



## **Activity Report** **February 2009**

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### **Public Relations & Industry Development**

- Met with Kathy Montgomery, Director of the Guthrie Chamber of Commerce at their headquarters to discuss the transition to new Chamber leadership March 1 and ongoing preparations for *The Killer Inside Me* filming in Guthrie.
- Made presentation regarding Oklahoma's film and music industries to the 2009 class of Leadership Oklahoma in Enid.
- Attended a roundtable with Kourtney Garret, VP of Downtown Dallas, to learn more about her work in creating a fashion industry incubation district in Dallas. Film and music industry incubators are in the early stages of development in both Oklahoma City and Tulsa.
- Attended the Oklahoma Restaurant Association Legislative Reception at the Oklahoma City Civic Center.
- Participated in final meetings in preparation of the naming of Oklahoma's official state rock song .
- Made a film and music presentation followed by Q&A for Oklahoma City University Professor Rachel Jacquemain's Entertainment Business students.
- Met with Dawn Cash and Lisa Haws of the Oklahoma Tax Commission to go over outstanding questions on administering the film rebate program.
- Attended the State Chamber Legislative Reception.
- Participated in an interview with Oklahoma Today Magazine for an article in their upcoming Rock & Roll issue.
- Attended a reception and season three premiere of *Saving Grace* at the Oklahoma City Museum of Art sponsored by the television network TNT.
- Made appearance with Nancy Miller and Leon Rippey on OKC Mayor Mick Cornett's monthly cable show to discuss Oklahoma connections for *Saving Grace* and ongoing efforts to bring some of the filming to Oklahoma.
- Attended and served as a guest judge for the 24 Hour Video Race at Living Arts in Tulsa.
- All OF&MO staff participated in Reel Scout training sessions over two days to learn how to utilize the new on-line digital locations database on [Oklahomafilm.org](http://Oklahomafilm.org).
- Participated in the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department Training Camp, which provided information about the different divisions within the department. OF&MO presented the Reel-Scout location database to twenty participants from around the state.
- Met with State Representative Dan Kirby to discuss the film and music industries in Oklahoma.
- Attended the FIRST Robotics Competition at the Cox Convention Center in Oklahoma City to witness the successful event's second year in Oklahoma in hopes to create a similar competition for film. Also met with Mickey Clagg, the Regional Planning Committee Chairman, at the event for more insight into the competition.
- Provided information regarding Talent Agencies in Oklahoma to Martha Asher of Eufaula Public Schools.
- Provided incentives information and forms to Brad Riggan of Liquid Media online.
- Visited the Downtown Oklahoma City set for an Oklahoma Lottery commercial for which the office had assisted with locations.

- At the invitation of Wormy Dog Saloon management, attended the *Kevin Costner and Modern West* concert where staff met with the venue owner and were able to meet with Mr. Costner after the show to discuss Oklahoma incentives and locations.
- Provided information on Oklahoma's film and music incentives to Austin-based attorney Owen Kinney who represents music interests in Oklahoma.
- Provided information on music licensing for film to Stefanie Gowdy for her upcoming film project.
- Met with State Representative Jason Murphey to discuss Oklahoma's film and music industries as well as upcoming filming in Guthrie of *The Killer Inside Me*.
- Met with *The Killer Inside Me* Co-producer Susan Kirr and production accountants Jenny Fitzgibbons and Lisa Shillingburg to discuss application requirements for the Oklahoma Film Enhancement Rebate Program.

## **Points of Interest**

**Saving Grace has Oklahoma City premiere:** On February 26, cable network TNT premiered the third season of their critically acclaimed television series *Saving Grace* at the Oklahoma City Museum of Art. The evening included a cocktail reception to honor Oklahoma City native and show Creator/Executive Producer Nancy Miller and cast member Leon Rippey who plays the role of Earl, the angel. The pair participated in a Q&A after the screening. The one-hour drama is about an Oklahoma City cop played by Academy Award® winning actress Holly Hunter.

