



Activity Report September 2009

Points of Interest

Launch of Reel-Crew Production Database: On September 1, OF&MO launched Reel-Crew, our new online production guide. Producers looking to hire crew in Oklahoma can log on and search by category, name, region and other qualifiers. The database will print to PDF via last name or by category, and can also be exported to an Excel database. Since online registration began in August, the office has received a total of 263 Oklahoma crew and support service registrations. It is not too late to register. Please visit www.oklahomafilm.org for more information.

Venice Film Festival: Jill Simpson traveled to Venice, Italy September 2-12 as part of an Oklahoma delegation to network with other premier independent filmmakers and industry professionals from around the world at festival screenings and events in an effort to highlight the film industry in Oklahoma. Also, Oklahoma film *Barking Water* was an official screening selection for the 2009 Venice Days section of the prestigious festival. Venice Days was founded six years ago to spotlight up-and-coming filmmakers from around the world and offer audiences films with originality in style and language. *Barking Water*, filmed entirely in the state by an Oklahoma-based production team, is often described as a road movie, but has also been described as a tale of home and what it takes to get there. The film received a warm reception at the festival in the form of a standing ovation and precipitated a lively discussion afterwards at a Q&A with the filmmakers. Also in attendance were the film's director, Sterlin Harjo, its producer, Chad Burris, and the Director of Native Initiatives for the Sundance Institute, Bird Runningwater.

Austin Film Festival: Oklahoma-based Singletree Productions and its principals Mark Potts and Cole Selix, will attend the 2009 Austin Film Festival in support of their second feature film, *Simmons on Vinyl*; their screenplay, *A Splice of Life*; and their new short film, *Edgar Freezes*, all of which have been selected for inclusion at this year's festival. Their first feature, the award-winning action-comedy, *Stanton Family Grave Robbery*, screened at the festival in 2008.

The Austin Film Festival & Conference takes place October 22-29, 2009 in Austin, Texas and will host more than 170 premiere film screenings and events. The festival provides registrants with unparalleled access to the best writers and filmmakers in the industry. Julie Porter of OF&MO will be there to support the production company and their projects, as well as to promote Oklahoma to filmmakers attending the festival.

Wanda Jackson Way: On September 30, the Oklahoma City Mayor's Office in conjunction with the Oklahoma Film & Music Office, the Bricktown Association, Downtown OKC, Inc., the Academy of Contemporary Music at the University of Central Oklahoma and the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce, presented a dedication ceremony for **Wanda Jackson Way**, featuring a live performance by the Queen of Rockabilly herself, **Wanda Jackson**.

Mayor Mick Cornett, Jim Cowan, Ward 7 Councilman Skip Kelly, and Ward 4 Councilman Pete White all spoke in front of the audience honoring Jackson. The Women of the South also presented her with an honorary membership to their group. Jill Simpson of OF&MO, read the Governor's proclamation declaring the day **Wanda Jackson Day** in the state.

Jackson went on to perform three of her hit singles with a band formed just for the special occasion featuring students and professors from ACM@UCO. She sang “Mean Mean Man,” “Right or Wrong,” and “Let’s Have a Party.” The event took place at **Wanda Jackson Way**; located north and parallel with East Reno Avenue and extends from South Oklahoma Avenue to South Mickey Mantle Drive.

