

# Focus on Film

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



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## COLLEGE OF MOTION PICTURE ARTS WELCOMES INAUGURAL CLASS

September 2012



Burt Reynolds speaking at the Convocation Ceremony

Florida State University's (FSU) College of Motion Picture Arts along with the Digital Domain Institute (DDI) welcomed the Inaugural Class in BFA Animation and Digital Arts. The convocation ceremony took place at the Harriet Himmel Theater at CityPlace in West Palm Beach. Students were welcomed by such notables as Mayor Jeri Muoio, legendary actor and FSU alum Burt Reynolds, and the Dean of FSU's College of Motion Pictures Arts Frank Patterson.



Note: Since the convocation ceremony, Digital Domain Institute's parent company, The Digital Domain Media Group has filed for relief under Chapter 11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code. However, FSU, which oversaw the development of the curriculum for both the new West Palm Beach-based Animation and Digital Arts major of their college of Motion Picture Arts' accredited BFA degree, and the specialized areas of digital media production training to have been provided by DDI, will continue to offer the excellent well-rounded education for which the College is renown. Students will continue to learn from professional artists and trainers from well-known digital media production companies, equipping them with the skills they need to get an entry-level position in digital media. They will be provided with opportunities to apply their skills in a practical environmental, with the potential to earn internships with major production studios. For info visit [film.fsu.edu](http://film.fsu.edu).

## LYNN GEARS UP FOR DEBATE



Bob Schieffer

The topic and moderator of the third and final Presidential Debate at Lynn University have been decided! The topic will be foreign policy, and it will be formatted into six 15-minute segments focusing on topics within foreign policy decided by the moderator in advance.

The moderator will be Bob Schieffer, Chief Washington Correspondent for CBS News and Moderator of *Face the Nation*.



In addition, Lynn University developed an iTunes U- Debate Curriculum. In partnership with the Palm Beach County School District, Lynn University developed a K-12 Debate Curriculum for use in Palm Beach County and across the country. Educators can augment their lesson plans with free activities for each grade level, which are accessible on iTunes U if using a Mac or iPad or on the official Lynn University debate website ([debate2012.lynn.edu/curriculum/web.php](http://debate2012.lynn.edu/curriculum/web.php)). The debate will take place on October 22, 2012 at 9:00pm. For more information visit [lynn.edu](http://lynn.edu).



## INSTITUTE MOVES INTO NEW DIGS



The Burt Reynolds Institute for Film and Theatre (BRIFT) announced the offering of acting and filmmaking classes at ArtStage Performing Arts Center in Tequesta. BRIFT had been looking for temporary office and classroom space while fundraising to build a new Institute in Burt Reynolds Park. The ArtStage location was once home to The Burt Reynolds Institute for Theatre Training. "Walls may not be able to talk...but I do believe they can smile. I have no doubt we will be making as many good memories now as we did years ago," said Burt Reynolds.



L-R: Douglas Rill, Burt Reynolds, James Bearden and Bob Nichols

BRIFT also recently announced their new Board of Directors, which includes Douglas Rill as Chair, Bob Nichols as Vice-Chair, and attorney James Bearden. Douglas Rill announced that a search committee is focused on finding a new location for Mr. Reynolds' vast collection of Hollywood memorabilia as well as performance venues in the area. If anyone would like to offer space call Mr. Rill at 561.252.2726. For any other BRIFT info call 561.385.1584.



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## G-STAR ATTRACTS REPEAT CLIENTS



The dance team at G-Star's sound stage

The atmosphere was electric as cameras rolled on students from the **G-Star School of the Arts**. Six students from the dance team starred alongside professional dancers in footage that will be utilized for a commercial for Barco, a global technology company, said director **David Niles**, founder of the **Niles Creative Group**. The students also worked with choreographer John Dietrich to learn a routine for a production meant to showcase Barco's lighting system. "This is a professional studio. It's the real thing," said **David Niles**.

The Niles Creative Group was previously at G-Star to film the Comcast Holiday Spectacular in 2011. A winter wonderland was built in the sound stage, and the footage was seen at The Comcast Center in Philadelphia, PA. For more info visit [gstarschool.org](http://gstarschool.org).



## SURPRISE, SURPRISE, BABY!



Rob Van Winkle  
DIY Network

Nesty and Michelle Núñez of Lake Worth were chosen from almost 1,000 photo and video submissions to a \$30,000 room renovation as part of **DIY Network's Ice My House** special. **Rob Van Winkle** better known as, Vanilla Ice, the 90's pop icon turned renovator, surprised the couple outside their home with the great news! Crews have been hard at work renovating the home for the Wellington Elementary school teachers. "This couple is a perfect family to come over here and showcase," said Van Winkle.

The episode featuring the Núñez family is expected to air in early 2013. The crew is also filming the third season of the **The Vanilla Ice Project**. Check your local listings for air dates/times. Special thanks to the City of Lake Worth for their assistance. For info visit [DIYNetwork.com](http://DIYNetwork.com).



