



Activity Report July 2009

Points of Interest

The Killer Inside Me wrapped on Wednesday, July 1, in Enid. The safe and successful production filmed in Guthrie, Oklahoma City, Cordell, Tulsa and Enid. The Muse Film producers have already met requirements for prequalification for the Oklahoma Film Enhancement Rebate for a second feature film targeted for a late 2009 or early 2010 Oklahoma shoot.

You Can't Win: Filming of this screen adaptation of the autobiography of Jack Black has been pushed back by a few weeks and is now scheduled to begin filming in September. Production offices and much of the filming will be based in Guthrie, with potential additional locations in Southeastern Oklahoma. To submit your resume, please e-mail youcantwinmovie@yahoo.com.

Heaven's Rain: Film based on the life of former Oklahoma state senator Brooks Douglas targeted to begin Oklahoma filming on October 5 in various locations around the state. To submit your resume, please e-mail zorinah@heavensrainmovie.com.

Oklahoma Film Enhancement Rebate Program Update: Increase in the Oklahoma Film Enhancement Rebate Program went into effect on July 8. OF&MO has fielded a large volume of calls regarding filming in Oklahoma since the new program was announced. OF&MO has created a comprehensive set of guidelines and instructions for administering the program as well as new application forms. All are available under the "Incentives" button at www.oklahomafilm.org. With clear and detailed processes in place, OF&MO is ready to usher in a new phase for Oklahoma's film industry. Six features of various sizes and budgets have received conditional prequalification for the rebate for FY10.

New York Sales Trip: July 13-16, Jill Simpson of OFMO met with film industry professionals in New York City to discuss the new incentives and promote the state as a destination for filmmakers. During the New York visit, Focus Features hosted a breakfast roundtable of Producers Guild of America East members for Jill Simpson and Chad Burris on Indion Entertainment Group to present details of both the state's rebate program and IEG's film tax credit.

While in New York, Jill met with executives from Focus Features, Dimension Films, Plum Pictures as well as actress/writer/director Famke Janssen and producer Jen Gaten about their project entitled *Bringing Up Bobby*, which they plan to shoot in Oklahoma. She also met with film industry consultant John Hadity regarding best practices for incentives guidelines nationwide.

Oklahoma Tourism Commission Retreat: On July 21, Jill Simpson traveled to Seminole to present to the Oklahoma Tourism Commissioners at the Jasmine Moran Children's Museum. She provided an update on the status of the film industry in Oklahoma and explained the guidelines and application process for the new Film Enhancement Rebate Program. After a thorough explanation of the guidelines and application process, the group discussed future film industry ideas and goals, as well as the upcoming November interim study presentation for the legislature.

DFest Music Conference and Festival: The 8th Annual DFest Music Conference and Festival was held in Tulsa on July 24-25. For the fifth year, OF&MO was a proud sponsor the two-day music event. Festival headliners included The Black Crowes, Cake, Gogol Bordello, Blue October, The Ugly Suit, and many more.

Representing OF&MO were Jill Simpson, Julie Porter, Chris Kucharski, and Abby Kurin. Shelli Todd of the Department of Commerce was also on hand to promote ODOC's efforts to advance the music industry in Oklahoma. Before the festival, OF&MO participated in the Thursday evening Opening Night Kick-Off Party, hosting a booth in the main stage area to distribute materials on OF&MO's music industry services and incentives and to discuss the office mission with festival-goers.

As a sponsor, OF&MO had a booth at the conference that took place at Crowne Plaza Tulsa. Staff members were on hand to meet and visit with conference attendees and distribute materials on film and music in Oklahoma. On Saturday, Lieutenant Governor Jari Askins introduced the Business Series keynote speaker, Martin Atkins.

During the festival, OF&MO supported many local bands by attending different venues throughout the weekend. Congratulations to all of our Oklahoma musicians and the DFest organizers on a very successful 2009 festival.

