PBC TO GRAB EXTENSIVE MEDIA COVERAGE DURING FINAL PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE

Lynn University has been selected as the site of the final 2012 Presidential Debate by the Commission on Presidential Debates (CPD), to be held on October 22, 2012. Lynn University was one of 12 sites nationwide, and the only institution in Florida, under consideration to host one of three presidential, or one vice presidential debates produced by the CPD. Preparing for an event of this magnitude will require the campus and community to come together and organize for the arrival of the candidates, their campaign staff members, and thousands of national and international journalists expected to come to the area to cover the debate. “It is a tremendous challenge, but Lynn University will be prepared to welcome the nation to Florida for the final debate before the 2012 general election,” said Kevin M. Ross, Lynn University President.

During 2008 election, PBC hosted several visits from both tickets, and the media took notice. Wyatt Cenac, a correspondent with The Daily Show with Jon Stewart came to Delray Beach twice to film segments with local seniors, and FAU in Boca Raton welcomed over 500 media representatives during a GOP debate. For info visit lynn.edu.

WELCOME TO THE ‘REEL’ JEWISH WORLD

35 films, documentaries and shorts from seven countries will be screened during the Palm Beach Jewish Film Festival (PBJFF), from December 7-18. Now in its 22nd season, the festival is chaired by Ellen Falk and is newly directed by Larry Ferber, a veteran television producer and three-time Emmy nominee. “This year’s festival not only features a schedule full of emotion, humor and thought-provoking content, many of the films feature an extended program where guests can meet the stars, hear from the directors and writers, and engage in discussion,” said Falk.

For the opening night, the PBJFF will show the Florida premiere of Music of Remembrance: The Boys of Terezin, which features a live performance by The Young Singers of the Greater Palm Beaches as well as an opportunity to meet Sidney Taussig, one of the subjects of the documentary. Festival screenings will be held at the Kravis Center for the Performing Arts, Cobb Downtown at the Gardens 16, Regal Delray 18, Regal Royal Palm Beach, Movies of Delray, and the Movies of Lake Worth. For more info visit pbjff.org.

PBC SCORES NATIONAL TV COVERAGE

The Breakers Ocean Golf Course is hosting the annual ADT Golf Skills Challenge for the third consecutive year! This made for TV event features four PGA Tour Professionals paired with four sport and entertainment celebrities, competing in skill competitions such as: Long drive, mid iron, greenside bunker, putting and chipping.

The ADT Golf Skills Challenge features some of the biggest names in golf. Annika Sorenstam will return to professional competition for the first time since her retirement three years ago when she teams with Morgan Pressel. It will be the first time in the 20-year history of the non-official event that women will team up against the men. Defending champions Mark O’Meara and Nick Price will be back for the competition, Nick Faldo and Rocco Mediate will pair up, and the duo of Jerry Kelly and Zach Johnson will be playing as well. The event took place November 7, and will air nationally on NBC on December 24-25 from 4pm-6pm EST.
GET YOUR ‘VOICE’ HEARD!

The Palm Beach Film Society (PBFS) is calling for submissions to the 2012 Voices of Local Film Competition at the Palm Beach International Film Festival (PBIFF)! PBFS is celebrating its tenth anniversary! PBFS is looking for Florida-based filmmakers to submit their short or feature films, documentaries, or music/performance videos. Download the submission form at pbfilmsociety.org. The early deadline is February 5, 2012 and the late deadline is February 20, 2012, but the submission fee is higher. All entries must be postmarked by the deadline. For more info visit pbfilmsociety.org.

The 17th annual PBIFF is set to take place April 11-19, 2012. The festival celebrates the best in American and foreign independent film at locations throughout Palm Beach County. For more info visit pbifilmfest.org.

ROX ‘ROCKS’ THE RUNWAY

Roxanna Cella, host of Palm Beach Rox, a TV show based out of Palm Beach Gardens, was front and center at the 2011 Victoria’s Secret Fashion Show. “This year’s show was spectacular. It was filled with extravagant wings, incredible wardrobe, effects, and performances by major musicians” said Cella. The show featured several multi-platinum artists including Kanye West, and 30 super models, including Adriana Lima and Miranda Kerr. “Cella reaches millions of people through Palm Beach Rox, and millions of people a day on her global Internet network, RoxWorld.TV. We expect to have over one million subscribers by January 1, 2012,” said Richard Victor Mahee, CTO/Co-Executive Producer, Rox World.

The goal of RoxWorld.TV is to keep members and users up to date on the latest information about celebrities, fashion, style, shopping, dining, travel, red-carpet events, hot trends and more. “We bring the best of the world to Palm Beach…and the best of Palm Beach to the world,” said Cella. For more info visit roxworld.tv.