**Kevin Costner's Oklahoma City visit:** On February 3, *Kevin Costner* and his band *Modern West* were in Oklahoma City to perform at the Wormy Dog Saloon. At the invitation of Wormy Dog management, Jill Simpson and Abby Kurin of OF&MO attended the concert and were able to meet and talk with Mr. Costner after the show. We discussed Oklahoma film and music incentives with him and learned of his plans for an upcoming western. Based on Mr. Costner's specific requests for photos of red canyons and areas with red dirt, OF&MO followed up with custom photo links to multiple locations within the state meeting his criteria. We will be following up with him in the coming weeks to try and recruit him back to Oklahoma for a location scout.

**The Killer Inside Me**, a multi-million dollar feature starring Casey Affleck, Kate Hudson, Jessica Alba, Bill Pullman and Elias Coteas and to be directed by award winning director Michael Winterbottom, has been announced for spring filming in Oklahoma. The film is based on a 1950's classic novel by native Oklahoma novelist Jim Thompson (*The Grifters*, *The Getaway*). Filming will take place in Guthrie, Oklahoma City, Tulsa, Enid and Cordell. For more information, you may contact the production at [kimproductionsllc@gmail.com](mailto:kimproductionsllc@gmail.com).

**Barking Water to screen in New York:** The Smithsonian Native American Film & Video Festival will open on March 25 in Brooklyn with a special screening of *Barking Water*. The film will be co-presented by Oklahoma native Michelle Svenson of the Smithsonian and Jill Simpson of OF&MO. Filmmakers Sterlin Harjo and Chad Burris will be in attendance along with the film's star, Richard Ray Whitman.

## **Industry Services and Technology Development**

**Digital Location Database:** Representatives from Reel-Scout, the software firm selected to handle the creation and implementation of OF&MO's digital location database, trained staff on the program in Oklahoma City on February 11-12. Reel-Scout will be implemented by March 1, 2009, and will greatly enhance the ability of OF&MO staff to respond to requests for photos and track projects. OF&MO staff has been working diligently to ensure that the transition goes as smoothly as possible.

**Oklahomafilms.org:** Due to work performed on the website prior to the launch of the Reel-Scout locations database, we were not able to track our unique users for the month of February. We hope to have this issue resolved in time for March's report.

**Photography Internship Program:** This internship program is on hold until after the launch of Reel-Scout in March.

**This Week in Film & Music:** Our subscription list is currently at 1,694.

**OF&MO Internship Program:** The spring 2008 Oklahoma Film & Music Office interns are doing quality work and making important contributions to OF&MO. Yousef Kazemi has been writing for our events pages, as well as completing various tasks around the office. Emily Schmidt and Alex Marcus have also been writing for the website as well as compiling information regarding industry vendors in Oklahoma. Ashley McGuire and Cody McGuire have performed a great deal of research for the office and have helped the office prepare for upcoming special events.

## **Production**

### **Recent Film/TV Production**

- TF&MO provided Oral Roberts University film student Derek Pollard with location and permit information.
- TF&MO acquired video footage of downtown Tulsa from the Tulsa Chamber of Commerce for Oral Roberts University.
- TF&MO toured the Oral Roberts University facilities (sound stage, studios, etc.). The facilities are now open to the industry for rental.
- OF&MO Assisted Stan Dennison in finding a suitable location for the final scenes of his nearly complete high school sports documentary.
- TF&MO assisted Jake Richardson with location permission and information for his independent film, *Locard's Principle*.

### **Upcoming Film/TV Production**

- Conducted two location scouts of western Oklahoma rural homes and created multiple on-line locations packages for *The Killer Inside Me*.
- Provided information, contacts, and necessary documentation for numerous locations to Payton Dunham with *The Killer Inside Me*.
- Based on a specific request, provided digital location photo packages of western Oklahoma for Kevin Costner for potential upcoming western.
- Posted casting call information for Adam Beatty and his film project *The Rounder*.
- Created a locations package and provided contact information for Jim Goldsbury for his short film.
- Provided Vahid Farzaneh of Freestyle Productions with locations and contact information, as well as necessary documentation.
- TF&MO assisted Beth Bridgewater with permit and location information for an upcoming industrial video shoot.
- OF&MO and TF&MO assisted Liz Goncalves in obtaining permits and permissions for an upcoming shoot in Tulsa and northeast Oklahoma for Animal Planet. The shoot will be one in a six-part series to be aired on the cable network.