OF&MO Staff Changes: OF&MO welcomes to the team our new full-time administrative assistant, Jean Felix. Jean has an extensive background working for non-profits in Oklahoma. We are thrilled that she will be bringing her talents to our office. Amanda Stonebarger, who held the position part-time, will be returning to the University of Oklahoma to continue her education and complete courses toward her bachelor's degree. Also, Patrick Chalfant of the Tulsa Mayor's Office, who was lending his support with scouting and supporting Tulsa-based productions, will no longer be serving in that capacity as of August 1. Many thanks to Amanda and Patrick for their hard work and contributions to the team!

Public Relations & Industry Development

- Met with Shelli Todd, Oklahoma Department of Commerce, to discuss 21st Century Quality Jobs, ODOC's Project Boomerang, and shared efforts to market and develop the state's music industry.
- Met with Dave Rennke, Producer of *Pearl*, to review the final rebate application and finalize all required forms and documentation.
- Toured Albuquerque Studios in New Mexico with interested Oklahoma business partners. Met with ABQ studio executives to determine the feasibility of constructing and/or retrofitting a facility in Oklahoma.
- Met with Melody Kellogg, the city manager of Guthrie, to go over specifics of filming in Guthrie and to wrap up items for *The Killer Inside Me*.
- Met with Susan Kirr of The Killer Inside Me, LLC, to finalize all questions and concerns about the rebate program as well as tie up loose ends as the production wrapped.
- Met with Ruth Charnay, Director, Communications and the Arts, Oklahoma City Community College, and Susan Kirr to discuss the training of local crew.
- Provided Stan Dennison a list of potential film screening venues around Oklahoma for the premiere of his documentary, *It's Just a Game*.
- Met with Allison Naifeh to discuss recent developments in the film industry including the new online crew database as well as ways to potentially expand on current Oklahoma location offerings.
- Sent a list of Oklahoma talent agencies to Kelly Hall.
- Met with architect David Wanzer and toured the Film Row area of downtown Oklahoma City.
- Met with Philip Randolph of the Wormy Dog Saloon, located in Bricktown of Oklahoma City, to discuss the music industry and music venues.
- Provided a list of Oklahoma talent agencies to Chip Paul.
- Met with Ky Chaffin of Bank of Oklahoma in Tulsa to discuss film incentives and film financing
- Met with Teresa Piper of the Tulsa Technology Center- Riverside Location to tour their impressive film/broadcast production facility.

- Met with Amy Polonchek, Chief of Staff to Tulsa Mayor Kathy Taylor and Suzann Stewart, Vice President of the Tulsa Metro Chamber, to discuss growth in the film and music industries in Tulsa and surrounding areas and the need for logistical support in their area.
- Toured the Mayo Hotel in downtown Tulsa which is set to reopen in September.
- Met with Randall Lowenkamp, Business Manager for Teamsters local 886, and Phil Helman, Transportation Coordinator on *The Killer Inside Me*, to discuss growth in the state's film industry.
- Participated in a sales trip to New York to speak with film industry professionals and speak about the new Oklahoma incentives.
- Met with Oklahoma City PR executive Rob Crissinger.
- Attended the Oklahoma City Downtown Rotary Luncheon.
- Provided a letter of recommendation to Matthew Alvin Brown in support of his application to the Anna Sosenko grant, which would provide financial support for the live stage adaption of *Rainbow Around the Sun*, which has been chosen to participate in the prestigious New York Musical Theatre Festival.
- Provided a list of Oklahoma talent agencies to Representative John Enns.
- Sent a list of Oklahoma talent agencies to Caleb McLennan.
- Provided contact information for a potential film screening venue to Graham Carroll, who is interested in starting a film festival, the Oklahoma City Film Jam.
- Provided Nathan Gray of P3 Update Magazine with Oklahoma location photos for his article on Oklahoma's new film enhancement rebate program.
- Provided Charity O'Donnell of the Broken Bow Chamber of Commerce with Reel-Scout informational packets.
- Followed up with Nick Turner of Colourmusic, who is currently working on a documentary that will incorporate the band's music in the film's soundtrack.
- TF&MO attended a meeting with Jean-Pierre Garcia at the Circle Cinema in Tulsa. Jean-Pierre Garcia is the organizer of the Amiens Film Festival, in Amiens, France. Native American filmmakers and filmmaking were among the topics discussed.
- TF&MO contacted the Tulsa Airport Authority and inquired the status of United Airlines direct flights from Tulsa to Los Angeles and vice versa. United has no plans to discontinue the flights.
- Met with Mark Kranenburg, Director of Airports for the City of Oklahoma City, as well as David Holt with the Mayor's Office and Cacky Poarch of deadCENTER Film Festival to develop a list of noteworthy Oklahomans to be considered for new banners at Will Rogers World Airport.
- Met with Gay Tudor of the State Attorney General's office to discuss Open Records exemptions for film productions shooting in Oklahoma.

