

2009 FACT SHEET

Downtown Providence, Rhode Island was invaded August 5-10 for the 13th Annual Rhode Island International Film Festival (RIIFF). 326 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 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 Best Short (Live Action). Only 65 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). <http://www.oscars.org/awards/academyawards/rules/shortsfestivals.html>
- **26,200+**: Number of participants for RIIFF 13 events throughout the year.
- **3,413**: Number of Films entered in competition to the Festival up from 3,105 in 2008.
- **235** films were screened over the six-day run of the Festival.
- **5**: Celebrities attending RIIFF included *Ernest Borgnine, Doris Roberts, Anne Meara, Jerry Stiller and Klaus Badelt,*
- **2**: Industry Awards Presented. **Lifetime Achievement Award** to actor **Ernest Borgnine**; **Crystal Image Award** to composer **Klaus Badelt**; and the **Roger Williams Independent Voice Award** to sports legend **Wat Maska**.
- **1**: Hosted **Ms. Hong Lei**, Managing Director of the **Guangzhou International Documentary Film Festival** in Guangzhou, China; as part of an international exchange
- **1**: RIIFF Managing Director **Demetria J. Carr** was a guest speaker China at the **Guangzhou International Documentary Film Festival**, a RIIFF partner.
- **1**: RIIFF was selected by the **Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences** to host **Oscar Night® America** in 2010.
- **1**: RIIFF received a **\$12,500 Federal Stimulus Grant** for staff retention.
- **1**: RIIFF partnered with **Roger Williams University** to host the **Roving Eye Film Festival**, making it a part of the curriculum.
- **6,309,290** million hits on the RIIFF website throughout the year.
- **17,285.73** Average daily number of hits on the RIIFF website.
- **10**: Number of sell-outs.
- **2,300**: Audience for RIIFF's Opening Night.
- **38**: Number of *World Premieres* presented during the Festival.
- **21**: Number of *United States/North American Premieres* presented during the Festival.
- **17**: Number narrative features screened.
- **71**: Number of feature documentaries screened.
- **147** Number of Short Films screened.
- **57**: Number of countries represented in competition at the Festival.
- **32**: Number of states represented in competition at the Festival.
- **15**: Number of outdoor screenings during the summer, at locations in Providence, RI.
- **326**: Number of filmmakers and celebrities registered at the Festival.
- **2,355**: Number of room nights logged for the Festival participants and visitors.
- **1,400**: Number of tickets donated to support community non-profits
- **\$27,600**: 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.*
- **324**: Number of screenplay applications for annual competition
- **19**: Number of countries represented by attending filmmakers: *India, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Spain, Italy, Germany, United Kingdom, China, Belgium, Mexico, The Netherlands, Scotland, Ireland, Sweden, France, Israel and Canada.*
- **178**: Staff and volunteers working on year-round Festival events.
- **49**: Number of educational programs and special events presented by RIIFF throughout the year: *KidsEye™ Summer Filmmaking Camp; KidsEye™ International Film Festival; Annual "Black Ships" Japanese Film Festival; The Topsy Turvy World of Gilbert & Sullivan Concert; Rhode Island Horror Film Festival; RIIFF's Annual Screenplay Competition; Opening and Closing Night Galas; ScriptBiz; The Rhode Island Film Forum; RIIFF Technology Forum; Closing Awards Ceremonies; Cinema Cafe; RIIFF's Annual Sponsor's Reception; Creative Impulse Awards; 7 Day PSA Competition; Five--Nightly Filmmaker Mixer and Receptions during the Festival; Fifteen "Movies on the Block" Outdoor Screenings; Summer GLBT Screening with Bell Street Chapel; RIIFF Best of Festival Series; Cinema Rhode Island screenings; Friends of the Columbus Theatre Events; Cine ¡OLÉ; Bi-weekly "You Be The Judge Nights"; RIIFF/Flickers Internship Program; Video Lounge at the 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.*
- **3**: Sony Corporation, PMA Industries and HB Communications provided the latest High Definition projection technology and decks for RIIFF screenings at key Festival locations; donation valued at \$300,000.

THE RHODE ISLAND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

83 Park Street, Suite 1, Providence, RI 02903 • 401-861-4445 • info@film-festival.org • www.RIFilmFest.org