Go.TravelChannel.com, a new website from the **Travel Channel** exclusively for mobile devices. The shorts are point of interest videos about different locations in Florida. The videos feature the voice of **Samantha Brown** from the **Travel Channel**. Mikey said, "We love working with G-Star students. They're every bit as hardworking as anyone in the industry."

Roam Around is also producing a video for the Palm Beach County School District for the third year in row, about new schools. The 2007 show, **Extreme School Makeover: Palm Beach Edition**, won a Communicator Award, which honors creative excellence for communications professionals.

AWARD WINNER HAS LOCAL TV PREMIERE



Lillian Smith

The award-winning short documentary, **Miss Lil's Camp** will have its local TV debut on **WXEL Florida, Saturday, April 11th at 10:30pm** and **Sunday, April 19th at 2:30pm**. The film was produced, edited and co-directed by filmmaker **Suzanne Niedland** of **BusEye Films**. With distribution nationally on public television, Niedland hopes to introduce its audience to **Lillian Smith**, the director of a girls camp in Georgia, who taught campers that segregation was wrong. Niedland says, "The themes of this documentary are the timeless issues of racial, social and gender intolerance and the courage of one woman to confront them." For more information visit misslilscamp.com.

LOCATION SPOTLIGHT: GUMBO LIMBO NATURE CENTER



Turtle Tank at Gumbo Limbo

Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, located in **Boca Raton**, was founded in 1984 as a cooperative venture between the City of Boca Raton, Palm Beach County School District, Florida Atlantic University and Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, Incorporated. The mission of Gumbo Limbo is to increase public awareness of coastal and marine ecosystems through research, education, preservation and conservation. Gumbo Limbo boasts a nature center with four under cover saltwater tanks that are home to sharks, sea turtles, native fish, stingrays and various other marine life. In addition, another tank was built for the documentary *Turtle: The Incredible Journey* and is available to filmmakers. The film is set to be screened at the Cannes Film Festival in May.



Gumbo Limbo Nature Center

Productions can also film on the boardwalk which winds through the tropical hardwood hammock nature area, a dense vine-tangled forest, and leads to a 40 foot observation tower. The tower gives a panoramic view of the area, and both the Atlantic Ocean and the Intracoastal Waterway. If you want to keep your feet on the ground you can explore several options. Visitors can wander through a butterfly garden, take pictures in the sea turtle sculpture garden with 7 life-sized sea turtles, relax next to the Intracoastal at the authentic Seminole Chiki hut and visit the gopher tortoise exhibit.

Florida Atlantic University has a research gallery at Gumbo Limbo where an indoor crane can raise and lower immense objects and relocate them within the building. In addition there is a classroom and laboratory building as well as an amphitheatre on site. Gumbo Limbo also conducts turtle walks, where from May to July visitors can watch for turtles to lay their eggs, and then later in the season watch as the hatchlings make their way from their nests to the Atlantic Ocean. For more info call 561.233.1000.



Turtle on the Beach



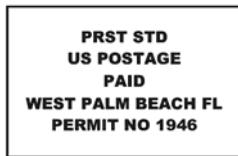
Boardwalk to Observation Tower

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Palm Beach County Film & Television Commission

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