### **Potential Film/TV Production**

- Posted casting call information for Holland Striplin of NBC's television show, **Biggest Loser**, for their trip to Oklahoma City in search of participants.
- Provided location information to Alex Freeman of the BBC for the series, *How the Earth Made Us*.
- Assisted Daniel Schwager at Accurate Environmental with contact information and incentives information
- Met with Miles Hall of H&H gun range and a visiting field producer for a new History Channel TV show during a recent scout in Oklahoma City to discuss Oklahoma incentives and offer support.
- Provided incentives information to Marsha Laine-Dungog of Liner Grode Stein Yankelevitz in Los Angeles regarding a potential animation project she is putting together with one of her clients.

Conducted locations research on Oklahoma prisons and created locations packages for untitled feature project being done by John Mott of L.A.-based DNA Productions.

- Continued to assist Alex Freeman of the BBC with Oklahoma ghost town research for potential production.
- Assisted Fabris Luca, an Italian researcher, seeking information on early Elvis Presley live performances in Oklahoma.
- TF&MO assisted Matt Villines of Los Angeles, who is planning to shoot an independent film in Tulsa sometime this spring. TF&MO will be helping Matt with scouting locations and have directed him to the online production database for crew members in Oklahoma.
- TF&MO assisted John Edde, of Edde Brothers Entertainment in Los Angeles, with permit and information concerning a small independent shoot.

## **Media/Press/Ads**

### **Newspaper & Magazine Articles:**

**February 2009 *Tulsa People*:** “Sterling at Sundance, the Sequel” an article about Oklahoma filmmaker Sterlin Harjo and his recent trip to the Sundance Film Festival to premiere his Oklahoma filmed feature *Barking Water*.

**February 2 *The Oklahoman*:** “OETA Show Provides Utopia for Local Art Community” an article about Joe Bohrer, a former minister turned artist and his show, **Utopia Joe**, which features Oklahoma music.

**February 4 *Tulsa World*:** “Movie Star Kevin Costner Brings Country-Rock to Wormy Dog Saloon” an article about the famous star’s concert in Bricktown with his band, *Kevin Costner and Modern West*.

**February 5 *Urban Tulsa Weekly*:** “The Race is On” a feature about the 24 Hour Video Race in which teams create a short film within 24 hours and then submit the film for a prize.

**February 5 *Urban Tulsa Weekly*:** “*Homegroan* Biscuits and Gravy” a feature on Z104.5, The Edge, and its two-hour show that features only local Oklahoma music.

**February 11 *Oklahoma Gazette*:** “Love Music” a feature on the new Oklahoma City band, *The Romantic Disaster*, and their upcoming Valentine’s Day show.

**February 12 *Tulsa World*:** “Bixby Man in First ‘Idol’ Set” an article about Matt Breitzke, a former welder from Bixby and his advancing to the Top 36 on **American Idol**.

**February 12 *Tulsa World*:** “One More Time Please, Our Carrie U.” a feature on Checotah native Carrie Underwood and her three nominations from the Academy of Country Music Awards.

**February 13 *The Oklahoman*:** “University of Central Oklahoma’s ‘School of Rock’ is Set to Jam for Fall Classes” an article about the State Regents for High Education’s approval of the degree from the Academy of Contemporary Music at UCO, which starts in the fall.

**February 16 *The Oklahoman*:** “Oklahoma City Museum to Screen Nominees” an article about the showings of the live-action and animated short film contenders for the Academy Awards.

**February 16 *The Oklahoman*:** “Issues Eat at Oklahoma City Singer” an article about Oklahoma City musician K.C. Clifford and using her voice to fight hunger and obesity.

**February 17 *The Oklahoman*:** “Old Home Movies Reveal Tulsa’s Past” an article about video historian Jack Frank and his recent documentary that highlights Tulsa’s past.

**February 18 *Oklahoma Gazette*:** “Market Collapses” a feature on Oklahoma band *The Pretty Black Chains*’ concert debut.

**February 18 *Oklahoma Gazette*:** “Soundcheck CD Review” a review on Oklahoma City musician Camille Harp and her new album.

