

THE MISSOURI FILM COMMISSION WEEKLY WRAP-UP

August 9, 2006



Promoting Missouri to the Film Industry

MISSOURI NEWS

Welcome to the return of 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.

Sandy Tung, who produced and directed "Saving Shiloh" last summer in Pacific, was back in the St. Louis area last week to scout for his next project, "Alice." Like "Shiloh," "Alice" is based upon the young adult books of author Phyllis Reynolds Naylor. Principal photography should begin in September; check our web site www.mofilm.org for contact information when the production office opens, probably in the next two weeks.



British producer **Vanessa Greene**, who has made television movies in this area before ("Monday After the Miracle" and "Stolen Women"), was back in KC last month scouting for a feature project. She met with a number of people, including Missouri Film Office staff and casting director Heather Laird. Vanessa hopes to begin production on the film as early as this fall. The production is also considering locations outside of Missouri. (Pictured: Producer Vanessa Greene, Jerry Jones, casting director Heather Laird and assistant casting director Annie Bahner in Kansas City's historic Savoy Grill.)



From July 17 to July 30, 42 women and five men from 18 states produced a pilot for a television drama as part of the Summer Film Institute at Stephens College in Columbia. **Ken LaZebnik**, professor of film at Stephens College, runs the summer program. Ken is a screenwriter ("Touched by an Angel," "Prairie Home Companion") who commutes to Columbia from Hollywood. He wrote the pilot and recruited industry professionals to teach at the camp and work on the production. (Pictured: director Bill Rabkin, ["Diagnosis Murder,"] listens to Ken LaZebnik explain a scene on location at Stephens College in Columbia.) For more on this story, go to www.columbiatribune.com/2006/Jul/20060723Ovation001.asp



Thursday, July 27, was a busy evening for the Missouri Film Office. Two events that night were sponsored in part by the MFO: the wrap party for the **St. Louis Filmmakers Showcase** and **Cedric the Entertainer's Celebrity Bowling Benefit**. Held at Lucky Strike Lanes in the St. Louis Mills Mall, the Benefit featured celebrities that included actor Anthony Anderson, Nelly and, of course, Missouri native Cedric the Entertainer. Proceeds went to Cedric's Charitable Foundation, established to "reach out and give back" to the St. Louis Community. The Showcase wrap party at historic Blueberry Hill on the Loop in University City was highlighted with the presentation of awards to Showcase winners (www.cinemastlouis.org/filmist3.cfm). Spotted at the party were Missouri Film Commission board member Cindy Sheltmire and her husband Steve; director Sandy Tung; producers Justin Moore-Lewy and Charles Mason, who hope to begin production in Missouri on a feature film in October; make-up artist Lisa Kalz; and Cinema St. Louis Honcho Cliff Froehlich and deputy Honcho Chris Clark. (Pictured: MFO's Andrea Sporcic and Cedric the Entertainer want everyone to film in Missouri.)

INDUSTRY NEWS

Rhode Island's governor is not a big fan of the movie industry spending millions of dollars in his state, according to a story from the Internet Movie Database. The governor has ordered that a movie prop flag be lowered from the top of the Statehouse in Providence where the Disney movie Underdog -- a live-action film based on the animated TV cartoon series -- had been filming since July 10. Gov. Don Carcieri also objected to temporary alterations of the building. "I don't think in the future it's appropriate to take apart the inside of the Statehouse to do this filming," Carcieri said during a news conference. He also said that he will more closely scrutinize any future film projects involving the capitol. The Associated Press reported Monday that during the filming, the Statehouse's front entrance and rotunda were occasionally closed and that government employees complained about having to give up their parking spaces and navigate through movie equipment cluttering the building. However, Steven Feinberg, director of the Rhode Island Film and Television Office, observed that the movie produced 300 full-time jobs and 3,000 temporary jobs for extras. Moreover, he told AP, "This movie is going to promote our state to a worldwide audience. ... It is going to have a positive impact on tourism that is priceless."

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **September 8-14**
Filmfest Kansas City
- **October 25-30**
Cineposium, Pasadena, CA
- **November 9-19**
St. Louis International Film Festival

SCOUTING REPORT

We are currently in search of the following locations for projects. Email your photos to mofilm@missouri.edu

- Rail yard in St. Louis area

WEEKLY WEB REPORT

- Website Hits: **3283**

PROJECT REPORT

- Crew requests: 3
- Location requests: 5
- Resource Requests: 2