Industry Services and Technology Development

Film Industry Meeting: The next OF&MO Film Industry meeting will be held on August 26 at Circle Cinema in Tulsa. To be added to the list to receive an e-mail update about the meeting, please e-mail abby@oklahomafilm.org.

Music Industry Meeting: The next Music Industry Meeting will be held on October 28 at Oklahoma Tourism & Recreation Department in downtown Oklahoma City.

Digital Location Database:

The Reel-Scout database continues to grow thanks to our community partners. This month we collected locations images for Reel-Scout from:

- Chad Donoley, Oklahoma Arkansas Railroad
- Claudia Gray, Cordell Chamber of Commerce
- Cydney Fiebig, Candlewood Inn and Suites
- Debbie Consedine of Tulsa
- Kathy Montgomery of Guthrie
- Lisa Sorrell, Sorrell Custom Boots and Gallery

Oklahomafilm.org: 2,150 unique visitors visited the OF&MO Website July 1 – July 31.

On Thursday, July 23, Jill Simpson and Julie Porter, along with Hardy Watkins, Sarah Mussett and Steve Adkins of OTRD met with Katie Meadows of OK.Gov to discuss OF&MO's web needs. OF&MO

presented a detailed overview of requested functionalities. Ok.Gov responded with a very competitive proposal that meets all requirements: function, price, timeline and aesthetics. OF&MO has requested a few changes to the current proposal; pending approval of the new proposal, OF&MO will move forward with OK.Gov as the vendor. Timelines provided by Ok.Gov indicate that much of the first phase of website improvements could begin within 6-8 weeks of the start date.

In short, Oklahomafilm.org stands to improve dramatically over the next few months. We look forward to your feedback regarding the new site.

Production Guide Database: Reel-Crew, Oklahoma's new online production guide resource is available for registration now! Visit www.oklahomafilm.org for information on how to register.

Reel-Crew is open for registration for Oklahoma crew members and support service companies. The database also houses Expatriate Listings of former Oklahomans currently working in the entertainment industry that would be willing to be hired as locals on productions in the state.

New listings and the new user interface will be available at Oklahomafilm.org on Monday, August 31.

This Week in Film & Music: Our subscription list is currently at 1,928.

Constant Contact: OF&MO will be implementing newly-redesigned newsletters and industry e-blasts in August; we look forward to your input on the new format.

OF&MO Internship Program: The Oklahoma Film & Music Office summer interns have had a busy summer. Schuyler Crabtree has been working research projects for the office, including updating our vintage car lists, and topography and climate information. Yousef Kazemi and Kathryn Dicken have been busy posting events for our Website and e-newsletter. Megan Wagner and Camille Ash have completed research to update our Oklahoma Music Venues list. Melissa Chasteen has helped tremendously by organizing and gathering material for events. Many thanks to the 2009 OF&MO Summer Interns! Students interested in the OF&MO internship program, please e-mail Abby Kurin at abby@oklahomafilm.org for more information.

