FOCUS on FILM

Newsletter of the Palm Beach County Film and Television Commission | OCTOBER 2023

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PALM BEACH COUNTY FILM AND TELEVISION COMMISSION

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THEPALMBEACHES.TV

SOUTH FLORIDA DAILY NOW AIRING ON WFLX

South Florida Daily, a new lifestyle series from **WXFL FOX 29** in partnership with **The Palm Beaches TV**, launched last month and airs weekdays at noon. Each half-hour show encompasses events, activities, local businesses, and people throughout South Florida and the surrounding areas. Meanwhile, Palm Beach County steals the show with approximately 15-minutes of programming each day, featuring carefully curated segments from shows currently airing on The Palm Beaches TV, the County's official tourism TV channel.

Through this unique agreement and with enthusiastic support from our local production partners; the **Palm Beach County Film and Television Commission** secured a marketing opportunity to showcase the very best of Palm Beach County to WFLX's wide-reaching audience, which broadcasts in Palm Beach County as well as the drive-markets of Martin, Okeechobee, St. Lucie and Indian River County. **Megan Hayes**, co-host of South Florida Daily says she's "thrilled to expand the South Florida Weekend brand into South Florida Daily in order to showcase everything this vibrant area has to offer for our residents and visitors alike." Co-host **Kate Monohann** added that she's "ready to highlight the best beaches, uncover hidden gems, and tell the stories of local legends." The show is available on demand at WFLX FOX 29 TV and full episodes of the segments shown are available on demand at The Palm Beaches TV.

Register for monthly industry discussions on Zoom!
Friday, October 13, at Noon: John Lux interviews Hispanic Leaders in Florida's production industry.

2023 TIMBERTECH CHAMPIONSHIP

This year's TimberTech Championship takes place at **The Old Course** at **Broken Sound** in **Boca Raton** from November 3 - November 5. Viewers can watch all the action on the **Golf Channel**, the official cable-television partner of **PGA TOUR Champions**. Annual proceeds from the tournament benefit health programs of the **Boca Raton Champions Golf Charities**. Last year, the tournament announced that for a second year in a row, a $400,000 donation had been made to the **Boca Raton Regional Hospital Foundation**. Since its inception, the **TimberTech®** Championship has raised over $2 million for local charities. Viewers can tune in to the tournament through various cable providers and streaming platforms, available in 145+ countries and territories, with 25 channels distributed in 135+ countries and territories. Additionally, fans can access the event through the OTT platform on **GOLFTV** powered by PGA TOUR. For more info and updates please visit timbertechchampionship.com.

THE LEARNING CHANNEL'S CRACK ADDICTS

TLC's new show, ***Crack Addicts***, premiered in May and was shot mainly in **Palm Beach Gardens.** The three-episode program offers captivating insight into the world of chiropractic care through the pioneering work of **Dr. Alessandra Colon**. "Filming in **Palm Beach County** offers a great opportunity to bridge the gap between historical Palm Beach, and the new-age social scene. The breathtaking beaches become a canvas for narratives and an outdoor lifestyle that attracts all demographics. It's not just about capturing the beauty of this place; it's about using the lens as a tool for development, conversation and change." said Dr. Colon. The show spotlights the doctor's unconventional yet effective methods, emphasizing her deep commitment to holistic healthcare. Since its premiere, the practice has flourished, drawing patients from far and wide, recognizing it as a hub for cutting-edge healthcare. Viewers can watch ***Crack Addicts*** on-demand on **TLC Go**. Check your local listings for reruns.

WELCOMING 2023 FALL INTERN

The FTC welcomes its new Fall intern, **Gretchen Hofmann**. Gretchen is currently finishing up her final semester at **Florida Atlantic University** where she is majoring in Multimedia Studies.