## PBC MAKES CAMEO APPEARANCE



Cast and Crew

Producers of the family feature film **All That You Can't Leave Behind** have completed principal photography. Writer/Director **William A. Butland** is thrilled, "This completion gets us into the all-important phases of post-production. The film, shot at various locations throughout Palm Beach County (PBC), centers on the troubles of a workaholic attorney, and his family." **Producer C. Todd Vittum** said, "Everything we needed, was available right here in the County-cast, crew, locations-you name it!" Locations included the LaBovick Law Firm in Palm Beach Gardens, Cobblestone Café in Tequesta, and in private homes.



Students from Dreyfoos School of the Arts, G-Star School of the Arts, and the Burt Reynolds Institute for Film & Theatre (BRIFT) were utilized in roles in front of, and behind the camera. "We are truly indebted to the film community, especially BRIFT-they allowed us to hold auditions at their facility, and aided immensely in casting"



said Vittum. For info visit [ATYCLB.com](http://ATYCLB.com).



## PALM BEACH ROX COMPLETES EQUITY JOINT VENTURES



**Palm Beach Rox, Inc. (PBRI)** completed its equity stock swap with Polo Gear U.S.A., Inc. (PG), and completed a similar agreement with Goldstar Entertainment Group, Inc. (GEG). **Roxanna Cella**, President and Host of **Palm Beach Rox**, the TV show that has aired in South Florida for more than 8 years, stated that she is excited to welcome GEG to the RoxWorld.TV Network. Goldstar Entertainment Group On Demand (GEGOD) will be the latest of the RoxWorld.TV online channels. The Equestrian Channel features all things polo and every other aspect of the equine lifestyle.



Roxanna  
Cella

"The Equestrian Channel was a no brainer. Gary Fellers, Polo Gear U.S.A.'s Founder and CEO and Co-Founder, Jeanette Sassoon, are long time friends of mine and are real polo players. Polo Gear manufactures and distributes all aspects of the equestrian disciplines. We live in the equestrian capital of the United States, Wellington, FL - right in our own backyard of Palm Beach County," said Cella. For more info contact Bill Cella at [Bill@PalmBeachRox.com](mailto:Bill@PalmBeachRox.com).

## SPOOKY FLICK DEBUTS ON iTunes



The indie flick, **The Incubus** is now available on iTunes! "This is another step in the distribution of my movie," said Executive Producer and Co-Director **Marcie Gorman**. The movie can also be seen on the DIRECTV platform. *The Incubus* shot in South Florida

The film revolves around a group of mysterious teens who move into the small town of Spoon River. All of a sudden, people in the neighborhood are starting to come down with an unexplained disease. In spite of this, one girl is intrigued by the spirits that embraces the newcomers. Will her curiosity be the death of her? The film is rated PG-13. For info visit [apple.com/itunes](http://apple.com/itunes).

## PHOTOG BRINGS THE OLYMPICS TO PBC



Michael Phelps, Gold Medalist. Photo By: Adam Stoltman

Just days after the closing ceremony of the 2012 Olympic Games, the **Palm Beach Photographic Centre** is presenting an exhibition of images captured in London by renowned sports photographer **Adam Stoltman**. Stoltman has covered 11 Olympic Games. "The new images from London reflect my small participation in this grand tradition," said Stoltman.

The exhibition will run through November 10. The Photographic Centre is located in the City Center Municipal Complex. For more info call 561.253.2600.



Gabby Douglas, Gold Medalist. Photo By: Adam Stoltman

## STUDENT SHOWCASE WINNER CONTINUES TO SUCCEED



The Palm Beach International Film Festival's Student Showcase of Films (SSOF) has a keen eye for talent. One of those talents, the 2011 winner in the College, Feature/Short Category has gone on to win many other awards. **Akil DuPont's *Underground*** has won two student Emmys, as well as 18 awards in 20 film festivals, and has played in 38 countries. Featuring beautiful cinematography, *Underground* tells the story of a slave who plans to escape after learning that his daughter has been sold to another slave owner. DuPont directed the film while attending the MFA program at The Florida State University College of Motion and Picture Arts, rated by **The Hollywood Reporter** as among the top 25 film schools in the world. "Winning 1st place in the SSOF



On the set of *Underground*

was amazing! It was truly one of the best ceremonies that I have attended with my tour of *Underground*. The film has allowed me to meet with several Hollywood producers, actors and Oscar winners & nominees. I have since worked as a Production Designer on a feature film, and produced and shot a national promo commercial for Florida A & M University," said DuPont.



The next SSOF will be held on **Friday, March 15, 2013** at **Lynn University's Keith C. and Elaine Johnson Wold Performing Arts Center** in **Boca Raton**. Nearly 700 students and film enthusiasts will gather as cash prizes and scholarships are awarded in several categories. For more information please visit [pbfilm.com](http://pbfilm.com).

