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Missouri Film Commission News

October 10, 2008

FILM OFFICE NEWS

Film Office Notes: In July, the Missouri Film Office relocated from the University of Missouri campus in Columbia back to the Truman state office building in Jefferson City. Although now lodged in the offices of the Department of Economic Development, the Film Office remains a part of the Extension Division of Mizzou, and staff remain employees of the University. This was the result of an agreement that extends DED's contract with the University to provide film office services through April 30, 2009. Additionally, DED has agreed to let the film office share an administrative assistant with the International division. Also, DED has updated the film office's very antiquated computer equipment. Plus, staff now have access to both university email and new state email addresses. **Steve Wyatt** from the University and **Rhonda Meyer** with DED have been very positive and extremely helpful in piloting the film office through this unique situation. In Hollywood parlance, they've done a boffo job.

Another change: **Krista Zurkamer** who, as boards and commissions coordinator for the Department of Economic Development has been the liaison between DED and the Film Office, moved up last month to the position of International Business Manager – Japan. Turns out she speaks Japanese (who knew?). Replacing her as boards and commissions coordinator is **Marcy Mealy**. Congrats to both Krista and Marcy.

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EXPO

Springfield's first **Motion Media Expo** will be held at the Keyes Art Gallery, 229 South Market Avenue, Springfield, Friday, Oct. 10, 8-11:00 p.m. The Expo has been organized for producers, directors, filmmakers, composers, writers, designers, talent and a host of supporting services to the film industry. Green Glass Productions' producer Jonna Volz-Howes and the Missouri Film Alliance of Springfield worked together to produce the Expo, with the purpose of creating a networking and sales environment for independent and production businesses in the region. Registration is required for businesses and individuals who desire to be in the MFAS' film directory and to be showcased by displaying their marketing tools via print and digital formats at the Expo. Details and costs for registration can be seen at www.greenglassproductions.net.

WORKSHOP

Making the Extremely Low Budget Feature workshop will be offered free to the public at the University of Missouri, Columbia, on Friday, Oct. 24, 4-6:30 p.m. The workshop will be conducted by veteran Hollywood filmmaker Kelley Baker, whose sound design credits include "Law and Order" and "Good Will Hunting." Baker, known as "The Angry Filmmaker," has also written and produced three full-length feature films. The first a 90-minute feature called "The Gas

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Production notes . . . VH1 shot two days of a new reality TV series in St. Louis last month. . . The Detroit, Mich., **PBS** affiliate produced a special for the network in Branson in September, utilizing 10 HD cameras . . . Screenwriter/director **Mitch Brian** directed three days of location shooting in Kansas City recently on a short film entitled "Rhubarb Pie" . . . **"Extreme Makeover: Home Edition"** was on location last month in St. Louis, accounting for 600 room-nights at their Chesterfield hotel during their 10-day stay . . . **MTV** completed filming an episode of the reality series "MADE" last month in Columbia . . . **"The Day the Earth Stood Still,"** starring Keanu Reeves, a remake of the 1951 science fiction classic, filmed a day of helicopter second unit shots in St. Louis along the Mississippi River in late August . . . **"RISK: At-Risk Girls Behind the Camera,"** a feature-length documentary that filmed last summer in Kansas City and St. Joseph, returned in August for two weeks of additional shooting (for more info, go to <http://girlsbehindthecamera.org/>) . . . "Split Ends," a reality TV show for the **Style channel**, shot Aug. 5-9 in locations around KC . . . An L.A.-based production company shot two **music videos** Aug. 15-17, one in Columbia and one in St. Louis . . . the **BBC** was in the state Aug. 13-15 to shoot footage on a special about explorers Lewis and Clark . . . "Stray Rescue," a reality TV series, shot in St. Louis Aug. 6-12 . . . Kansas City's Kemper Arena hosted auditions for **"American Idol"** on Aug. 8.