Public Relations & Industry Development

- Attended the annual Film & Video Advisory Board meeting in Oklahoma City for the Oklahoma Arts Institute
- Presented information about Oklahoma’s Film Enhancement Rebate Program and the film and video industries to a group of local arts donors and supporters
- Met with Sunrise Tippeconnie to discuss two projects he is working on, including a networking group for local filmmakers as well a professional training and certification program he hopes to implement
- Spoke to students in the Film & Video Studies program at the University of Oklahoma to discuss career opportunities in the film and video industries in Oklahoma
- Participated in a creative meeting to discuss and plan the dedication ceremony for Wanda Jackson Way in Bricktown of Oklahoma City
- Met with Mark Potts of Singletree productions and PR executive Tracey Zeeck to discuss Mark’s upcoming trip to the Austin Film Festival and marketing ideas to promote his projects while in Austin
- Met with Representative Wright at the state capitol to discuss his request of OF&MO for a November interim study presentation on the Oklahoma film industry
- Made presentation to Tishomingo community leadership about the state’s rebate program and the potential for economic development via a thriving film industry
- Attended a Culture Committee meeting for Creative Oklahoma
- Met with Linda McDermid to discuss the Oklahoma Film Enhancement Rebate program and filming in Oklahoma
- Sent out a Reel-Crew demonstration to Oklahoma Main Street Associations as a follow up to Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department Boot camp
- Presented the OF&MO Mission, Reel-Scout, and Reel-Crew to the Cinematic Artist of Norman
- Participated in the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department’s “Green Team” meeting to discuss ways for our office to be more environmentally-conscious
- Sent a list of Oklahoma talent agencies to Farron Gonzales, Torian N’Jaka, and Krishaun Jackson, who all requested information
- Met with Dr. Andrew Horton of OU’s FVS program to hear latest activities at the school as well as to provide an industry update
- Attended *Hootenanny at the Harn* in support of Harn Homestead and live music
- Provided P3Update magazine with images of Oklahoma Locations to accompany an article featuring Oklahoma in their upcoming October issue
- Helped Chris Kalinski at Moore-Norman Technology Center by posting a casting call on our jobs page for their upcoming slate of student produced short films

Industry Services and Technology Development

Film Industry Meeting: The OF&MO Film Industry meeting was held on August 26 at Circle Cinema in Tulsa. Minutes from that meeting will be made available by mid-October. The 2010 meeting dates will be announced 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 next Music Industry Meeting will be held on October 28 from 3-5 p.m. at Oklahoma Tourism & Recreation Department in downtown Oklahoma City. To be added to the list to receive an e-mail reminder 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:

- Tammy Johnson, Main Street Duncan, OK
- Michelle Maxwell, Gilcrease Museum, Tulsa, OK
- Judy Ward, Philbrook Museum, Tulsa, OK

Next month, Chris Kucharski will be offering program presentations to interested Chamber of Commerce representatives from around the state at the 2009 Governor's Conference on Tourism in Tulsa.

Oklahomafilm.org: 1,854 unique visitors visited the OF&MO Website September 1-September 30.

Production Guide Database: Reel-Crew, Oklahoma's new online production guide resource, 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, 263 people have registered as of the end of September. 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.

This Week in Film & Music: *This Week in Film & Music* is back! After a month-long hiatus, our popular e-newsletter was re-launched September 17 with the intent of not only promoting events around the state, but of also providing more hands-on experience for our interns. As always, they will continue to do the majority of the research and drafting, but they will now be charged with more responsibility for the final editing as well. As always, please check our events page on www.oklahomafilm.org for a full list of activities every day of the week, but the e-newsletter has returned to highlight various weekend film and music events around Oklahoma. Our subscription list is currently at 1,931.

OF&MO Internship Program: The Oklahoma Film & Music Office welcomes two new interns to our team. Brandon Robbins comes to us from the University of Central Oklahoma and Sean White from the University of Oklahoma. Returning for the fall semester is Yousef Kazemi from the University of Central Oklahoma and Kathryn Dicken from Oklahoma City University. The students have been busy this month posting on the events page in preparation for the return of *This Week in Film & Music*. They also have been very helpful with writing homepage postings for the Website, as well as working on Reel-Scout and Reel-Crew.

