



Activity Report November 2009

Points of Interest

Association of Film Commissions International (AFCI) Cineposium: Jill Simpson and Chris Kucharski attended AFCI's annual Cineposium in Universal City, California. During Cineposium, attendees heard from film industry leaders and film commissioners from around the world on how to best approach a range of issues that film commissions encounter day to day.

During day one of Cineposium Simpson and Kucharski attended sessions entitled, Return on Investment: What's Your Worth?; Global Climate Change in the Entertainment Industry: Trends and Tactics for Film Commissions; Non-Fiction Production: The Bread and Butter of the Industry; and Candid Conversations with Studio Executives: Creating Partnerships for Tomorrow. Simpson also attended a conference on Social Media: A Look at Trends, Technologies and Opportunities for the Future.

During the second day, they attended sessions by Kathy Garmezzy, from the Directors Guild of America on Important Issues in Piracy; as well as Film Financing; The Care and Feeding of a Reliable Workforce; and What's New in Digital Technology? Both participated in the session, How Would You Handle It?, in which potential situations are created and everyone works together to create the best possible outcome.

Kucharski also attended two professional development classes prior to Cineposium which included AFCI's Film Commission Professional and a Digital Scouting Workshop.

American Film Market: Jill Simpson and Julie Porter attended American Film Market in Santa Monica, where both participated in industry events including meetings with representatives from Entertainment Partners, the leading payroll services company for the film industry as well as representatives from Amper, Politziner & Mattia, LLC, a CPA and consulting firm specializing in implementing best practices and training CPAs to review rebate claims as part of a third-party audit requirement.

Simpson and Porter also met with Shannon McIntosh, EVP of Post Production and Broadcast Video at The Weinstein Company, as well as Hunt Lowry, native Oklahoman and producer for Roserock Films, a division of Warner Brothers Entertainment. Simpson also attended a Film Finance Panel presented by AFM and met with Chris Hanley of Muse Films. Porter also attended panels presented by the Screen Actors Guild, the Writers Guild and the Director's Guild, and met with Matt Skeina, Production Executive at Village Roadshow.

Interim Study: The House Economic Development and Financial Services Committee met on Tuesday, November 17 to hear several proposals regarding economic opportunities for the State of Oklahoma. Representative Wright requested a study by the OF&MO, which was entitled *The Economic Impact of the Film Industry on the States Budget*. Jill Simpson presented to the committee during the two-hour time allotted. Julie Porter also presented. Guest speakers included Hardy Watkins, Executive Director of the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department; Jeff Erwin, General Manager of the Colcord Hotel in Oklahoma City; Adena Lewis, President of the Smithville Chamber of Commerce in Texas (location for upcoming *Tree of Life*); and Jeff Van Hanken, Professor of Film Studies at the University of Tulsa.

Advisory Board Meeting Recap: On November 17, OF&MO hosted the quarterly Advisory Board Meeting at the Oklahoma State Capitol. The OF&MO provided an interim study recap for members who were unable to attend, as well as an update on the film and music industries in Oklahoma. Further discussion centered around strategies for the 2010 legislative session.

A Christmas Snow: The new feature film by Trost Moving Pictures LLC, will film in and around Tulsa for three weeks starting February 1, 2010. They are currently accepting crew resumes for all positions. Please submit resumes to elisegra@gmail.com.

Public Relations & Industry Development

- Met with Jonna Kirschner, Deidre Myers of the Oklahoma Department of Commerce about pass-throughs, 21st Century Quality Jobs, and industry development in Oklahoma.
- Met with Bird Runningwater of the Sundance Institute in L.A.
- Participated in the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department's "Green Team" meeting to discuss ways for our office to be more environmentally-conscious.
- Provided information on Oklahoma's film industry, its topography, points of interest and economic climate to Annlee Ellingson of Moving Pictures Magazine for an upcoming article.
- Presented to Oklahoma Travel and Tourism Training Camp attendees about the Reel-Scout Locations Database and how to utilize this tool in their communities.
- Provided Susan Snodgrass a list of Oklahoma talent agencies.
- Presented to the Woodson Park Senior Center in Oklahoma City about the mission of the Oklahoma Film & Music Office.
- Presented to Communications students at Southern Nazarene University regarding Oklahoma's film and music industries, as well career opportunities within these industries in the state.
- Met with Jonathan Fowler and Quentin Bomgarder of Norman Music Festival to discuss the 2010 festival, as well as NMF's participation in the 2010 Sax, Clogs and Rock N' Roll event that OF&MO will host in March during the South by Southwest Music Festival and Conference in Austin, Texas.
- Presented to Dr. Andrew Horton's Film Theory Class at the University of Oklahoma about the mission of the Oklahoma Film & Music Office and his roles there.

