RIIFF ANNOUNCES THE SCHEDULE FOR ITS 15TH ANNUAL FESTIVAL

New England’s only Academy Award-qualifying film festival releases a star-studded line up of films and celebrity appearances

(Providence, R.I. • July 21, 2011) – FLICKERS: Rhode Island International Film Festival (RIIFF) proudly announces the star-studded lineup for its 15th annual festival, running Aug. 9 to 14 at The Vets (formerly the VMA Arts & Cultural Center) and other venues throughout Rhode Island. As New England’s only Academy Award-qualifying festival, RIFF takes filmgoers on the Road to the Oscars, giving audiences first looks at tomorrow’s great films and insiders’ access to the industry’s hottest stars at nightly filmmakers’ parties.

This year, RIFF received a record 4,537 submissions from filmmakers representing more than 60 countries. After whittling down the talent-filled pool to just 195 films, RIFF now announces the full schedule of screenings for its six-day festival. This year there are 18 world and 21 North American/United States premieres.

As an Academy Award-qualifying festival in the short film category, RIFF is known for its world-class selection of short films. This year, RIFF offers audiences a number of short film packages, grouping its diverse array of short films into themed packages, including: Cinéma Ooh La La, a collection of French films; Cine ¡OLE!, a collection of Spanish language films; Reel Love Shorts, a collection of romantic comedies; Road to Hollywood, a collection of short films with big star power; Comedy Showcase, a collection of side-splitting comedies; and Student Academy Award Nominees, a group of student films nominated or that have won Academy Awards in the student division.

Hollywood’s brightest stars shine during RIFF’s festival lineup, with screenings across Providence at: The Vets 1 Avenue of the Arts, The University of Rhode Island’s Paff Theatre, located on the University’s Feinstein campus, 80 Washington St. and at the Metcalf Auditorium Chace Center at the Rhode Island School of Design, 20 North Main St.

This year’s short films feature Academy Award winners and nominees, film and television stars and studio executives, including: Rita Wilson, Chad Michael Murray and Anna Paquin in The Carrier (USA); John Hurt in the world premiere of Sailcloth (UK); Ed Asner and Mark Rydell in the world premiere of Good Men (USA); Anthony LaPaglia in In Loco Parentis (Australia); Tom Felton and Emelda Staunton in White Other (UK); Seymour Cassel and Fionnula Flanagan in Pass the Salt, Please (USA); Melissa Leo and Peter Gerety in The Sea is All I Know (USA); Keira Knightly and Colin Firth in Steve (UK) directed by Rupert Friend; Bruno Ganz in the world premiere of Brot [Bread] (Germany) directed by Ahmet Tas; Adam Arkin, Clifton Collins Jr., Carla Gugino and Jesse Spencer in Tell-Tale (UK); Peter Cattaneo directs Bunce (UK) and Terry Gilliam directs The Wholly Family; and Martin McCann stars in Hollow (UK).

Along with the many other stars anticipated in attendance, RIFF is pleased to welcome Paul Sorvino to the festival as recipient of RIFF’s Lifetime Achievement Award – the international festival’s most prestigious honor. Sorvino, who starred in Goodfellas, Romeo and Juliet (1996) and The Cooler, has had a colorful career playing multi-faceted and intriguing characters in hit movie and television shows. Sorvino will be present at a special reception on Aug. 11 at Federal Hill’s newest restaurant, D’Vine on the Hill, 145 Spruce St., Providence, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. A portion of the $30 ticket pays for admittance to the 7:15 p.m. screening of Lily of the Feast, the latest film in which Sorvino stars, along with The
Island premier restaurants. Tickets, which are good for both entry into the opening night film screenings
funded in part by a grant from The Rhode Island Foundation’s Equity Action fund, the GLBT Film Festival will hold the majority of
dramas, comedies, and documentaries centered around the GLBT com-
RIFFF is holding nightly
festival parties at popular restaurants and lounges across Providence. Open to the public for $10,
swanky celebrations give guests the exclusive chance to rub shoulders with industry professionals
and top international talent, letting partygoers talk shop with visionary filmmakers and actors. All parties
start at 10 p.m. and are being held during the festival at: Sidebar Bistro, 127 Dorrance St. #3B, on
Wednesday; Bravo Brasserie, 123 Empire St., on Thursday night; Pot Au Feu, 44 Custom House St.,
on Friday night; and a special “Sweet Success” closing night celebration held at Temple Downtown, 120
Francis St.

