FOCUS on FILM

The Newsletter of the Palm Beach County Film and Television Commission | OCTOBER 2015

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FILM AND TELEVISION COMMISSION

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STUDENT SHOWCASE OF FILMS OPEN FOR SUBMISSIONS

The **Palm Beach International Film Festival's Student Showcase of Films** competition is now open for submissions and the deadline is set for January 12, 2016. The Student Showcase of Films is open to students enrolled in Florida high schools and colleges. The juried competition recognizes outstanding film students by presenting scholarships and awards in the following categories: Feature/Shorts, Documentary, Animation, Commercial/PSA, Environmental PSA, Music Video, Screenwriting, Poster Design, Mental Health Awareness (NEW), and an Audience Award. As an addition to the award show this year, we will celebrate the winner of the first ever G-Star Studios **Cell Phone Film Festival** for middle school students interested in making a horror movie on set at G-Star Studios.

Honoring the legacy of Burt Reynolds, the festival also awards a scholarship bearing his name and a Sara Fuller Scholarship through Film Florida. "Each year is more exciting than the next. The level of entries by these students is simply incredible and they never cease to amaze. There is so much talent in the state of Florida and these scholarships and the award show are looked forward to by all each year," stated Michelle Hillery, Deputy Film Commissioner and Executive Producer of SSOF. Finalists and winners will be presented with cash awards at a live awards show on March 11, 2016 at 10am at the **Wold Performing Arts Center at Lynn University** in Boca Raton. Over 700 people from around the state will attend the event. The Student Showcase of Films has an innovative submission process with FilmFreeway.com that is more convenient than ever. To enter through the online application program, view the awards breakdown and official rules and regulations, visit pbfilm.com or Facebook.com/StudentShowcaseOfFilms.

STORAGE WARS: MIAMI PREMIERE

New city, same game! A&E's **Storage Wars: Miami** premieres this month with the reality show following professional buyers as they scour repossessed storage units in search of hidden treasure. The show visited **Lake Worth** among other cities across The Palm Beaches while filming the debut season.

The show's auctioneer is local resident **Bob Nichols,** former anchor for WPEC who brings a big personality to the show. The new series follows the same format and production umbrella of the original Storage Wars with South Florida locals and a fresh mix of characters. "The cast and crew is excited about the premiere. It's really going to be an enjoyable series for Storage War fans," said Nichols. Tune in for the big debut to see Nichols coin his signature tagline "SOLD", and find out why the promo teases "we may have hit the mother load". See more at facebook.com/StorageWars.

PBS DELVES DEEP AT THE GLNC

PBS NewsHour is exploring the basic research behind ocean expansion and its impacts on coastal ecology with **The Wild Side of Sea Level Rise** series, featuring the cutting-edge research done at **Gumbo Limbo Nature Center** (GLNC) and **Florida Atlantic University Marine Research Lab**. The PBS team documented the innovative methods developed by FAU Professor Jeanette Wyneken, who has spent 13 years studying how sex ratios of newly hatched loggerhead turtles reflect the realities of climate change.

"The **GLNC/FAU Marine Lab** are real treasures," said Science Reporter/Producer Nsikan Akpan, who holds a PHD in Pathology and Molecular Medicine. Dr. Akpan and his production team documented daily schedules and methodologies of the GLNC staff to a fascinating degree. Watch the segment and delve deeper at pbs.org/newshour/updates/sea-turtles-rising-seas-sex-ratios.

HGTV'S HOUSE HUNTERS HITS HOME AGAIN

For the 5th consecutive year HGTV's **House Hunters** has returned to The Palm Beaches for their show! Every episode that features The Palm Beaches showcases neighborhoods and property values to viewers all over the world. The popular show launched in 1999 with several spin off shows being created.

The recent episode that was shot locally features properties in **Intracoastal Park**, including the clubhouse and **Caloosa Park** in **Boynton Beach**. The 30-minute show follows individuals, couples, or families searching for a new home. The buyers must decide between three properties, ultimately choosing one before the end of the episode. House Hunters is produced by Pie Town Productions. This episode is tentatively scheduled to air on HGTV in Spring 2016. For more information visit hgtv.com.

A SWANKY LOCAL DOCUMENTARY

A documentary, **Swank Farm**: ***A Year In The Life Of A Farm*** was filmed over the course of a year at the twenty acre farm in **Loxahatchee Groves** of Darrin and Jodi Swank. Scenes include farming, family, and farm-to-table dinners. Chefs from South Florida created dinner courses on site at the farm and local musicians from **Pahokee** played in the background. An additional segment features the chef at **Café Boulud** in Palm Beach. "Palm Beach County has a wealth of interesting acreage. I love driving people through farming fields to visit Lake Okeechobee," says the shows Executive Producer, Judith Olney.

