

THE MISSOURI FILM COMMISSION

WEEKLY WRAP-UP

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www.mofilm.org

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI
Extension



Promoting Missouri to the Film Industry

MISSOURI NEWS

Welcome to the Weekly Wrap-Up, the weekly e-newsletter produced by the Missouri Film Office. Here you'll get the latest updates on film and video production in Missouri. Year-end statistical tidbit: the Missouri Film Office web site was a busy cyber place in 2007. The site received 681,520 hits, or an average of 1,867 hits a day. There were 82,345 total visitors; an average of 225 visitors per day.



Production Update: "First Night," St. Louis' spectacular New Year's Eve celebration, was given the documentary treatment by the PBS affiliate KETC. The program was made available to all PBS affiliates in the region ... "Edgar Allen Poe's Ligeia," with Wes Bently and Eric Roberts, completed principal photography in St. Louis in December, almost. In a very rare occurrence, the film lab spoiled one day's shooting, so the production will regroup to reshoot that day. The film is an adaptation of an Edgar Allan Poe short story ... Producer Robert Weinbach says that his film, "Shiver," is on track to begin principal photography by the first week of April. The film will star Erica Leerhsen, Keith Carradine and Brad Dourif. A production office will open by next week and that contact info will be posted on www.mofilm.org.



MOMMA is up and running on the web. Check out the new website – www.mommaonline.com – for the **Missouri Motion Media Association (MOMMA)**, an organization dedicated to supporting the film and television industry in our state. It's loaded with information, links and an application, where you can sign up to be a member of MOMMA!

The Santa Barbara International Film Festival concluded earlier this month after unspooling three made-in-Missouri films: "The Long Road Home" with Peter Coyote, Peter Boyle and Jason Loudon filmed in Kansas City; "Alice Upside Down" with Luke Perry, Penny Marshall and Lucas Grabeel filmed in St. Louis; and "Still Waters" with Lake Bell, Jason Clarke and Ken Howard filmed in Drake.

Classes: Ready to pen that romantic comedy, but not quite sure how to go about it? Sign up for the **Master Class on Comedy Screenwriting**, presented by **KC Filmmakers Jubilee and the University of Missouri-Kansas City** film studies program. The two-day intensive class will be held Mar. 1-2 and cost just \$100 for early birds who register and pay by Feb. 15; or \$125 after that date. Full-time students pay just \$50. Presenters include Michael Kalesniko ("Bubble Boy"), Robert ("Aristocats II") and Mitch Brian ("Batman: The Animated Series"), who is also a visiting assistant professor at UMKC. For more info: www.kcjubilee.org, kcjub@kcjubilee.org or (913) 649-0244. **The Studio Inc.** (www.thestudiobrentwood.com), in cooperation with Hanson Entertainment Industries, Inc. (www.castingbykim.com), is offering a series of master classes in commercial acting. "Actor's Workshop," Mar. 9, taught by actor/acting coach Brian Cutler, will cover scene study, cold reading tips, improve skills and more. The cost per class is only \$75. For more info, or to enroll, contact The Studio Inc. (314) 968-4881.

Competitions: Cinema St. Louis and the Animal Protective Association of Missouri invite filmmakers living within a 120-mile radius of St. Louis to **create a short film about the bond between people and their pets**. Finalists will be showcased on the APA website, the APA MySpace page, YouTube and at the APA's Grand Reopening Party. Cinema St. Louis will then choose one of the films to screen at the St. Louis Filmmakers Showcase in July. The entry deadline is April 1, 2008. For more info, contact Becky Kreuger (314) 645-4610 ext. 124 or education@apamo.org ... Cinema St. Louis is accepting submissions for the **2008 CinemaSpoke Screenwriting Competition and Workshop**. CinemaSpoke is an opportunity for St. Louis-area screenwriters to have their work read aloud in a public forum by professional and amateur actors and to receive feedback from a panel of film-industry members. Entry deadline is Feb. 29, 2008. For more info contact Cinema St. Louis at (314) 289-4150 or www.cinemastlouis.org.

Now scouting: A feature film needs a small town that could stand in for a Nebraska town. It's a contemporary piece, but the town should look somewhat frozen in time. Railroad tracks nearby and a town square are preferred. Another feature is looking for a large food-processing plant that would be film friendly. If you have some possibilities, contact us at mofilm@missouri.edu.

The **2008 Show-Me Missouri International Film Festival** kicks off its three-day run today in Springfield. The Moxie Cinema and the Gillioz Theatre are the venues for the festival, which also features filmmaker receptions and workshops. Saturday morning offers a workshop on making short films, particularly for the upcoming 48-Hour Filmmaker Challenge in April. An afternoon workshop has filmmakers discussing independent documentary production in the 21st century. A filmmakers' reception takes place Saturday night and the awards ceremony is Sunday. For more info, go to www.missourifilm.com.



INDUSTRY NEWS

Do you have production news or photos from set to share? E-mail us at mofilm@missouri.edu

Wisconsin is after the "Third Coast" for filmmakers title, according to the "Hollywood Reporter." The state's new 25 percent film tax credit kicked in this month, but Wisconsin takes its offer a step farther by guaranteeing theatrical distribution for films shot in the state. Film Wisconsin, the state's film office, has made a deal with Wisconsin-based Marcus Theatres to provide its almost 600 screens in six Midwestern states for the distribution program. "Marcus Theatres will provide the foundation bookings that may lead to multiple playdates from other theater circuits in major markets across the Midwest and U.S.," Marcus president Bruce Olson wrote in a letter to Film Wisconsin. "The number and playdates will be determined by the final quality and appeal of the production." Marcus retains the right to refuse to screen a film, but Olson said it "will make all reasonable efforts to accommodate the filmmakers' request for bookings" on films receiving a G, PG, PG-13 or R rating. Film Wisconsin executive director Scott Robbe said the biggest impact of the commitment will be felt by independent filmmakers. "The hardest thing for an indie filmmaker is to go to an investor and say, 'We have a guarantee to be in a theater,'" Robbe said. "With this deal, it makes investors more likely to give you money. It immediately increases the value of a project." Wisconsin hopes the double combo of incentives and theatrical run, along with working with the nearby Chicago and Illinois film offices, will help establish an alternative to the Los Angeles and New York film scenes.