RIFFF proudly announces its Providence Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Film Festival, a
 cinemasidVAR of the main festival. In its 12th year, the GLBT Film Festival features compelling
 dramas, comedies, and documentaries centered around the GLBT community. Funded in part by a grant
from The Rhode Island Foundation’s Equity Action fund, the GLBT Film Festival will hold the majority of
its screenings at Bell Street Chapel, 5 Bell St., Providence, from Wednesday Aug. 11 through Sunday
Aug. 14. The festival kicks off with an opening night filmmaker reception at Bell Street Chapel. Some
standout films from the GLBT films include: Judas Kiss, directed by J.T. Tepnapa and staring adult
industry star Brent Corrigan; The Green directed by Steven Williford; Sedona directed by Tommy Stovall;
The Stranger In Us directed by Scott Boswell; and Walk a Mile in My Pradas directed by Joey Sylvester.

To compliment its selection of great films, RIFFF is holding a number of special events and featured
screenings during its six-day run.

In RIIFF tradition, the festival will hold a large opening night ceremony, held at The Vets on Tuesday,
Aug. 9. It all starts at 7 p.m. with opening remarks from RIFFF and the screenings of some of the festival's
top short films, including: Henry, directed by Yan England; Sailcloth directed by Elfar Adalsteins; Tooty’s
Wedding directed by Frederic Casella; The Wholly Family directed by Terry Gilliam; Brot [Bread] directed
by Ahmet Tas; Cataplexy John Salcido; and La Historia de Siempre (The Same Old Story) directed by
Jose Luis Montesinos. Right after the screenings, audiences are invited to join RIFFF and its visiting
filmmakers for a celebration of film, with complimentary food and drinks provided by some of Rhode
Island premier restaurants. Tickets, which are good for both entry into the opening night film screenings
and the following after party, are $25.

Soprano’s Federico Castelluccio, who also directed the short (and who will also be in attendance),
shown at The Vets, 1 Avenue of the Arts, Providence. Sorvino will be honored with RIIFF’s Lifetime
Achievement award preceding the film’s screening.

This year, RIIFF is screening a rich selection of documentary films, giving audiences in-depth and
intimate looks into the lives of some truly amazing characters. RIIFF is screening: the world premiere of A
Balloon for Allah directed by Nefise Özkal Lorentzen; Boys of Bonneville directed by Curt Wallin; Code
Name: Blast Off directed by Tristan Rudat, the filmmaker son of Rhode Island’s own Hasbro toy designer
Ron Rudat who masterminded the creation of the popular G.I. Joe franchise; Fambul Tok directed by
Sara Terry, Go There Once, Be There Twice directed by Gil Bettman; Hand Held directed by Don Hahn;
Incident in New Baghdad directed by James Spione; Marathon Boy directed by Gemma Atwal; The Pipe
directed by Risteard O Domhnaill; With Great Power: The Stan Lee Story directed by Will Hess and
featuring the stars of the many movies spawned by the all-time great comic book superhero creator; and

RIFFF is also screening a selection of intriguing and captivating feature films, including: As If I’m Not
There directed by Juanita Wilson; the world premiere of Brief Reunion directed by John Daschbach;
Broken Kingdom, whose director Daniel Gillies and lead actor Rachael Leigh Cook will be in
attendance for the screening; Fort McCoy whose directors Kate Connor and Michael Worth will be in
attendance for the film’s screening; Happy New Year directed by K. Lorrel Manning, whose full cast will be
in attendance for the film’s screening, and which will be followed by a post-screening discussion panel
centered around the film’s topic – Iraq War veterans returning home with Post-traumatic stress disorder;
Montana Amazon: The Adventures of Dunderheads directed by D.G. Brock, starring Olympia Dukakis,
Haley Joel Osment, Alison Brie; Take Me Home whose director Sam Jaeger will be in attendance for
the film’s screening; Answers to Nothing directed by Matthew Leutwyler, and starring Dane Cook; A
Wake directed by Penelope Buitenhaus; and What Happens Next directed by Jay Arnold, and starring
Wendie Malick.