CAFÉ BOULUD

The film won the Audience Favorite Award at the 2015 Palm Beach International Festival and continues to engage festival-goers around the US. The next stop is Devour! Festival in Nova Scotia, Canada. A screening is also being planned locally at the Historical Society of PBC in early 2016. For more information please email judith.olney.cookery@gmail.com

PALM BEACH FASHION WEEK

The 4th Annual Fashion Production by **Fusion Fashion & Art Productions** celebrates Swim Week! Presented by the **Palm Beach Photographic Centre** and the **American Society of Media Photographers**, this event brings scores of beautiful models to walk the runway to debut swimwear, resort wear and accessories for 2016.

"We are excited to participate in the growth of the fashion industry in The Palm Beaches," says Lilyana Eisele President of Fashion Fusion & Art Production. The grand opening on Thursday, November 5th will feature Mayor Muoio and a special performance by the Palm Beach Makos Cheerleaders.

Shows continue through the weekend and end with a grand finale on Sunday Nov 8th. This unique partnership with the Photographic Center and the American Society of Media Photographers offers more opportunities for photographers, designers, models and industry professionals to engage with each other. For more info please visit palmbeachswimweek.com.

Palm Beach Photographic Centre
SCHOOL • SHOP • MUSEUM

LOCAL SERVICE REACHES WORLDWIDE

YipTV, a privately held company with offices in **WPB** launched service in May 2015. Their company's vision is to provide top-quality international programming to the 40 million residents in the U.S. who were not born here or are still deeply rooted to their home countries.

Today their 71 channel lineup offers viewers premiere programming such as Hola! TV and beIN Sports with no contract or long term commitment. "Foreign-born residents and their family members have had limited access to TV channels in the U.S. They are thirsty to have access to top-quality TV at a reasonable price, which is why we are offering the YipTV service for free to start," said YipTV CEO Michael Tribolet. 17 YipTV channels are always free, whether a consumer formally subscribes or not. In addition, YipTV offers nine of its premium channels free for seven days of trial viewing. For more info visit yiptv.com.

LOCAL STUDENT FILM HEADS TO NEW YORK

Becoming a filmmaker takes passion, creativity, dedication and even some guts. For one student at G-Star School of the Arts, the hard work is paying off. **Christian Aguiar** was nominated for Best Short Film at **The Official Latino Short Film Festival** for a class project he did at the end of last year. Nominated in the Young Trailblazer category, this festival opens opportunities up for fresh talent like Christian. He recently flew to New York for the film festival where his film ***Lost in Motion*** was on exhibit. "This was an incredible experience. While I wasn't a winner, I am so happy to be a part of the filmmaking process and this is just another step towards my dream of being a professional filmmaker," says Christian. We first met Christian when he took First Place for Best Music Video last year at the 2015 Palm Beach International Film Festival Student Showcase of Films.

MTV SHOWS MAKE REPEAT VISITS

MTV has switched gears over the past two decades to focus less on music and more on youth trends and reality-based programming, including two of their top programs: ***True Life*** and ***Catfish***. Both series have been making regular trips to the Palm Beaches over the past three years, returning seven times to showcase a variety of young residents throughout our diverse set of cities and regions from coastline to the everglades.

In 2015, *True Life* subjects have spent a day out along the **Lake Worth Pier** and couples have walked hand-in-hand along the **Flagler Drive** waterfront in West Palm Beach. *Catfish* filmed an episode in Boca Raton that brought out droves of young concert goers when local musician T-Light performed before being exposed to his online girlfriend. These episodes get a ton of exposure, splashing Palm Beach County across the screens of half a million households during repeats episodes alone. See more about these and other popular programs at mtv.com.

A FESTIVAL OF UNIQUE MOVIES

The new home of the Palm Beach International Film Festival, **The Palm Beaches Theatre**, is hosting Swede Fest Palm Beach 4. The Swede team is gearing up for another showcase of bad movies made by good people. The festival is presented by the **Palm Beach International Film Festival and the Palm Beach Film Society**, October 10 from 7 to 9 pm at The Palm Beaches Theatre in Manalapan.

Based on the movie, "Be Kind, Rewind," a "swede" is a no-budget, hilarious remake of a Hollywood film which spawned an underground sweding craze and resulted in the first swede fest™ in Fresno, Calif. "This is a unique film festival and a good time for everyone involved. We are happy to be host to Swede fest," said Jeff Davis, President of The Palm Beaches Theatre. For more info visit swedefestpalmbeach.com.

LOCAL POP ARTIST DEBUTS MUSIC VIDEO

Wellington based **Afflux Studios** specializes in high-end video production with a full service recording studio, photography, social media and web design along with merchandising services. Their team works with musical artists, from chart-toppers like Flo-Rida to up-and-coming local pop artists like **Christian James**, who just wrapped a music video for his new single "Give Him Up".

The video was shot on one of Afflux's top quality Red Cinema Cameras in studio and underneath an overpass near Henrietta Avenue in **West Palm Beach**. "Christian's team brought us the idea and we all got together and collaborated on it," said Director of Art, Mat Marino. "Christian is a friend to everyone we work with." . See more at afflux-studios.com and watch the video at christianjamesmusic.com.

