

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.

Production notes: The feature "Lie to Me" begins principal photography in Kansas City this week and is in need of extras. AKA casting wants "as many cute and stylish and artsy people as possible (yes, this means you)." The big days for extras are May 18 2 pm -2 am (wedding reception); May 19, 9 am to sunset (wedding); May 23, evening (boutique opening). Contact local casting director Anne Kellogg at (816) 719-4640 anne@akacasting.com ... "Kingshighway," starring Eric Roberts, Burt Young (pictured left with writer/producer Dan Bishop) and Edward Furlong, wrapped this week in St. Louis ... Open call auditions for "Saving Grace," a feature planning to film later this summer in Mid-Missouri, will take place Sunday, May 20, 11am to 5pm, at Boonville's Days Inn, (I-70 exit 103). "Saving Grace," based on a true event that took place in 1951 Boonville, will be the directorial debut of singer/actress Connie Stevens (pictured right). The casting director is



looking for Caucasian girls ages 10-12, men and women 35-45, and African-American men 40-65. Girls must be available for the entire six-week shoot and willing to travel. If you're interested in auditioning, bring a current photo and resume with contact information. If you are unable to attend, send your information to the Days Inn and mark "HOLD FOR ARRIVAL - Sarah Koeppel/Saving Grace." Auditions will begin with girls; adult auditions will begin about 3 p.m.

May 21 is the premiere date for a 20-minute documentary, "Art on the Block," that follows ten Midwest artists from concept to installation as they create site-specific work for H&R Block's new headquarters in Kansas City. Putting a human face on art as an agent of urban renewal, the project was a year-long endeavor by eight UMKC Film Studies students under the direction of professor Daven Gee. For more info contact ArtProgram@hrblock.com or (816) 854-5678.

The **St. Louis 48 Hour Film Project** is on pace to be one of the largest 48HFPs in the country. If you thought you missed your chance to sign up for one of the hottest national film festivals, you're wrong. The St. Louis 48HFP just scheduled another screening at the Tivoli for Tuesday, June 12, which means more room for more contestants. Visit <http://www.48hourfilm.com/stlouis/> for entry details.

St. Louis filmmakers have until May 31 to submit their films to the **Seventh Annual St. Louis Filmmakers Showcase**. A presentation of Cinema St. Louis, this year's showcase kicks off July 21 with filmmaking seminars at the Centene Center for Arts and Education, followed by screenings at the Tivoli Theatre July 22-25. The event wraps with a filmmakers reception and awards party July 26 at Blueberry Hill. Downloadable entry forms are available at www.cinemastlouis.org/showcase.cfm. Submissions are automatically entered for consideration to the St. Louis International Film Festival, Nov. 8-18. Cinema St. Louis will also assist the **Muscular Dystrophy Association** in recruiting volunteer filmmakers to work at the MDA summer camp in Babler State Park in Wildwood June 18-22. The filmmaker(s) would teach the basics of filmmaking by collaborating with a group of campers to make a short film about the camping program. Contact Amy Braasch at abraasch@mdausa.org or call 314-683-2041 no later than June 8. For more info, contact www.cinemastlouis.org, Cliff Froehlich at cliff@cinemastlouis.org or 314-289-4151.



St. Louisan **Jeremy Corray** (pictured right) is one of 50 finalists (selected from 12,000 entries) in FOX TV's latest reality series, "On the Lot." Produced by Mark Burnett, Steven Spielberg and Dreamworks Productions, "On the Lot" will use audience voting to narrow the field and pick the best filmmaker. The first two episodes of the show will air May 22 and 24. For more info, go to www.thelot.com.



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Check out our website www.mofilm.org

Legislative update: **HB 327**, an economic development bill containing legislation to increase the annual film tax credits to \$10.5 million, passed the house and senate last Thursday and was sent to the governor for his signature. The governor has until June 30 to sign the bill. The bill also makes some other significant changes to the existing tax credit statute, including: eliminating a per-project cap (currently the cap is \$1 million in credits per project); reducing the minimum Missouri expenditure to \$50,000 for projects 30 minutes and under and \$100,000 for projects over 30 minutes (currently the minimum for all productions is \$300,000); and reducing the percentage of Missouri expenditures awarded as tax credits to 35 percent (currently productions receive 50 percent of their Missouri expenditures in tax credits). For more info, go to <http://www.house.mo.gov/bills071/bills/HB327.HTM>

INDUSTRY NEWS

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

Location filming in Los Angeles plummeted 22 percent during the first quarter, according to FilmLA, the private group that coordinates location permitting in the area. The group said that it had recorded 1,860 days of location shooting for movies during the quarter versus 2,386 days during the same quarter a year ago. In an interview with the Los Angeles Daily News, FilmLA President Steve MacDonald blamed the sharp decline on runaway production. "With substantial tax credits and rebates, other states have been able to lure big-budget films and the jobs and tax revenues that go with them," MacDonald said. By contrast, California offers no such incentives, he noted. Jack Kyser, vice president and chief economist of the L.A. County Economic Development Corp., chastised California lawmakers for failing to match the economic lures of other states. "The silence out of Sacramento is appalling," Kyser said. "There are jobs created and tax revenue generated for the state. I don't know what is going on up there but it is definitely something that they need to take seriously."