Production

Recent Film/TV Production

- Provided locations and permitting information to Nate Newby for the recent Cox Media commercial.
- Provided Jesse Cuevas of Anywhere Films with locations, contact, and permitting information for his feature project *Sweet Little Lies*.
- Assisted Julie Forbes of RTE the Irish National Broadcaster with contact, permitting, and crew information for her Documentary Mini Series.
- Provided permits and information regarding the filming of the BBC's *World's Strictest Parents* at Sequoyah State Park and Keystone State Park in Oklahoma.

Upcoming Film/TV Production

- Location scout planning and logistical discussions with producers and location manager for untitled Bartlesville/Pawhuska/Tulsa project slated for 2010.
- Discussions continue with the producers of *The Cherokee Word For Water*
- Assisted Andy Schlachtenhaufen of Flight 33 Productions with locations and permitting information for the upcoming season of *Life After People* on the History Channel.
- Provided James Clark with locations information and images for his upcoming documentary.
- Provided locations information and images to Jeff Howard and Brandon Bergin of Four Six Films for their upcoming feature project *Teaching Faith*.
- Met with Lance McDaniel and Sean Lynch regarding their upcoming Oklahoma feature, *Just Crazy Enough*
- Assisted Lagueria Davis with locations information, images and permitting information for her feature project, *One In Three*.

- Provided Ted West of Digital West with locations information and location images for his upcoming untitled feature.
- TF&MO assisted Robert Harris concerning scouting and permit information for an upcoming independent film, *Why I Love Tulsa*.
- TF&MO assisted Sterlin Harjo with location and permission information for an upcoming shoot at the Quarry Landfill, located in Tulsa.
- TF&MO assisted Will Gisler of the University of Arkansas with permit information. Mr. Gisler will be shooting a public service announcement in Tulsa in the near future.
- *You Can't Win* is scheduled to begin Oklahoma filming in September in Guthrie.
- *Heaven's Rain* is scheduled to begin Oklahoma filming on October 5 in various locations.

Potential Film/TV Production

- Discussions continue with UK-based producer Marion Pillowsky regarding her feature *Shotgun Wedding* for which she would like to come in and scout in the next couple of months.
- Provided locations information and requested further project information from Levi Cathcart of Drop Test Productions regarding his untitled feature project.
- Provided locations information and permitting contacts to Kyle Davis of FORM regarding his upcoming public service announcement.
- Assisted Greg Robinson of Toshi Oku Photography with location photos regarding his Acura MDX still photo shoot.
- Assisted Michael Arkof of *Saving Grace* with locations and contact information.

Media/Press/Ads

Newspaper & Magazine Articles:

July 7 *FilmingLocations.com*: "Oklahoma Putting Itself on the Film Industry Map" an article on how the OF&MO is developing new incentives and providing locations for Hollywood.

July 8 *Oklahoma Gazette*: "Dozens of Musicians Play Tribute to Okie Folk Hero, Political Activist Woody Guthrie" an article about a Woody Guthrie Festival featuring Jonathan Brooke, Jimmy LaFave, Stoney LaRue and more.

July 12 *The Observer UK*: "Why the British Film Revival is in Danger of Being Killed Off" an article about competition with Hollywood and piracy and also mentions *The Killer Inside of Me* filming in Oklahoma.

July 15 *Oklahoma Gazette*: "Books" an article about the book release of *Another Hot Oklahoma Night: A Rock & Roll Story*, which coincides with the opening of the exhibit at the Oklahoma History Center.

July 21 *NewsOK.com*: "Wanda Jackson Officially Gets Her Way" an article about the Oklahoma City Council voting to name a Bricktown Alley after Oklahoma Rock and Roll Hall of Famer, Wanda Jackson.

July 22 *NewsOK.com*: "Wanda Jackson Proud to have Oklahoma City Alley Named for Her" an article about rockabilly legend, Wanda Jackson having a Bricktown roadway named in her honor.