As a film festival that takes audiences on the Road to the Oscars, RIIFF does not just show today’s top
independent films – it gives its audience the full film festival experience. RIIFF is holding nightly
Another staple of the festival, the ScriptBiz Screenwriters’ Workshop will be held Wednesday, Aug. 10 in downtown Providence. For an entry fee of $85, emerging screenwriters can hone their skills, bouncing ideas off of and learning from seasoned industry professionals. This year’s theme, “From Page to Screen,” takes screenwriters through the entire writing process, with workshops on screenwriting, pitching a script and the “business of screenwriting.” Featured panelists include award-winning screenwriter Chris Sparling (Buried) and award-winning playwright and screenwriter Buzz McLaughlin (Sister Calling My Name), among others. The daylong workshop runs from 10 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Applications for the workshop are available at RIFilmFest.org.

RIIFF rocks into the weekend. First, on Aug. 12, RIFF presents the North American premiere of Bob Marley: The Making of a Legend, a documentary film comprised of rare “lost footage” of Marley, shown for the first time in 30 years. The $10 screening takes place at Root’s Café, 276 Westminster St., Providence, at 5 p.m. Later that evening, RIFF is holding a special outdoor screening of the feature documentary Everyday Sunshine: The Story of Fishbone, directed by Chris Metzler and Lev Anderson, and a performance by local folk/rock band The Mighty Good Boys. Held at Grant’s Block, 252 Westminster St., Providence, home of Movies on the Block, the event begins at 7 p.m. when The Mighty Good Boys take the stage. At sundown, the film projector warms up and Everyday Sunshine screens. The event is free and open to the public. As a special offer from RIFF, all in attendance get a free wristband, good for admission into any of the festival’s closing day and night films.

On Wednesday, Aug. 10, festival-goers will be treated to the world premiere of the feature documentary Family Band The Cowsills Story, directed by Louise Palanker and Ian Broyle, which chronicles the storied career of Newport, R.I.’s own world-famous singing family band from the 1960s. Following the screening of the film, members of the Cowsills will be giving a long-awaited reunion performance on the main stage at The Vets. The show promises to be as memorable for the audience as it will be for the Cowsills, who have not performed together in many years. Tickets, good for both the screening and the Cowsills’ performance, are $15.

Sponsors for the 2011 Festival include the Rhode Island Council on the Arts (RISCA), the Rhode Island Council for the Humanities (RICH), The Providence Phoenix, Sony, HB Communications, IMDB.com, MGM-HD, Rule Boston Camera, NBC 10, PMA Industries, Cox Communications, Amtrak, The Providence Tourism Council, the University of Rhode Island, the RI Film & TV Office, Equity Action, Enterprise, Mobiquity, Miamore Communications, the City of Providence and the Department of Arts, Culture & Tourism, the Providence Warwick Convention and Visitor’s Bureau, and the Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce.

Tickets for all RIFF screenings and events, including all-inclusive festival passes, are available online at RIFilmFest.org and are available at all venues.

For a full list of film synopses, actor listings and trailers, please see the Festival Genius application at RIFilmFest.org

ABOUT THE FLICKERS: RHODE ISLAND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL
The FLICKERS: Rhode Island International Film Festival (RIIFF) has secured its place in the global community as the portal for the best in international independent cinema, earning the respect of domestic and foreign filmmakers, filmgoers and trend watchers. This confluence of art and commerce brought together celebrities, award-winning filmmakers, new talent and audience members in record numbers last year. Ranked as one of the top-12 festivals in the United States, RIFF is one of 65 festivals worldwide that is a qualifying festival for the Academy Awards through its partnership with the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts & Sciences. For more information on the festival, please visit www.RIFilmFest.org.

For more information about this year’s FLICKERS: Rhode Island International Film Festival, running Aug. 9 to 14 at The Vet (formerly Veterans memorial Auditorium), please visit our website at www.RIFilmFest.org or call us at 401.861.4445.

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