A native Floridan, Grethen has always had an interest in the film industry. At an early age, she would use her dad's video camera to shoot short films and comedy skits that she wrote and performed with her little sister. Since then, she knew she wanted to pursue a career in film. Currently she is assisting with organizing the **Subculture Film Festival** that takes place later this month. Gretchen is truly grateful for the opportunity to learn as much as she can and deeply admires what the organization does for the film community and the positive impact it has on the film industry throughout the County.

Click to learn more about the FTC's Internship Program.

SUN AND STARS FILM FESTIVAL

The Donald M. Ephraim Palm Beach Film Festival not only has a new name, there is new programming, a new footprint and will be known as **Donald M. Ephraim Sun & Stars International Film Festival.** The event kicks off February 27 and runs through March 5 at the **Rinker Playhouse** at the **Kravis Center** and then picks up March 8 - 10 at the **Paragon Theaters** in **Delray Beach**.

Sharres *Votow* *Glaze*

The festival organizers named film expert **Barbara Scharres** as Artistic Director, arts professional **Audrey Votaw** will serve as Development Officer, and PBC native, **Nathalie Glaze**, is the Festival Manager.

"Pre-production is the key to any successful film, and the same is true with film festivals," said MorseLife President and CEO **Keith A. Myers**. "We are pleased to bring these three talented women onboard now as we plan this spectacular event that will be a highlight of next year's cultural and social seasons."

CELEBRATING HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

Since 1988, the United States has recognized September 15 through October 15 as Hispanic Heritage Month – a time to commemorate the significant contributions of the Hispanic people. The local Hispanic community brings a taste of their rich culture to our paradise, making **Palm Beach County** an even more exciting destination for visitors. The **South Florida PBS** original series ***On the Town in The Palm Beaches with Frank Licari*** – explores some of the best Hispanic & Latino experiences in our area.

Whether you want to take a salsa dancing class, savor authentic Latin flavors at local restaurants, immerse yourself in history, or enjoy the vibrant creativity of Hispanic artists, you can find options for every age group on **ThePalmBeaches.TV** where you can embrace the sights, sounds and flavors of Hispanic Heritage month! ¡Viva la cultura!

INT'L PRODUCTION SPOTLIGHTS PBC

Come along on a thrilling virtual voyage through **Palm Beach County**, with the Brazilian YouTube series **Mala Pronta**, a travel tourism program. With over 7.5 million followers on YouTube, **Mala Pronta** which means "Bags Packed" is hosted by **Pati Leoni** who introduces us to some of the most enchanting and exciting travel destinations worldwide, recently featuring a one-hour episode wholly dedicated to The Palm Beaches.

Their cinematic journey through **Palm Beach County** underscores its appeal as a global tourist destination. From the historical richness of **Jupiter** to the majestic beaches of **Delray**, every frame promotes the County's unique attractions. As we reflect on their exploration, we celebrate the opportunity to promote our area as a prime tourist destination. **Mala Pronta's** YouTube channel continues to showcase the wonders of The Palm Beaches, inviting travelers to discover its beauty, culture, and history. Click to check out the episode that features The Palm Beaches.

30 HOURS OF NEW PROGRAMMING COMING TO THE PALM BEACHES TV

The Palm Beaches TV, will soon be airing 30 hours of new content! The family-friendly programming features original shows about culture, lifestyle, sports, eco-tourism, and the finest culinary experiences. Returning for its 7th season is the Emmy-nominated, South Florida PBS signature lifestyle series ***On The Town in The Palm Beaches with Frank Licari.*** And **Kitty Lundan** returns for the second season of ***What's Poppin, PBC?*** A show that explores the County's hot spots. Local production company, **Apex Studios,** which produces the nationally syndicated show ***Travels & Traditions with Burt Wolf***, will bring us the new series ***Pets in Paradise*** airing in February on the **Travel Channel**. Viewers can also get ready for the new series ***Equestrian Life in The Palm Beaches*** with **Theo Dorsey**, who also hosts the weekly PBTV Watch Party series on YouTube. Visit ThePalmBeaches.TV to explore and share these shows with family and friends.