Industry Services and Technology Development

Film Industry Meeting: The OF&MO is currently working on the 2010 schedule for film industry meetings. The new meeting dates will be available in January. 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 OF&MO is currently working on the 2010 schedule for music industry meetings. The new meeting dates will be available in January. To be added to the list to receive an e-mail update about the meeting, please e-mail abby@oklahomafilm.org.

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:

- Renata Hays, University of Oklahoma Licensing Department
- Maria Swindell, Bartlesville Chamber of Commerce
- Robert Hughes, Hughes Ranch, Bartlesville

Oklahomafilm.org: 1,553 unique visitors visited the OF&MO Website November 1-November 30.

Production Guide Database: Reel-Crew, Oklahoma's new online production guide is now open to search for production crew and support services. The new user interface launched on Tuesday, September 1. Reel-Crew is still open for registration for Oklahoma crew members and support service companies. Since the launch of the database, 305 people have registered as of the end of November. We are thrilled with the number of registrants and hope that the number continues to grow. Please visit www.oklahomafilm.org for information on how to register.

Website Update: OF&MO and OK.Gov continue to work together on the newly redesigned Oklahomafilm.org. The design of the new website looks great, and the increased functionality of the site

will be a vast improvement over the existing site. The new site is scheduled to launch in February 2010, and new functionalities will be added throughout the year. If you have any questions about the new website, please contact the Film & Music Office.

This Week in Film & Music: Please remember that *This Week in Film & Music* is an e-newsletter that highlights a sampling of film and music events statewide, Thursday through Sunday. As always, please check our events page on www.oklahomafilm.org for a full list of activities every day of the week. Our subscription list is currently at 1,966.

OF&MO Internship Program: The fall semester for the Oklahoma Film & Music Office has been very hectic. With the help of our three wonderful interns, November was met with hard work and dedication by all as we prepared for our Interim Study. Kathryn Dicken researched and created two Oklahoma maps detailing filming sites and scouting locations past and future. Sean White helped gather and organize material for the presentation, as well as the Advisory Board Meeting. Brandon Robbins continued to post film and music events on the Website.

Production

Recent Film/TV Production

- Provided Charles Maupin of Felix/Maupin Productions with a list of Oklahoma film festivals regarding feature projects *Never to Late* and *705*.
- Provided David Edmunds of MegTV with locations, permitting, and contact information regarding his recent filming of the television series *The Redneck Archeologist*.
- Provided locations and contact information for Luis Cisneros of Klyon Ztel Productions in regards to his recent project *The Nihilist*.

Upcoming Film/TV Production

- There are currently ten projects in the rebate queue. Most are planning to film in the first six months of 2010. With stringent requirements in place to administer the program, some of the projects are being removed from the queue if they are not meeting their benchmarks prior to production. Money earmarked for those projects is then freed up and goes back into the rebate fund to be made available to other qualifying productions. So far, the system is working very well.
- Provided locations images of Guthrie Masonic lodge to London-based production designer, Mark Tildesley for a potential upcoming feature project. Tildesley had scouted the temple in prep for *The Killer Inside Me* in 2008.
- Provided Brian Cates of Skit Guys Inc. with locations, permitting and contact information regarding his upcoming short film project.
- Provided Diane Glancy with locations assistance and referred her to the Reel-Crew Production Guide regarding her upcoming feature, *The Dome of Heaven*.
- Provided Micki Poklar with permitting and contact information regarding her upcoming commercial project.
- Provided Robin Eliasson of Smooth World TV with locations and permitting information regarding her upcoming commercial projects.
- Provided Scott McDaniel with locations, permitting and contact information regarding his upcoming music video project and still photo shoot.
- Conducted scout and provided Susan Kirr of Muse Productions with location information regarding the upcoming feature project *Killer Joe*.
- Worked with the producers of *Bringing Up Bobby* regarding the Oklahoma Film Enhancement Rebate Program requirements and deadlines.
- Worked with the producers of *Just Crazy Enough* regarding the Oklahoma Film Enhancement Rebate Program requirements and deadlines.

Potential Film/TV Production

- Provided Casey Twenter with incentives information regarding his upcoming untitled feature length project.

- Provided locations and permitting information to Maria Blicharska of Donten & Lacroix Films regarding their upcoming commercial project.
- Provided Terra Durham of BDK LLC with locations information and requested further project information regarding her upcoming untitled feature project.
- Provided Tonya Hacker of www.ghostlhamo.com with locations information and requested further project information regarding her upcoming documentary project.
- Provided video producer Scott Swearingen with contact information for Sam Waterston and David McCullough for a Gilcrease museum exhibit video.
- Provided contact information for acting coaches in Tulsa to CW Productions, a Tulsa-based production company.

Media/Press/Ads

Newspaper & Magazine Articles:

November 2 *California Chronicle*: “Local Artists Will Turn Filmmakers in *Why I Love Tulsa*” an online article about the *Why I Love Tulsa* short film collection.

