

2008 FACT SHEET

Downtown Providence, Rhode Island was invaded August 5-10 for the 12th Annual Rhode Island International Film Festival (RIIFF). 312 filmmakers, cast and crew from around the world came to exhibit their films, meet with distributors and compete for the Festival's top prizes. RIIFF is accredited by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences as a qualifier for Oscar in the Best Short (Live Action) category. The Opening Night Program took place at the historic Providence Performing Arts Center (PPAC). Sony Corporation and HB Communications sponsorship provided the Festival with the latest High Definition projection technology for screenings PPAC and at the Columbus Theatre Arts Center. The Festival was cited by Chris Gore in "The Ultimate Film Festival Survival Guide, 3rd edition (2004), as one of the Best International and Short Festivals in the United States and "One of the most exciting new festivals to come along, Rhode Island International Film Festival aggressively supports its filmmakers." Travel Smart Magazine in 2006 also cited RIIFF as one of the "Top 12 Film Festivals in the United States."

RIIFF By the Numbers: Interesting facts and statistics:

- The Festival is accredited by the **Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences** as a qualifying festival for the Academy Award for the Best Short (Live Action). Only 63 festivals out of over 7,000 worldwide share this honor. RIIFF is the only AA affiliated Festival in New England. (Academy Accreditation was granted in 2002).
- **25,600+**: Number of participants for RIIFF 12 events throughout the year.
- **3,105**: Number of Films entered in competition to the Festival up from 2,479 in 2007.
- **292** films were screened over the six-day run of the Festival.
- **13**: Celebrities attending RIIFF included *Bythe Danner, John Ratzenberger, Richard Jenkins, Mark Margolis, Kevin Sheridan, Ron Palillo, Dan Butler, Michael Corrente, Jason Clarke, Kevin Sheridan, Doug Olear, Paul Benedict, Robert Pattinson (via telephone) and Marlyn Mason*
- **2**: Industry Awards Presented. **The George M Cohan Ambassador Award** to **Richard Jenkins**; and **the Creative Vision Award** to **Blythe Danner**.
- **6,030,496** million hits on the RIIFF website throughout the year.
- **16,521.90** Average daily number of hits on the RIIFF website
- **14**: Number of sell-outs.
- **2,089**: Audience for RIIFF's Opening Night.
- **58**: Number of *World Premieres* presented during the Festival.
- **41**: Number of *United States/North American Premieres* presented during the Festival.
- **33**: Number narrative features screened.
- **76**: Number of feature documentaries screened.
- **33** Number of Animations screened.
- **161** Number of Short Films screened.
- **58**: Number of countries represented in competition at the Festival.
- **33**: Number of states represented in competition at the Festival.
- **15**: Number of outdoor screenings during the summer, at locations in Providence, RI.
- **312**: Number of filmmakers and celebrities registered at the Festival.
- **2,235**: Number of room nights logged for the Festival participants and visitors.
- **2**: Awards won by RIIFF as "Best of Rhode Island" from RI Monthly for the **RIIFF's Best of Fest Series** and **Movies on the Block**.
- **852**: Number of tickets donated to support community non-profits
- **\$24,560**: Value of scholarship and programming donations to area colleges and universities.
- **7**: RIIFF is the only festival in the United States that is a truly statewide festival with film screenings in six communities: *Providence, Narragansett, Kingston, Cranston, Westerly, Barrington and Bristol*.
- **274**: Number of screenplay applications for annual competition
- **17**: Number of countries represented by attending filmmakers: *India, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Spain, Italy, Germany, United Kingdom, China, Belgium, The Netherlands, Scotland, Ireland, Sweden, France, Israel and Canada*.
- **141**: Staff and volunteers working on year-round Festival events.
- **86**: Number of educational programs and special events presented by RIIFF throughout the year: *KidsEye™ Summer Filmmaking Camp; KidsEye™ International Film Festival; 25th Annual "Black Ships" Japanese Film Festival; Malice Aforethought Multi-media Concert, Rhode Island Horror Film Festival; RIIFF's Annual Screenplay Competition; Opening and Closing Night Galas; ScriptBiz; The Rhode Island Film Forum; Closing Awards Ceremonies; Cinema Cafe; Annual RIIFF's Sponsor's Reception; Creative Impulse Awards; Five--Nightly Filmmaker Mixer and Receptions during the Festival; Fifteen "Stars Under the Stars" Outdoor Screenings; Summer Screening with RI Pride; RIIFF's Silent Film Series, RIIFF Best of Festival Series; Cinema Rhode Island screenings; Friends of the Columbus Theatre Events; Annual Christmas in Newport MovieMagic Screening; Cine ¡OLÉ!; Sentimental Journey Multimedia Concert; East Meets West: The Music of Ikuma Dan; Monthly Filmmaking Forums at Borders Bookstores; Bi-weekly "You Be The Judge Nights"; RIIFF/Flickers Internship Program; Video Lounge at the 15th Original GLBT Expo; First Look Series; Roving Eye Documentary Film Festival; RIIFF's Monster Review Series; End of Winter Animation Film Festival and the Jubilé Franco-Américain*.
- **27**: Number of venues throughout Rhode Island where films were screened and festival events took place.
- **13**: Number of special niche sidebars and programs: *Providence Jewish Film Festival; Providence (Homegrown) Film Festival; Providence Gay & Lesbian Film Festival; Women in Cinema; New Director's Showcase; Cutting Edge Cinema; Providence World Film Festival; From the North Country—Canadian Showcase; KidsEye™ International Film Festival; Roving Eye Documentary Film Festival, Vortex Sci-Fi & Fantasy Film Festival, Providence Underground Film Festival; and the New England Student Film Festival*.
- **5**: Sony Corporation and HB Communications provided the latest High Definition projection technology and decks for RIIFF screenings at key Festival locations; donation valued at \$175,000.

THE RHODE ISLAND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

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