LINCOLN TEAMS UP WITH SERENA IN PBC

Lincoln Motors' and brand ambassador **Serena Williams** along with **PBC Environmental Resource Management**, and **The City of Riviera Beach** recently collaborated on a commercial project titled ***Letting Go*** that was filmed during sea turtle nesting season.

The **FTC** worked together with city officials and **PBCERM** to ensure that the production did not have a negative impact on the local environment and required a sea turtle monitor and weight distribution platform to avoid ground penetration and protect any turtle eggs that may be below the surface of the sand. The result is a stunning **Lincoln Motors** commercial with **Serena Williams**, celebrating BlueCruise a new hands off, driver assisted technology.

Click to watch the commercial.

SUBCULTURE FILM FEST

The **Subculture Film Festival** returns to **West Palm Beach** on **October 20-22** for its second year, and will run for three days at three different venues: **The Norton Museum of Art, Afflux Studios,** and **The Peach.** The festival will showcase over 60 films from local, national, and international filmmakers.

The festival started as a way to promote, encourage and bring together the film community. **The Norton Museum of Art** will host the opening night with a screening of the feature film *Ask Her About the Art*, a documentary directed by WPB filmmaker Karim Dakkon. **Afflux Studios** will host Day 2 and the closing day will be held at **The Peach**. Days 2 and 3 feature industry panels, workshops, live music, and food vendors. Tickets for the festival are on sale now. The Subculture Film Festival is made possible by the Subculture Group. For more info, visit their facebook page.

L-DUB AND SWEDE FESTIVALS WRAP UP

Swede Fest Palm Beach opened the 11th annual **L-Dub Film Festival** at **Lake Worth Playhouse** on September 22nd to showcase 10 hilarious short films spoofing Hollywood hits made by local amateur filmmakers. A few of the short films featured in the screening included *Barbie Movie: The Prequel*, *Lethal Ghostbusters Weapon*, *Amityville Horror, The Little Mermaid* and *Titanic Sweded*. With swedes being no-budget films, props included common household items paired with creativity, often making the films so bad they're laughable. The event included awards for Best Short, Best Student Film, and lighthearted juried awards such as best use of paper towels in a swede. Audience members were also given the opportunity to chime in and vote for their favorite film. This year's winner of the Audience Choice Award was *Titanic Sweded*. For more information on awards and films, visit the Swede Fest website.

MEDIA ZONE HOSTS INDUSTRY EVENT

Recently, the **American Advertising Federation**'s Broward and Palm Beach chapters hosted part 5 of a 6 part series to discuss the importance of South Florida's film industry. The evening kicked off with an lively discussion about South Florida's pivotal role in production.

The event brought together film enthusiasts and industry experts, and celebrated the local film scene.

Afterwards, attendees were treated to an exclusive tour of the evenings host 4,200 Square foot Virtual and Hybrid Event Studio, **Media Zone** in **Boca Raton**. The facility is powered by cutting-edge technology of Groove.ai and XBlack and is popular with podcasters. Located approximately one half mile from the Brightline station and is poised to assist production teams and craft both virtual and hybrid events.

MEDIA ZONE

WALKING ON THE WILD SIDE OF THE PALM BEACHES

Calling all nature enthusiasts and wildlife aficionados, prepare for an exhilarating adventure as the highly anticipated ***Wild Palm Beaches*** makes its much-anticipated return for season 3. This captivating series, hosted by the charismatic **James Currie**, invites you to enjoy a thrilling exploration of Palm Beach County's enchanting landscapes, pristine beaches, and unique wildlife, all conveniently located right here in our own backyard. Beyond its awe-inspiring visuals, the show also plays a role in promoting local tourism by showcasing the activities and small business owners that contribute to the County's charm. *Wild Palm Beaches* will air on **Destination America**, and after it airs, you can share the link with family and friends from ThePalmBeaches.TV platform. Come and explore on an unforgettable journey into the heart of Palm Beach County's unspoiled treasures!