### 3rd ANNUAL L-DUB FILM FEST KICKS OFF!



L-Dub  
Poster

The **2012 L-Dub Film Festival** will take place September 28-30, 2012 at the **Lake Worth Playhouse Stonzek Theatre!** The opening night festivities will take place on September 28 at 7:00pm with a filmmaker reception at Callaro's Steakhouse. The festival will then continue with an innovative selection across a variety of genres from music videos, shorts and documentaries to full length feature films.



"We want to provide a unique opportunity for young and seasoned artists to socialize, network and interact with other local filmmakers in a relaxed environment that caters to fostering new relationships, establishing business connections, deal making, engaging in creative discussions and learning from other professionals in the industry," said Festival Director **Charlie Birnbaum**. A highlight of this year's festival will be when actor **Alex Hyde-White** (*Pretty Woman*, *Catch Me If You Can*) is honored with a prestigious award. Filmmakers will also be honored with jury and audience choice awards. For more info visit [lakeworthplayhouse.org](http://lakeworthplayhouse.org).

### INAUGURAL SWEDE FEST IS A HIT



Emcees: Jesse Furman  
and Frank Licari

The **Borland Center for the Performing Arts** welcomed more than 500 film fans to the red carpet premiere of **swede fest™ palm beach**. A "swede" is a no-budget, laughably bad remake of a hit Hollywood film.

The audience was entertained from opening to final credits of this grassroots, DIY film festival "celebrating bad movies by good people" by emcees **The Jove Comedy Experience**. Audience members selected a parody of *The Hulk*, made by 10 and 11-year-old brothers from Stuart, for the Audience Choice Award. They will receive a VIP tour of the Digital Domain Tradition Studios. The Academy Award-winning production company's Digital Domain Institute partnered with the Festival.



"We were absolutely thrilled with the number of swedes submitted, and even more so with the number of people who came out to celebrate the very first swede fest™ palm beach," said **Belle Forino**, Marketing Coordinator for Mainstreet at Midtown. Swede fest™ palm beach 2013 is already scheduled for Friday, August 2, 2013. For more info call Belle Forino at 561.282.4623.

### BELOVED ACTOR DIES AT 63



Ron Palillo

**Ron Palillo**, best known as Arnold Horshack on the 1970s TV series **Welcome Back, Kotter**, recently passed away at his Palm Beach Gardens home. Palillo had been teaching acting classes at the **G-Star School of the Arts** for the past three years.

Palillo chose to add to his career credits the role of teacher, epitomizing the indispensable and important act for entertainment professionals; the act of passing it on and giving back. "He was the greatest guy. He was appreciative of working with the kids, and the kids loved him," said G-Star Founder/CEO, **Greg Hauptner**. Palillo was 63, and services were held in Palm Beach Gardens.

### FTC CONGRATULATES SUMMER INTERNS



Claude Simeus, Cristi Hahn

Please join the Palm Beach County Film & Television Commission in congratulating **Cristi Hahn** and **Claude Simeus** as they graduate the internship program. Cristi is an upcoming sophomore at the Savannah College of Art and Design. She hopes to pursue a career in Cinematography, where she would like to become a Steadicam Operator.

Claude recently graduated on the Dean's List from St. Augustine College. "This internship gave me the opportunity to learn about media, film and production," said Simeus. For more information about the FTC's internship program, please visit [pbfilm.com](http://pbfilm.com).

## LOCATION SPOTLIGHT: MORIKAMI MUSEUM AND JAPANESE GARDENS



Pathway through gardens

Experience Florida's link to Japan through the **Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens** located in Delray Beach. Not only is the Morikami an incredible attraction and the largest Japanese garden in the Southeast United States, it is also a therapeutic journey through winding pathways and beautiful structures. Visitors can pass under towering bamboo, cross over a series of bridges, or rest on one of the benches as they overlook the breathtaking views throughout the tranquil gardens. The peaceful surroundings are simply spectacular, urging visitors to relax and enjoy the beauty that is in every detail.



Pine Forest



Waterfall

The architecture of the main building is inspired by traditional Japanese design. It features an exhibition gallery, a 224 seat theater, library, classrooms, Museum Store, and the Museum's on-site restaurant, The Cornell Café. Upon exiting the rear of the Museum, guests will venture onto an expansive tri-level terrace area with stairs that descend to the lakefront, making the Morikami a dramatic venue for any event. There are six different styles of gardens on the property that blend seamlessly together to form what it known as Roji-en. Each segment illustrates a different historical period and particular style of Japanese gardening. All of the gardens combine beautiful water features, pavilions, bridges, benches, fencing and gates that are masterfully crafted in Japanese style.



Yamato-kan



Late Rock Garden

The Morikami hosts three annual festivals. They commence each January with Oshogatsu, the celebration of the New Year. Each March, springtime is welcomed during the Hatsume Fair, while Morikami's most magical festival, Obon, is celebrated in August. This event culminates with the ceremonial floating of the lanterns and a spectacular fireworks display. Many commercials have been filmed at Morikami including Audi, Claritin, and City Furniture. For more info visit [pbfilm.com](http://pbfilm.com).



Woodruff Bridge

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