MISSOURI NEWS

KDHX TV is looking for video production interns. Interns are allowed hands-on production experience that is not possible at other production houses in the St. Louis area. KDHX production interns assist the education, programming, production and media arts departments of KDHX. This is a non-paid internship position.

KDHX-TV Channel 21 & 22 are (public and community access) in St. Louis City on Charter Cable. KDHX-TV cablecasts 12 hours of programming each day, seven days a week. All KDHX TV programs are volunteer-produced and crewed.

Interns are expected to make a 12-20 hours per week, 200 hours per semester commitment. Interns also have the opportunity to volunteer if they are not seeking credit. They must currently be enrolled in a university/community college seeking a degree in video production and must be knowledgeable and proficient with Final Cut Pro/Express, Photoshop and After Effects. Deadlines for applications are spring, Jan. 15 and summer May 30. For more info, contact Korinne Fischer, Volunteer Coordinator, at 314-664-3955 x 308 or kfischer@kdhx.org.

Grants are available for film/video projects focused on the arts, culture and history of University City and the greater St. Louis region. **The Commission for Access and Local Original Programming (CALOP)** is seeking applications for funding for these projects. The deadline for all entries is October 31, 2008, at 5:00 PM. For more info, visit CALOP's web page at <http://www.ucitymo.org/index.asp?NID=373>.

Independent films looking for some exposure will find an audience at **Truman State University** in Kirksville. The Filmmaker's Club there is soliciting films to exhibit at the school. "Our organization is unable to pay the licensing fees that many films require," says club president

Café," was produced for \$4000. The workshop is being sponsored by the Informational Technology program in the School of Engineering. For more info, contact Chip Gubera at 573-882-6566 or at gubercac@missouri.edu.

FILM FESTIVALS



The upcoming inaugural Stephens College's **Citizen Jane Film Festival** in Columbia will offer audiences a weekend of female filmmakers, films, panel discussions and workshops on the Stephens College campus October 17-19. For more info, go to www.stephens.edu/citizenjane.



The line-up for the 17th annual **St. Louis International Film Festival** was announced last Wednesday at the Jewel Box in Forest Park, with Cinema St. Louis executive director Cliff Froehlich saying it will be the best fest ever. The festival, which runs Nov. 13-23 at venues including the Tivoli and Plaza Frontenac, will be almost double the size of last year's, with 45 documentaries and 90 feature films. There will also be seminars and other special events, including the making of "WALL-E" with Pixar director of photography Jeremy Lasky and an interview with Michael Apted. For more info and the complete program, go to www.cinemastlouis.org.

IN THEATERS



"American Shopper," the made-in-Columbia feature film, will open at Rag Tag Cinema in Columbia on Wednesday Oct. 29, followed by a cast and crew Q&A. The DVD version will be released in stores and online on Nov.18. "American Shopper" is the story of an unlikely new sport, "aisling," and those who put their

Jimmy Moore, "so we're reaching out to new filmmakers whose projects don't have distribution. We're offering screening space at no cost." Screenings would be promoted on campus. For more info, contact Jimmy at tsuifilmmakers@gmail.com or at 573-470-1787.

There's still time to enter the **National Film Challenge**. Brought to you by the creators of the 48 Hour Film Project KDHX Community Media in St. Louis, the event takes place Oct. 24-27. The NFC is a timed filmmaking competition where teams have just one weekend to make a short film. The registration fee is \$125, and teams may register through Oct. 23. For more info, go to www.filmchallenge.org.

KC Jubilee Film Festival and FilmFestKC have joined forces to create **Kansas City FilmFest** for 2009. The new festival, presented by the Kansas City Filmmakers Jubilee, will be held April 22-26, 2009. All filmmakers, anywhere, are invited to submit short or feature films - drama, comedy, documentary, animation or experimental work. Upcoming submission deadlines are Nov. 15 and Dec. 1. For more info, go to www.kcjubilee.org or call 913-649-0244 or email: kclub@kcjubilee.org.