‘DYNAMIC’ SHOOT TAKES CENTER STAGE

Commercials, infomercials and still photography shoots are some of the most lucrative facets of the production industry in Palm Beach County (PBC). One reason companies continually choose PBC is because of the diverse locations. From sultry surf to quaint campgrounds, PBC has the look and feel that accentuates a wide variety of productions.

Recently, Dynamic TV Marketing out of Boynton Beach produced a Sun Sail Cabanas Infomercial at one of the County’s most popular locations. The crew filmed at Boynton Beach Oceanfront Park, John Prince Park and Campground, and Ocean Inlet Park. The infomercials will start testing in markets in Florida and California in January 2012, and will go national in April 2012. “The shoot went really well, and the cooperation at each location made it a very enjoyable shoot,” said Steve Harkey, President, Dynamic TV Marketing. For more info visit dynamictvmarketing.com.

INDIE FILM INKS NAT’L DISTRIBUTION

The spooky new indie flick, The Incubus just inked a deal for national distribution! The film was released Tuesday, December 6 on Blockbuster, Amazon and other online retailers through the Maverick Entertainment Group. “I could not be more delighted that The Incubus is now going to be available all over the nation. This is thrilling,” said Executive Producer and Co-Director Marcie Gorman.

The Incubus shot entirely in South Florida and was written by Shayne Leighton during her senior year at the Dreyfoos School of the Arts in West Palm Beach. For more info visit incubusmovie.com.

FSU AND DIGITAL DOMAIN IN WPB!

The FSU College of Motion Picture Arts and the Digital Domain Institute held an open information session for high school students, incoming college freshman and transfer students to learn about the new program for digital artists that will be offered in West Palm Beach. The program offers a unique opportunity for students to pursue a Bachelors of Fine Arts in Animation and Digital Arts from The Florida State University while receiving industry-level professional certification from the Digital Domain Institute.

This innovative new program launches Fall 2012 and they are now accepting applications for both incoming freshman and transfer students. For more info visit film.fsu.edu.

ALUMNI SEARCH IS ON!

The Burt Reynolds Institute for Film & Theatre (BRIFT) announced a tentative alumni reunion weekend in Spring 2012. If you are a graduate of both the Burt Reynolds Institute for Theatre Training (BRITT) and of BRIFT, email your contact info to briftfinancedirector@comcast.net. Please include your name, address, phone number, and graduation year.

Kelly Dennehy, Executive Director of BRIFT said, “I have always been impressed with the dedication of the students and I hope to bring them together again before the Institute moves to its planned new location in Burt Reynolds Park. In discussing the move, Dennehy mentioned how thrilled the board and staff of BRIFT are with the unanimous vote by the Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners to lease an acre of land in the park for construction of a bigger, better Institute and Museum. For more info visit brift.org.
AFRICAN-AMERICAN FILM FESTIVAL AND MULTICULTURAL FILM FESTIVAL

The Kravis Center for the Performing Arts is once again partnering with producer James Drayton to present the annual African-American Film Festival. Presented as part of the Kravis Center’s ArtSmart series, the sixth annual festival will feature three selections: Race to Freedom which will be screened on March 22, 2012 at 7:00pm, Tuskegee Airmen on March 29, 2012 at 7:00pm, and Something the Lord Made on Thursday, April 5, 2012 at 7:00pm. Aneta Sewell will serve as host for all three evenings of the African-American Film Festival. “I am delighted that the Kravis and I are bringing to the viewing public a seventh season of the African-American Film Festival. The idea of the Festival was born to counter the notion that African American film making is of recent vintage and only consists of a certain type of film that reflects a defined segment of current social conditions. I select a wonderful series of films that are not only entertaining, but provide an educational experience,” said James Drayton. Tickets are $10 per evening or $25 for the entire festival. For more information call 561.832.7469.

As part of Palm Beach State College’s (PBSC) ongoing diversity initiatives, the college held a Multicultural Film Festival for the 3rd consecutive year! During the three day event, hosted by the College’s District Diversity Committee, films were shown on each Palm Beach State College campus. The films included Waiting for Superman, Nora’s Will, Music Within, and Voices from Mariel. The Multicultural Film Festival is an expansion of initiatives to demonstrate PBSC’s commitment to diversity awareness and understanding. For more info visit palmbeachstate.edu.