Production

Recent Film/TV Production

- Provided Nick Degaetano of ESPN with locations and contact information regarding his upcoming commercial production.
- Provided Rachel Tucker of Black Mesa Films with locations, permitting, and contact information regarding her feature project *Time Expired*.
- Provided Jason Berman of NBC with locations, permitting, and contact information regarding the television production of *The Biggest Loser*.
- Provided Matt Stanley of Dickhouse Productions with locations and contact information regarding his recent documentary project.
- Provided Sean Patrick Eaton with locations, contact, and permitting information regarding an upcoming commercial project.

Upcoming Film/TV Production

- Assisted Rod Pocowatchit of Harmy Films in securing Blackburn, Oklahoma as a location for the filming of exteriors for his upcoming film *The Dead Can't Dance*, as well as provided him with contact and permitting information.
- Discussed incentives program and OF&MO services with Starr Hardgrove regarding his project, *Why I Love Tulsa*.

- Provided Gerry Wright of Burrud Productions with locations and contact information regarding his upcoming television production *Women Behind Bars* for We Television.
- Provided Leslie Gee of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation with locations, contact and permitting information regarding her upcoming feature documentary *Journey: Pabmadzewen*.
- Provided Mark Potts of Singletree Productions with locations information and requested further project information regarding his upcoming feature project.
- Provided Sean Patrick Eaton of Duo Creative Communications with locations information and requested further project information regarding the television program *The Worlds Most Astonishing News*.
- Provided Vincent Lopez of Flight 33 Productions with locations, contact and permitting information regarding the television production of *Life After People*.

Potential Film/TV Production

- Discussed specifics of the Oklahoma Film Enhancement Rebate Program with Kevin Waller for his project entitled *Mission: Blacklist*.
- Provided incentives information and began location research for producer Larry Thompson on his upcoming project *Amish Grace* for Lifetime Television
- Provided Andrew Librizzi of Path Light Entertainment with information on the Oklahoma Film Enhancement Rebate Program and requested further project information regarding his untitled feature project.
- Provided William Hannah of Amber Pictures with information on the Oklahoma Film Enhancement Rebate Program for his upcoming feature project.
- Provided Carissa Buffel-Matusow of The Traveling Picture Show Company with locations and locations information regarding her upcoming untitled feature project.
- Provided Jeanne Clenet of the BBC with locations, contact, and permitting regarding the television production *Undercover Dads*.
- Provided John Gray of the Diverse Bristol Limited with locations information and requested further project information regarding his upcoming television production.
- Provided Morgana Pugh of Diverse Television with locations information and requested further project information regarding the upcoming television production *Apocalypse Man*.
- Provided Robert Love of DEED Films with locations information and requested further project information regarding his feature project *Sanctuary*.
- Provided Luis Cisneros of Tyler Media with locations and contact information regarding his upcoming untitled feature project.
- Provided Jamie Berhanu of Cox Media with locations and contact information regarding her upcoming commercial production.
- Provided Renee Poteete of Masters Productions with locations and permitting information regarding her upcoming feature project *Trapped in Darkness*.
- Provided Secia Sophia with locations information and requested further project information regarding her upcoming untitled feature project.

Media/Press/Ads

Newspaper & Magazine Articles:

September 2 *Oklahoma Gazette*: “Oklahoma Idol,” a piece about Oklahoma native Kristin Chenoweth sitting in as a guest judge for this season’s *American Idol*.

September 10 *Urban Tulsa Weekly*: “The Return of Long-Haired Music” the cover story about Tulsa band, the Jacob Fred Jazz Odyssey.

September 15 *Tulsa World*: “Flaming Lips announce OKC Parade event, *Colbert Report* Appearance” an article about the Oklahoma band and the Oklahoma City “Ghouls Gone Wild” parade, and their September 16th guest spot on the television show.

September 16 *Oklahoma Gazette*: “Watch This” an announcement about the film *Sweethearts of the Prison Rodeo* making its television debut on Cinemax.

September 17 *The Oklahoman*: “Wanda Jackson to Perform When Her Street’s Dedicated” an article about her performance during the dedication ceremony of Wanda Jackson Way in Bricktown.