November 3 *The Journal Record*: “Hollywood Producer Visits OKC University” an article about producer/editor Bob Ducsay’s visit to Oklahoma City University. The article also interviews Jill Simpson about the Oklahoma Film Enhancement Rebate for films shot in Oklahoma.

November 11 *Look at OKC*: “Play On” an article about Checotah native and country star Carrie Underwood, which also discusses her upcoming album release.

November 11 *Look at OKC*: “All About The Rejects” a feature about Oklahoma band, The All American Rejects, and their life on tour and the inspiration behind their past hit singles.

November 13 *Tulsa World*: “Tulsa Native Lines Up *Twilight* Star for a Film Project” an article about Tulsa native Todd Lincoln’s project *Apparition* featuring *Twilight*’s Ashley Greene.

November 17 *OKCBiz.com*: “Study Shows Film Incentives Pay Off for Oklahoma” an article about the recent Interim Study and the benefits of the Oklahoma Film Enhancement Rebate program by OF&MO.

November 17 *Tulsa World*: “Queen of Rock Still Playing in the Fast Lane” an article about Oklahoma’s own Wanda Jackson. The article ranges from Jackson’s recent visit to the 66 Bowl bowling alley and her own personal history with the alley to her collaborations with Elvis, Bruce Springsteen, and Jack White.

November 17 *Journal Record Legislative Report*: “Interim Study” an overview of the OF&MO interim study *The Economic Impact of the Film Industry on the States Budget*.

November 18 *NewsOK.com*: “Film Incentive Rebates Debated in Oklahoma” an article on the film incentive program and the possibility of the Coen Brothers filming their re-make of *True Grit* in Oklahoma. (This story was picked up by online media outlets around the country)

November 18 *KOCO.com*: “State Leaders Praise Movie Incentives” an article praising and listing the benefits of the state film incentive program.

November 19 *Oklahoma Capitol Bureau Blog*: “Bridges, Damon, Brolin Could be Riding into Oklahoma” an article about the possibility of the Coen Brothers filming *True Grit* in Oklahoma. The article also gives a brief overview of the state’s film incentive program.

November 20 *NewsOK.com*: “Wanda Jackson to Perform at Oklahoma City’s 66 Bowl Celebration” an article about Wanda Jackson and her connection to OKC’s 66 Bowl bowling alley. The article also features Jackson talking about her upcoming collaboration with Jack White.

November 20 *NewsOK.com*: “All-American Rejects to Perform in Oklahoma City, Tulsa” an article about the native Oklahoma band’s newest album and recent video shoot in LA.

November 25 *Oklahoma Gazette*: “Sing o-Graham” an article about Graham Colton’s fund-raising concert during Thanksgiving-weekend to raise awareness and make a contribution to fight hunger in Oklahoma.

November 25 *Look at OKC*: “Colourmusic” a cover story on the Stillwater band, Colourmusic, and their recent style change from sunny harmonies to a louder, crazier style.

November 25 *Look at OKC*: “Coming Back Home” an article about the Oklahoma City band Hinder, their upcoming concert in Oklahoma City, and news on their most recent album “Take It to the Limit.”

November 26 *Urban Tulsa Weekly*: “In It To Spin It” a feature article on the biggest stand out DJs in the Tulsa area, including DJ Moody and DJ Robbo.

November 29 *Tulsa World*: “Booker T. Grad Adds *30 Rock* to his Resume” an article about Oklahoma’s comedic native Josh Fadem and his recent appearance on the hit TV show *30 Rock*.

TV Coverage:

November 24 OETA: “Oklahoma Film Incentives Paying Off” an interview for the *Oklahoma News Report* featuring OF&MO Director Jill Simpson discussing the film industry in Oklahoma since the increase of the Oklahoma Film Enhancement Rebate in July 2009.

Press Releases/Special Announcements/ Website Postings:

November 3: “Oklahoma Musicians Featured in *Searchin’ For the Heart of the Heartlands*” an e-blast and homepage posting about the road movie/documentary by Dutch filmmaker Dre Dideriens, which featuring local musicians including Gene Williams, Tom Skinner, Rocky Frisco, Don Morris, Susan Herndon, Jim Karstein, Jay Lesikar, and others.

November 4: “Sterlin Harjo’s *Barking Water* Continues Successful Year” an e-blast and homepage posting updating the recent happenings and success of the Oklahoma native filmmaker and his second feature film.

Upcoming Oklahoma Film & Music Office Activities/Sponsorships

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| Tourism Commission Meeting | January 20, Oklahoma City |
| Trail Dance Film Festival | January 22-24, Duncan |
| <i>Killer Inside Me</i> Premiere at Sundance Film Festival | January 23-25, Park City, Utah |