SUBMARINE EPIC TO HOLD SCREENING

The new feature length World War II epic, USS Sea Viper has been completed and will shown during an exclusive screening at The Borland Center in Palm Beach Gardens in January 2012. “Palm Beach County was home for several great locations. Our team is already in talks on a second feature film, and I’m confident locations in the County will play a major part,” said Rob Norris, Co-Producer, USS Sea Viper. Included in many of the Palm Beach County scenes were the Seminole Inn in Indiantown, Guana-bana’s Restaurant in Jupiter, G-Star School of the Arts in Palm Springs, and Yesteryear Village in West Palm Beach.

The crew also lensed some of their scenes aboard the USS Drum in Mobile, Alabama. The project was produced by South Florida production companies. Producers plan to circulate the film at film festivals around the country. For info call Ralph Villani at 772.215.5695 or Rob Norris at 561.352.5052.

SECRET FILMING LOCATION REVEALED

Production on the feature film Parker created quite a buzz! Parker is the first Donald Westlake adaptation to officially name its ‘criminal with a conscience’ by his true name, Parker. The film shot in many of the County’s most picturesque locations including One Thousand Ocean, the Boca Raton Resort & Club and G-Star Studios.

“One Thousand Ocean was singled out and selected by Director Taylor Hackford and the production crew,” said Jamie Telchin, President of development for LXR Luxury Resorts & Hotels. “Palm Beach County, including Boca Raton, will be getting great exposure in the film. The production company made the choice to shoot here after scouting several other locations. We were honored they chose One Thousand Ocean and feel they did so because it is a truly unique South Florida property, surrounded by water on three sides. The film stars Jennifer Lopez and Jason Statham. It is set to hit theatres nationwide in October 2012. For more info call 561.233.1000.

INDUSTRY IPHONE APP ENJOYS SUCCESS

Doddle, based in Palm Beach County, is an iPhone app that provides an interactive mobile production guide for the video industry. The company has been enjoying a lot of success lately! Doddle Pro, one of the professional tools created by Doddle recently won a technical award at the 2011 Cinegear EXPO in Los Angeles. “The company also recently launched Doddle News, an online site covering industry news and blogs,” said Jim Robertson of Doddle.

Coming soon is Doddle Pro Online...customers will be able to create interactive call sheets and sync them with the iPhone version. Doddle and sites such as Reel-Crew have revolutionized the way that clients find crew/services. For info visit doddleme.com.

FTC STAFF CHANGE

Please join the Palm Beach County Film & Television Commission (FTC) in giving a warm adieu to our Office Coordinator Jessica Greenshner. Jessica, new mom to a bouncing baby boy, will be dedicating herself full time to raising her new little man.

Replacing Jessica is our very own Vanessa Horta, previously the FTC’s contract Administrative Assistant. Vanessa has been with the FTC since September 2011 and is excited to be an official employee. Vanessa holds a Master of Science in Entertainment Business from Full Sail University and has a strong performance background. Best of luck Jessica and Vanessa!

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LOCATION SPOTLIGHT: PALM BEACH COUNTY CONVENTION CENTER

With soaring windows, a ceiling of rich Brazilian mahogany, first-class meeting space and an expertly trained team of service professionals, the Palm Beach County Convention Center has staked its claim as one of South Florida's premier venues for conventions, tradeshows and social events. The facility is conveniently located minutes for Interstate 95 and Florida's Turnpike, five minutes from Palm Beach International Airport and ten minutes from the beautiful South Florida Beaches.

Nearby attractions include CityPlace, the Raymond F. Kravis Center for the Performing Arts, and many beautiful beaches. The Convention Center is surrounded by over 4,000 hotel rooms within a three mile radius. Opened in January 2004, the Convention Center is an architectural masterpiece with state-of-the-art amenities. The 350,000 square-foot center features a 100,000 square-foot exhibit hall, a 22,000 square-foot ballroom and 21,000 square feet of flexible breakout space divisible into 19 rooms.

The Convention Center offers some of the most advanced technology including 5 MB bandwidth high-speed internet connection, wireless internet access and LCD screen technology. The warm, welcoming ambiance extends to their expert service team that ensures a picture-perfect event and their award-winning culinary department whose cuisine is a feast for the eyes and the palate. From an intimate cocktail reception to a black-tie gala, the facility’s talented team of professionals can accommodate practically any size party.

Nine tractor trailer size docks are available for use by crew members with one large ramp enabling easy access to the exhibit hall complemented by a 36 foot wide service road. The feature film Parker starring Jennifer Lopez and Jason Statham utilized the Convention Center as a parking lot for many vehicles and trailers, and multiple conference rooms to feed their crew members and talent. It also served as a venue for political rallies during the 2008 Presidential election. For more information on the Palm Beach County Convention Center call 561.233.1000 or visit pbfilm.com.

Editor: Jill Margolius Contributors: Jessica Greenshner and Vanessa Horta | To be included in the newsletter, please call 561.233.1000.