THE FTC AND THE PALM BEACHES TV CELEBRATE PENELOPE DOUGLAS

The **Palm Beach County Film and Television Commission** (FTC) is celebrating a remarkable colleague and industry professional, **Penelope Douglas,** who has been an integral part of growing **The Palm Beaches TV** this past year. As a seasoned TV executive with over 20 years of experience, she has left an indelible mark on our channel, helping usher 20 hours of new, original content and setting the stage for an additional 30 hours of new programming in the year ahead. Penelope's journey in television began as a reporter for an NBC-affiliate, and her career soared as she spearheaded the launch of award-winning nationally broadcast series on major networks like The Discovery Health Network, NBC Universal, and American Public Television. The FTC is grateful for Penelope's service to The Palm Beaches and wish her all the best on her next adventure. Stay tuned!

LOCATION SPOTLIGHT
HAUNTED HOT SPOTS IN PBC

The town of Yesteryear Village in WPB; has a lovely two-story house with a haunted point of view. But the Riddle House, isn't the only property at **Yesteryear Village** with paranormal activity, the **Corbett Shack** and the **Pineapple Processing Plant** also have stories to tell.

Jonathan Dickinson State Park is the home of the ghost of Trapper Nelson a.k.a Tarzan of the Loxahatchee; who was found dead in 1968 with a gunshot wound to the head and it was ruled a suicide. However, many have reported that Nelson has walked with them on the trails and warned them against going into the Native American burial grounds of the park and has asked a few ladies out on dates and even informed some of them that he was actually murdered by his brother.

Bertha Starkey has been a resident of **Delray Beach** ever since the façade of the Blue Anchor Pub was shipped from London to the US in 1996. Featured on Travel Channels "Most Haunted Pubs" The English woman was stabbed to death by her husband in a fit of rage and she remains a fixture in the pub tripping alarms and appearing as a white flash of light inside the pub. Find more film friendly locations in the FTC's online locations database.

EDUCATION CORNER
CALL FOR ENTRIES IS OPEN FOR SSOF

The Call for Entries for **The Palm Beaches Student Showcase of Films** (SSOF) is now open! Returning for the 29th year, this free-to-enter competition is open to student filmmakers, writers, graphic designers, and digital media artists currently enrolled in any high school or college in Florida. The 2024 competition will award more than $24K in cash, scholarships, and prizes. After this year's record-breaking 528 eligible submissions from 75 schools, applicants can expect stiff competition for the top prizes. Deadline for entries is February 5, 2024.

There are three new awards for 2024. Discover the Palm Beaches is sponsoring **The Palm Beach County Tourism PSA** award - designed to showcase the many reasons why we #LoveThePalmBeaches. The SSOF will honor an educator for excellence with a new **Teacher Appreciation** award**.** Students can nominate the educators that have made a positive impact on their lives. And, a finalist for the Burt Reynolds Scholarship award will receive the new $1,000 **Gray Family Scholarship.** Also, new for 2024, acclaimed digital arts pioneer, **Laurence Gartel** will sponsor the Poster Design competition.

The 2024 red carpet award show takes place April 26, 2024. Students from all over Florida will gather at the **Maltz Jupiter Theatre. Frank Licari**, of South Florida PBS' *On The Town in The Palm Beaches with Frank Licari* is slated to host. For more information on how to submit your entries to the competition, visit **PBFilm.com/SSOF**

Contributors: Vanessa Cadet, Angie Crocitto, Gretchen Hofmann, Alberto Jordat, Kelly King, Matthew Mazzamaro, Brandon Perry
To have your production included in this newsletter, please email ajordat@pbfilm.com or call 561.233.1000

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Production Coordinators **Brandon Perry** and **Matthew Mazzamaro**
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