September 20 *Tulsa World*: “A State of Rockemergence” a feature about the book *Another Hot Oklahoman Night* which covers the history and impact of famous Oklahoma artists.

September 21 *PR Web*: “OKWU President Joins Panel at Los Angeles Film Screening” a press release about Dr. Everett Piper of Oklahoma Wesleyan University joining a discussion about documentary *Lord Save Us From Your Followers*.

September 23 *Oklahoma Gazette*: “Flaming Colbert” a piece about the Flaming Lips’ lead singer Wayne Coyne and his interview and performance on the *Colbert Report*.

September 30 *Oklahoma Gazette*: “Oklahoma Rock City” an update article about Oklahoma’s changing music scene and venue competition.

September 30 *Oklahoma Gazette*: “Rock This” an announcement about Wanda Jackson Way dedication ceremony in Bricktown.

September 30 *The Oklahoman*: “Wanda Jackson gets her ‘Way’ in Oklahoma City” article about the dedication ceremony and performance for Wanda Jackson Way.

TV Coverage:

September 16 *The Colbert Report*: Oklahoma band, The Flaming Lips, made an appearance on the hit television show in support of their new album release.

Press Releases/Special Announcements/ Website Postings:

September 1: “Oklahoma’s New Online Production Guide Reel-Crew Now Available to Search and View!” an e-blast to our contacts and industry professionals about the launch of Reel-Crew.

September 4: “Soul of A People: Writing America’s Story” homepage posting and e-blast about the documentary about the Federal Writers Project, highlighting Anadarko native Jim Thompson.

September 9: “Hootenanny at the Harn” e-blast about the fifth annual event at Harn Homestead featuring live music performances by The Mighty Regulars, and Camille Harp.

September 10: “Southern Winds Film Festival” a homepage posting and e-blast about the film festival held in Shawnee, Oklahoma.

September 10: “American Banjo Museum Grand Opening in Bricktown” a homepage posting about the grand opening celebration of the museums new location featuring live banjo performances.

September 14: “Filmmaking Certificate Program Now Offered” homepage posting and e-blast about the new American Indian Filmmaking certificate program at the Comanche Nation College in Lawton.

September 14: “Oklahoma’s International Bluegrass Festival 2009” homepage posting about the 13th annual event held in Guthrie.

September 14: “Momentum Tulsa: Art Doesn’t Stand Still” homepage posting about the art exhibition presented by the Oklahoma Visual Arts Coalition including films, and live music.

September 16: “Are You a Career Bound Performing Artist?” homepage posting and e-blast about the 2009 Arts Conference offered by the Oklahoma Arts Council.

September 17: “Wanda Jackson Way Dedication Ceremony and Performance!” homepage posting and e-blast inviting the public to celebrate the Queen of Rockabilly.

September 29: “Wanda Jackson Way Dedication Ceremony and Performance!” e-blast reminder about the dedication ceremony and performance in celebration of Wanda Jackson.

September 30: “First Annual Fall Outdoor Film Festival” e-blast about the University of Tulsa’s Department of Film Studies first annual film festival featuring the work of Tulsa’s filmmakers.

Upcoming Oklahoma Film & Music Office Activities/Sponsorships

Oklahoma Arts Conference

October 9, Stillwater

Location Scouting

October 13-14, E. Oklahoma

Governor’s Conference on Tourism

October 18-19, Tulsa

Tourism Commission Meeting

October 21, Oklahoma City

Austin Film Festival

October 22-29, Austin, TX

Music Development Meeting

October 28, Oklahoma City

AFCI Cineposium

Oct. 31-Nov. 3, Universal City, CA

American Film Market

November 4-7, Santa Monica, CA

Interim Study Presentation

November 17, State Capitol

OF&MO Advisory Board Meeting

November 17, Oklahoma City

Tourism Commission Meeting

November 18, Oklahoma City

Tourism Commission Meeting

December 16, Oklahoma City