**February 18 *Tulsa World*:** “Taylor Hanson to be part of ‘Supergroup’” an article about the Tulsa native’s side project with other various musicians called *Tinted Windows*.

**February 18 *Tulsa World*:** “Norman Music Festival Extends an Invite to Actor” an article about NMF’s successful outreach to Joaquin Phoenix to play the 2009 festival.

**February 19 *The Oklahoman*:** “OU Plans Lecture, Films about Medieval Period” an article about the University teaming up with the Medieval Fair to provide a public series of lectures and films on the time period in conjunction with Norman’s successful fair.

**February 19 *Urban Tulsa Weekly*:** “Local. Camera. Action!” a feature on recent film *The Rock ‘N’ Roll Dreams of Duncan Christopher* and how the low-budget indie could transform Tulsa into a cinema city.

**February 25 Oklahoma Gazette:** “When Angels Attack: A Heavenly Being Spoils ‘Saving Grace’” a review of the season premiere of the TNT drama starring Holly Hunter as an OKCPD detective.

**February 25 Oklahoma Gazette:** “Fresh, Minty Flavor” a feature on Norman indie band, the *Starlight Mints*.

**February 26 Urban Tulsa Weekly:** “Swingin’ Through College” a feature on Northeastern State University in Tahlequah and its nationally recognized, innovative Jazz degree program.

**February 26 Urban Tulsa Weekly:** “Decade in the Making” a feature on the Academy Awards the process for Circle Cinema to bring the nominated films to Tulsa.

**February 27 The Oklahoman:** “New ‘Saving Grace’ Episode Screening at Oklahoma Art Museum” an article about the season premiere of the TNT drama.

#### **TV Coverage:**

**February 26:** Nancy Miller, Leon Rippey and Jill Simpson were guests on Oklahoma City Mayor Mick Cornett’s monthly cable show to discuss ongoing collaboration on *Saving Grace*.

#### **Press Releases/Special Announcements/ Website Postings:**

**February 2:** “2009 Oklahoma Summer Arts Institute Application Deadline” homepage posting about OSAI held at Quartz Mountain and its deadline to apply.

**February 2:** “Cain’s Ballroom Ranked #41 in Ticket Sales Worldwide” homepage posting about Tulsa’s own successful club venue ranked in the Top 100 Worldwide.

**February 4:** “On Your Mark, Get Set, Go! 24 Hour Video Race!” homepage posting about the statewide event that requires teams to create a short film within 24 hours based on a theme, dialogue, and prop.

**February 5:** “National Cowboy Museum to Induct Morgan Woodward and the Late Dub Taylor into the Hall of Great Western Performers” homepage posting about the 2009 Western Heritage Awards.

**February 12:** “Momentum 2009 Call for Entries” homepage posting about the Oklahoma Visual Art Coalition’s art event in which filmmakers have to opportunity to submit work and potentially be selected to be awarded cash prizes and guidance from an event curator.

**February 27:** “Online Film Competition Accepting Entries with Over \$500,000 on the Line” homepage posting about the Doorpost Film Project and their submissions deadline for filmmakers.

#### **Upcoming Oklahoma Film & Music Office Activities/Sponsorships**

South by Southwest Film & Music Conference and Festival	<b>March 13-22, Austin, TX</b>
Sax, Clogs & Rock-n-Roll Music Event, SXSW	<b>March 19, Austin, TX</b>
Native American Film+Video Festival	<b>March 24-30, Brooklyn, NY</b>
NYC event with T&T, OKC Chamber	<b>March 26, Manhattan</b>
2009 AFCI Locations Expo and industry meetings	<b>April 15-19, 2009</b>
<i>The Killer Inside Me</i> begins filming in Oklahoma	<b>April 23, Cordell</b>
Bare Bones Film Festival	<b>April 16-26, Muskogee</b>
Norman Music Festival	<b>April 25, Norman</b>
Governor bill signing for rock song	<b>April 28 (TBD)</b>
OFMO/OKT “One Hot Oklahoma Night” VIP Reception	<b>May 1, 2009</b>
“One Hot Oklahoma Night” opens to public	<b>May 2, 2009</b>
deadCENTER Film Festival	<b>June 10-14, OKC</b>
DFEST Music Festival	<b>July 24-24, Tulsa</b>