July 22 *Oklahoma Gazette*: "Oklahoma Bands New, Known Take Center Stage at Tulsa's DFest" an article about recent headliners and emerging Oklahoma bands performing at Dfest.

July 23 *Tulsa World*: "The ABCs of DFest" an article on the schedule of bands and insight information for Dfest 2009, the largest music festival in the Midwest.

July 28 *Associated Press*: "Life is Still 'A Party' for Rockabilly Queen" an article about Wanda Jackson and her booming career at 71.

July 29 *Oklahoma Gazette*: "Wishful Thinking" an article about metro rock bands gathering in Bricktown for a fundraiser for the Make-A-Wish Foundation entitled "Rock for Wishes."

July 31 *Movie Maker Magazine*: "25 Coolest Film Festivals: 2009" an article on 25 profiled film festivals around the globe, which included the Trail Dance Film Festival in Duncan, and the United Film Festival in Tulsa.

July/August Issue *Native Peoples*: "Features, Docs, TV Programs, and More..." an article about filming contemporary Indian life through films, documentary and TV shows. Included references to Oklahoma talent: Steve Judd, Sterlin Harjo, Casey Camp-Horinek, Richard Ray Whitman, as well as films *Barking Water* and *Pearl*, and many more.

TV Coverage:

July 12 *Oklahoma Horizon*: “Oklahoma Film” a story about the film industry in Oklahoma, which included interviews with Lt. Governor Jari Askins, Jill Simpson of OF&MO, Chad Burris of Indion Entertainment, and Kim Haywood of deadCenter Film Festival.

July 16 & 17: *Today Show*: Oklahoma band All American Rejects performed and discussed their Oklahoma roots and tremendous support they have in the state.

July 27 *Good Morning America*: Emmy nominated Actress Holly Hunter from *Saving Grace* noted the Oklahoma City Police Department as “kind and generous to the staff,” while on her press tour for the TNT network television show.

July 27 *Late Night with Jimmy Fallon*: Holly Hunter appeared on the talk show for her press tour to promote season three of *Saving Grace*.

Press Releases/Special Announcements/ Website Postings:

July 8: “World’s Strictest Parents” casting call posting for the CMT Network’s hit television show, which held interviews in Oklahoma.

July 13: “DFest Music Conference and Festival” homepage posting about the eighth annual music conference and festival in Tulsa.

July 20: “One in Three Casting Call” job posting about the independent feature *One in Three* searching for actors to be in the film.

July 22: “Oklahoma’s New Production Guide Coming Soon” homepage posting about the new online production guide resource, Reel-Crew, launching in early August.

July 22: ““Rock for Wishes”” Benefit Concert” homepage posting about the rock concert benefitting the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Oklahoma.

July 23: “Wanda Jackson Way” homepage posting about the Queen of Rockabilly and the street in Bricktown of Oklahoma City being named after her.

July 27: “Funnel of Darkness” a homepage posting about the premiere of the new mockumentary by Oklahoma filmmaker Bradley Beasley on IFC’s www.dailymotion.com.

Upcoming Oklahoma Film & Music Office Activities/Sponsorships

West Coast sales trip/incentive panel
Advisory Board Meeting
Film Development Meeting
Venice Film Festival – *Barking Water* screenings
Tourism Commission Meeting
Governor’s Conference on Tourism
Tourism Commission Meeting
Music Development Meeting
AFCI Cineposium
American Film Market
Interim Study date
OF&MO Advisory Board Meeting
Tourism Commission Meeting
Tourism Commission Meeting
August: Osage County Tulsa Run

August 10-15, Los Angeles
August 18, 2P, Oklahoma City
August 26, Tulsa
September 2-12, Venice, Italy
September 16, Oklahoma City
October 18-19
October 21, Oklahoma City
October 28, Oklahoma City
November 2-3, Los Angeles
November 4-7, Santa Monica
November, TBD
November 17, Oklahoma City
November 18, Oklahoma City
December 16, Oklahoma City
January 2010