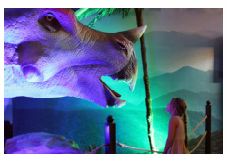
FOWLER FEATURED AT THE FAZIO

Professional golfer Rickie Fowler recently showed off a new driver on The Golf Channel's ***Morning Drive*** - the only morning talk show devoted to entirely to golf. Standing alongside the Fazio Golf Course at the **PGA National Spa & Resort** in Palm Beach Gardens, local resident Rickie Fowler gave tips on how he picks an ideal driver and how he adjusts his technique to hit long and straight.

Fowler is no stranger to the course and frequents the resort's fairway, as does The Golf Channel's production team. "It's always a pleasure to host programs from The Golf Channel. It gives us the chance to show off our amenities to viewers around the world," said Kathy Casper, VP of Marketing. The **Fazio** was renovated from the original 18-hole Haig course and is known to provide an ideal balance for professional golfers and novices alike. Get more information at pgaresort.com.

DINOSAURS TAKE OVER WEST PALM BEACH

Travel back to an age when dinosaurs ruled the planet - no time machine required! Hot on the heels of 2015's top grossing film Jurassic World, the **South Florida Science Center and Aquarium** in West Palm Beach will open its fall exhibition **"Dinosaurs Around the World"** on Sunday, November 1st. "Typically when you hear that a dinosaur exhibit is coming to town, it is likely that you are envisioning dusty old fossils and skeleton replicas," said Science Center CEO, Lew Crampton. However that will not be the case for this exhibit, which will host more than a dozen animatronic dinosaurs swinging their tails and roaring. "Our cutting edge exhibit will look like something out of a Spielberg film," said Crampton. These spectacular and awe-inspiring visuals could serve as a backdrop for a variety of film projects. For more information please visit sfsciencecenter.org.



LOCATION SPOTLIGHT: AUTUMN LOCATIONS

To evoke the mood of the fall season, photographers in the Palm Beaches must get creative. For those who may not know, there are places that go all out to celebrate autumn. One such place is **Bedner's Market**. Every year Bedner's welcomes fall with a pumpkin patch that is the perfect place to pose for pictures on the haystacks or get lost in a corn maze. Bedner's provides many opportunities in one location with are a multitude of angles that communicate the season of fall, including hay rides and decorations that convey the season. Bedner's is one of the most film friendly agriculture locations and welcomes productions.

For some people fall brings a season of horrors and X-Scream at **G-Star School of the Arts** in West Palm Beach is a great venue. This year the ghouls and goblins compete with the vampires and tetrads in Studio B. The transformation takes months to complete and the results are top notch complete with special effects and Hollywood caliber theater makeup. Not far away, one can be transported back in time at the **South Florida Fairgrounds** with Fright Night Haunts that provide a multitude of options to shriek about, with four new haunts including Memento Mori, Beyond the Gates, Animal Farm at the Yesteryear Barn and Meadow Lakes at the infamously haunted Riddle House.

Oktoberfest at the **American-German Club of the Palm Beaches** provides yet another outlet for the fall season. With beer maidens and lederhosen, the atmosphere is authentic German. Any other time of year, the venue is a great backdrop for productions that need the old world charm that the two story, dark wood interior provides. There are even a few niches that could be dressed to suit the needs of a production needing an interview space, restaurant, a bar or living room with very little set dressing required. The space could cheat European interior residential. To see more images please visit our locations database at pbfilm.com.

EDUCATION CORNER: G-STAR LAUNCHES CELL PHONE FILM FESTIVAL

The **Palm Beach International Film Festival** (PBIFF) is joining forces with **G-Star Studios** to launch the 1st Annual **Cell Phone Film Festival** for middle school students. Participants will have the rare opportunity to shoot their project on a motion picture sound stage, designed as 1890s London, in conjunction with the annual **X-Scream Halloween** event. No experience is necessary, and participants will receive training on writing, filming and editing with the G-Star staff.

Submissions will be judged by an assortment of successful local filmmakers, including Hollywood Producer and Executive Director of PBIFF Jeff Davis, Writer/Producer Arthur Bernstein, Emmy Award-winning Cinematographer Crescenzo Notarile, and Academy Award-winning Writer/Producer Bobby Moresco. The event is creating lots of buzz and Greg Haupter, Founder/CEO of G-Star School of the Arts, saw a need for a platform for younger students "We made the film festival free so everyone would be welcome. Making movies on a motion picture sound stage with real sets has created a lot of excitement." Each participant will receive a free ticket to the X-Scream Halloween event, and the finalists will be honored at a red carpet ceremony on December 12th at **Palm Beach Comic Con**. The winning film will also be celebrated at the 2016 **Student Showcase of Films** on March 11th.

Palm Beach International Film Festival

G-Star School of the Arts For Film, Animation and Performing Arts

The collaboration creates an opportunity for middle school students to participate in film festivals. "Of course, the catch was how to have 11 to 13 year old students participate without experience or equipment, the one item that all the kids have is cell phone of course!" Hauptner explained. The incredible team coordinating the event includes G-Star's International Baccalaureate World Program students, film department teachers, and student volunteers to help guide the middle school students through all phases of production. The project begins Saturday, October 17. Review the rules and sign up online at gstarschool.org/cpff.

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