INDUSTRY NEWS

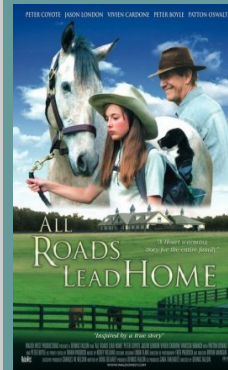
In 2004, the **U.S. Jobs Creation Act** allowed investors in film productions to take a single-year deduction of up to \$15 million in production costs incurred in the U.S. Enacted to stimulate production in the U.S., which had been losing favor to other countries with significant financial incentives, the provision was due to sunset on Dec 31, 2008. Last week the section was amended to extend it for one more year, with President Bush expected to sign it into law this week.

Michigan's aggressive financial incentive program for filmmakers may also result in a studio building boom in the state. The Grand Rapids Press reported recently that Los Angeles-based V-One Entertainment Group is planning to build sound stages and install production facilities in three locations around the state. Meanwhile, a new movie studio opened Tuesday in Columbia, SC, complete with sound stages, editing facilities and trained film crew. At ribbon-cutting ceremonies, State Film Commissioner Jeff Monks said that while numerous movies have been shot in part in South Carolina, "having a facility where larger and more expensive projects can be produced" will likely attract Hollywood filmmakers.

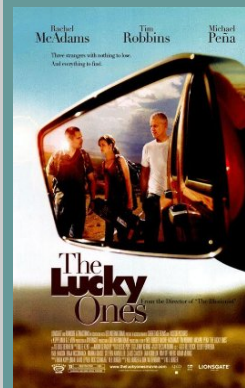
Nashville, Tenn., has plans to go beyond "Music City" and become "Movie City" as well. According to the Nashville "Tennessean," the city's 821 Entertainment and Woodland, CA-based Tower Investments have proposed that the 117-acre site of the Tennessee State Fairgrounds be developed into a "media village" that would include a film studio, a 5,000-7,000-seat auditorium, a film school, a hotel and retail stores. "This is about creating a whole new industry in Nashville," 821 co-founder Eric Geadelmann told the newspaper. He said that the studio ideally would provide the kind of productions generally associated with Nashville country and Christian music. "Our goal is to plant the heartland flag, to dominate those niches and build a lasting brand," he said.

Film production has been slow in a number of places. In August, only two major studio films were shooting in **Southern California**: DreamWorks' [Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen](http://www.transformers.com) and Sony's [Angels & Demons](http://www.angelsanddemons.com). The slowdown is a result of scheduling decisions made a year

grocery carts to the test to become its champion. For more info on tickets, go to www.ragtagfilm.com. For more info on the film, visit www.americanshoppermovie.com.



"**All Roads Lead Home**" unspooled in theaters Sept. 26, exclusively at AMC, in Kansas City, Phoenix and Minneapolis. "Roads" was filmed on location in greater Kansas City in the spring of 2005. Directed by Dennis Fallon, it stars Peter Coyote and the late Peter Boyle. www.allroadsleadhomethemovie.com



Last summer, St. Louis was the location for three weeks of filming for the feature "**The Lucky Ones**" (originally entitled "The Return"), starring Tim Robbins, Rachel McAdams and Michael Pena. The centerpiece location was Lambert International Airport, which portrayed itself and stood in for airports in New York, Atlanta and Las Vegas. "The Lucky Ones" opened in a limited release (400 theatres) last week, including Kansas City and St. Louis. To view the trailer, go to www.theluckyonesmovie.com.

ON DVD



Two made-in-

ago in anticipation of a possible actors strike. Most of the films set for release during the coming year have already been filmed, but production is likely to accelerate in the fall.

Missouri Films became available on home video in July. Meet Bill starring Aaron Eckhart, Elizabeth Banks and Jessica Alba, and Alice, Upside Down with Penny Marshall, Luke Perry and Lucas Gabeel, both filmed in St. Louis